

## ***CABINET Agenda***

Date Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Time 4.00 pm

Venue Chadderton Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

- Notes
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Alex Bougatef or Constitutional Services at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
  2. CONTACT OFFICER for this agenda is Constitutional Services Tel. 0161 770 5151 or email [constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk)
  3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - Any Member of the public wishing to ask a question at the above meeting can do so only if a written copy of the question is submitted to the contact officer by 12.00 noon on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.
  4. FILMING - The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Constitutional Services Officer who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

Please note that anyone using recording equipment both audio and visual will not be permitted to leave the equipment in the room where a private meeting is held.

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET

Councillors M Ali, Brownridge, Dean, Goodwin, F Hussain, Jabbar, Mushtaq, Shah (Chair) and Taylor

### Item No

- 1 Apologies For Absence
- 2 Urgent Business  
Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair
- 3 Declarations of Interest

To Receive Declarations of Interest in any Contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting.

4 Public Question Time

To receive Questions from the Public, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

5 Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet, held on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024, attached, as a correct record.

6 Shareholder Committee Minutes (Pages 13 - 14)

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Shareholder Committee, held 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024, as a correct record.

7 Oldham Town Centre Built Heritage Project (Pages 15 - 22)

Approval is sought for the delivery of projects to survey a minimum of five heritage buildings in Oldham town centre and to generate a new strategic vision and delivery plan for these assets.

8 Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Infrastructure (Pages 23 - 30)

A report of the Director of Public Health seeking approval for the award of the VCSFE infrastructure grant of to Action Together CIO and for a grant funding agreement to be entered into with Action Together CIO.

9 Acceptance of Funding Allocations 2024-2025 for Oldham Lifelong Learning Service (Pages 31 - 152)

Acceptance of grant funding for Oldham Lifelong Learning Services is sought

10 Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023/24 (Pages 153 - 346)

A report seeking approval to publish the Borough of Oldham Monitoring Report (AMR) 2023/2024

11 Demolition of Office Block 1, Southlink, Oldham (Pages 347 - 350)

To approve the demolition of Office Block 1 at Southlink, Oldham

12 Selection of Preferred Developer (Pages 351 - 354)

A report seeking the appointment of Rowland Homes to develop land at South Chadderton following the completion of a competitive land sale process.

13 Northern Roots - Contract Award and Next Steps for Phased Delivery

Report of Deputy Chief Executive (Place) to follow.

14 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following five items of business, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, under paragraph 3 as defined in the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

15 Demolition of Office Block 1, Southlink, Oldham (Pages 355 - 368)

To consider confidential recommendations

16 Selection of Preferred Developer (Pages 369 - 376)

To consider confidential recommendations

17 Northern Roots - Contract Award and Next Steps for Phased Delivery

Confidential report of Deputy Chief Executive (Place) to follow.

18 Inclusion for Oldham Mumps, Princess Gate into the Town Centre Development Partnership - Place and Environment Scrutiny Recommendations (Pages 377 - 386)

To consider confidential recommendations – from Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024

19 School Catering Review (Pages 387 - 410)

To consider confidential recommendations – from Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

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**CABINET**  
**16/12/2024 at 6.00 pm**

**Present:** Councillor Taylor (in the Chair)  
Councillors M Ali, Brownridge, Dean, Goodwin, F Hussain,  
Jabbar and Mushtaq.

1           **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shah.

2           **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3           **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4           **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions for this meeting of the Cabinet to consider.

5           **MINUTES**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024, be approved as a correct record.

6           **COUNCIL TAX BASE AND NON-DOMESTIC RATES TAX  
BASE FORECAST 2025/26**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Finance which presented Members details of the Council Tax Base and provisional Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) Tax Base forecast for 2025/26, which would underpin the forthcoming Council Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy, that is scheduled for consideration at the Budget Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

The report also sought delegated authority to finalise the 2025/26 Non-Domestic Rates (Business Rates) forecast to reflect up to date Non-Domestic Rates details to be submitted to Central Government via the annual NNDR 1 return by the statutory deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

The total number of chargeable properties included in the Council Tax Base calculation in Oldham for 2025/26 was 98,912. This figure was reduced to 88,245.2 after allowing for discounts and exemptions and translated to the equivalent of 70,180.8 Band D properties. After applying adjustments for the Local Council Tax Support scheme offset by the additional charging for empty properties and an anticipated increase in the number of properties to be included in the valuation list over the forthcoming year, the number of Band D equivalent properties reduced to 61,499.5. The final Tax Base after the application of the anticipated collection rate of 96.75% is 59,501 which was an increase of 121 when compared to the Council Tax Base for 2024/25 of 59,380.

An estimate of the 2025/26 Tax Bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils of 9,250 and 5,784 respectively, this would be confirmed once tax base information became available.

The Director of Finance's report highlighted that the preparation of Council Tax and Business Rates Tax Bases was being undertaken in a period of unprecedented uncertainty and volatility. The current economic climate included uncertain prospects for economic growth, Government changes in policy in year, the decoupling of business rates multipliers and changes to relief schemes are amongst the issues which make forecasting challenging.

The Collection Fund (combined) had moved into a projected deficit position in 2024/25 resulting in additional pressure on the 2025/26 budget. This was largely the result of slower than anticipated growth in the council tax base during 2024/25.

Options/Alternatives considered:

- a. The Council has little discretion in the calculation of the number of properties incorporated into the Council Tax Base given the legislative framework that is currently in place. However, there was some discretion in estimating the number of new properties that will be included on the Council Tax register during 2025/26 and the change to the number of claimants of Council Tax Reduction. A prudent view had been taken in this regard. The main area for an alternative approach was over the level of assumed collection rate. An increase in the collection rate would boost the anticipated Council Tax income and a decrease in the rate would decrease income. The Council has chosen to maintain its 2025/26 collection rate at 96.75%. This decision had been influenced by prevailing economic circumstances and current trends in collection rates.
- b. The NNDR1 return generated the figures upon which the Business Rates Tax Base is prepared. It is not therefore appropriate to consider an alternative approach. However, as the figures included on the NNDR1 return on 31 January 2025 may vary from the estimated level, delegation is sought to allow the opportunity to revise the Business Rates forecast and approve a revised and more accurate position for budget setting.

The preferred option is Option b.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet approves:
  - a. The Council Tax Base for 2025/26 at 59,501 Band D equivalent properties.
  - b. The latest estimate for 2025/26 Business Rates revenue that is attributable to Oldham Council as being £56.177m.
  - c. The drawing down from the Collection Fund of £4.607m of Business Rates retention gains

anticipated for 2025/26, of which the Council will utilise £3.455m (75%)

2. That the Cabinet notes the estimate for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils Tax Base of 9,250 and 5,784 respectively.
3. That the Cabinet delegates the decision to vary the final Business Rates forecast and hence the Business Rates Tax Base, if required, to the Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Sustainability in consultation with the Director of Finance.



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## **REVENUE MONITOR AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2024/25 (MONTH 8)**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Finance, which provided Members with an update, as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (Month 8), of the Council's 2024/25 forecast revenue budget position and an update on the Medium Term Financial position (as outlined at Annex 1 to the report), alongside the financial position of the capital programme together with the revised capital programme 2024/25 to 2028/29 (as outlined at Annex 2 to the report).

The forecast overspend position based on the Month 8 profiled budget was £13.594m which if not addressed would result in a year-end overspend of £20.390m (£19.912m at month 6).

This financial monitoring report followed on from the position reported at month 6 and is a warning of the potential year end position if no further action is taken to reduce net expenditure. The management actions already implemented for 2024/25 have been factored into the Month 8 forecasts. Work continued across the organisation to address this position and it was anticipated that by the year end, the current outturn deficit position should reduce even further.

As part of its budget setting process, the Council annually updates its Medium-Term Financial Plan.

It was proposed that the Council seeks external support through a strategic partner to help complete a sophisticated and detailed review that would underpin the comprehensive work needed to support sustainable service reductions and better outcomes over the medium to long term. It was also proposed that Delegated Authority be granted to the Deputy Chief Executive for Health and Care, in conjunction with the Director of Finance to progress the procurement to support this work.

The report outlines the most up to date capital spending position for 2024/25 to 2028/29 for approved schemes. The revised capital programme budget for 2024/25 is £99.553m at the close of month 8 (£99.505m at month 6), a net increase of £0.047m. Actual expenditure to 30 November 2024 was £46.557m (46.77% of the forecast outturn).

Options/Alternatives considered:

The options that the Cabinet considered were:

- a. To consider the forecast revenue and capital positions presented in the report, including proposed changes and an update on the Medium-Term Financial Plan for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30.
  - b. To propose alternative forecasts.
- The preferred Option was Option a.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the report.
2. That the Cabinet approves forecast profiled budget, being an adverse position of £13.594m, at Month 8 (30<sup>th</sup> November 2024) and the forecast potential adverse position by year end of £20.390m, with mitigations in place to reduce expenditure, as detailed at Annex 1 to the report.
3. That the Cabinet notes the Medium-Term Financial Plan update for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30 included within Section 7, of Annex 1 to the report.
4. That the Cabinet approves the delegation of authority to the Deputy Chief Executive for Health and Care, in conjunction with the Director of Finance, to progress the procurement of an external strategic partner to support the work around transformation across three key areas.
5. that the Cabinet approves the revised capital programme for 2024/25 including the proposed virements and the forecast for the financial years to 2028/29 as at Month 8 as outlined in Annex 2, to the report.

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## **OLDHAM'S STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT 2024**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy which sought approval for the publication of Oldham Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2024.

The SHLAA was a technical document identifying land that might have potential for housing at some future stage. The requirement to undertake a SHLAA was set out in paragraph 68 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The SHLAA formed a key component of the evidence base underpinning housing policies and land allocations and will help to meet the area's housing needs.

The SHLAA assessed the development potential of land that could be capable of delivering homes through an assessment of suitability, availability and achievability (economic viability). It then indicates when it may come forward for development.

The base date of the submitted SHLAA was 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. It provides an update to previous SHLAA (1<sup>st</sup> April 2023) published in January 2024. The SHLAA 2024 identifies a total housing land supply of 13,475 homes (including allowances) over the short to long term.

More detail on the method used to carry out the assessment, along with the findings of the SHLAA were detailed in the submitted report and the appendices.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 - To approve and publish the SHLAA 2024 to provide evidence for the housing land supply position, Brownfield Register and Local Plan Review.

Option 2 – To not approve and publish the SHLAA 2024

The preferred Option was Option 1 - a fully assessed SHLAA provided the evidence base for identifying sites to be included in the housing land supply and for other requirements such as the Brownfield Land Register. It means the council has a full understanding of the borough's currently available land supply which helps to inform decisions on allocating land in the future and can be used by the development industry to identify land with potential for housing development within the borough. Not publishing the SHLAA (option 2) would leave the council with an outdated published housing land supply position and does not effectively promote the potential supply of housing land within the borough to interested parties for development.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet approves the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2024 for publication.

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### **OLDHAM'S INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT 2023/24**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy, which sought approval for the publication of Oldham's Infrastructure Funding Statement 2023 - 2024.

As required under the 2019 revised Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations, the council had prepared an Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS). The IFS provided a summary of financial contributions that the council has secured through section 106 (s106) agreements from new developments for off-site infrastructure works and affordable housing, in addition to highway works completed as part of new developments through section 278 (s278) agreements. The IFS was attached at Appendix One, to the report.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 - to approve the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 2023 - 2024 for publication on the council's website and send it to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). (Advantages – approving the IFS meets the requirements of the regulations and is transparent). (Disadvantages – there are no disadvantages to approving the IFS).

Option 2 - to not approve the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) 2023 – 2024 and not publish it on the council's website and not send it to MHCLG. (Advantages – there are no advantages in not approving the IFS.) (Disadvantages – not approving the IFS would result in us not meeting the regulations.)

The preferred Option was Option 1.



Resolved:  
That the Cabinet approves the Infrastructure Funding Statement 2023 - 2024 for publication.



**Oldham**  
Council

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## **OLDHAM'S BROWNFIELD LAND REGISTER 2024**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy that sought approval for the publication of Oldham's 2024 Brownfield Land Register.

The Town and Country Planning (Brownfield Land Register) Regulations 2017 required that each local planning authority in England prepare, maintain and publish a register of previously developed (brownfield) land suitable for housing. The government considered the purpose of the register being to provide up-to-date and consistent information on sites that local authorities consider to be appropriate for residential development. The Brownfield Register update for 2024 included 185 sites.

A Brownfield Register is made up of two parts, Part 1 comprises all brownfield sites that the council has assessed to be appropriate for residential development and could include sites with or without planning permission. Part 2 identified sites that the local authority had decided should be granted (planning) permission in principle (PiP) for residential development. PiP is an alternative route to obtaining planning permission which separated "in principle" matters, such as use and location, from technical details, which were left to be agreed later.

It is not proposed to include sites on Part 2 of the Register currently. The decision not to progress Part 2 would be kept under review. This was particularly the case given that the council may, in future, become obligated by the government to start granting PiP.

The report detailed Oldham Council's 8<sup>th</sup> Brownfield Register.

Options/Alternatives considered:

The following options were considered:

Option 1 - To approve and publish Part 1 of Oldham's Brownfield Land Register 2024 in line with the Regulations. Part 2 was not proposed.

Option 2 - To not approve and publish an updated Brownfield Land Register as the 2024 SHLAA already contained all brownfield land considered suitable for housing development. This would not comply with the current Regulations.

The preferred Option was Option 1, as this would comply with Regulations (there is no current obligation to include sites on Part 2 of the Register).

Resolved:

1. That the Oldham Brownfield Land Register 2024, be approved and published, in line with the Regulations.
2. That the Cabinet notes the It is recommended to note the approach to determining sites be included in Part 1 and 2 of the Brownfield Register.

3. That the Cabinet approves a 2024 update of the Brownfield Land Register (Part 1 only) for publication.
4. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) to make any minor amendments and updates to the register throughout the year, if and when required.

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### **STREET LIGHTING ATTACHMENT POLICY**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Environment which sought approval for a Street lighting Attachment Policy for the Borough of Oldham. Under Section 178 of The Highways Act 1980, there was a legal requirement for any individual who wishes to attach signage or equipment to a street lighting asset to obtain a licence from the local highway authority.

The Cabinet was advised that to date, the Street Lighting Service had been using a robust process to allow attachments to its lighting columns. However, the service had identified that there was no formal Council policy in place covering the requirements of the The Highways Act and the current contract for replacement of the streetlighting assets. The Director of Environment's report therefore requested approval of a policy, which outlined the legal and council requirements for anyone wish to attached items to the streetlights.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Due to the Highways Act and the current PFI contractual requirements, there was no alternative option for Street Lighting Attachments. A robust process had been undertaken to ensure that the policy is fit for purposes and compliant with both the Highways Act 1980 and PFI obligations.

Resolved:

That the Street Lighting Attachment Policy (detailed at Appendix 1, to the submitted report), be approved for implementation, thereby allowing the Council to formally provide the requirements needed for Applicants to gain an Attachment Licence, and therefore, ensure compliance with The Highways Act 1980 and the council's contractual requirements.

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### **OLDHAM MBC – TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION FAIR SHARE POLICY**

The Cabinet received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which asked members to consider enactment of a new policy, allowing for charges to be made for occupation of temporary accommodation (TA), based on appropriate affordability checks.

The proposed policy sought to ensure fairness by focusing on: ensuring affordability for the resident; not discouraging residents from seeking employment; ensuring there are no disincentives to residents seeking to move on from temporary accommodation; making sure residents have access to the support that they need to move on and live independently; and recouping as much of the costs to the Council as is reasonable, while remaining in line with the above principles.

If adopted, all residents being placed into TA would receive an affordability assessment, carried out by Housing Options, at the first point of contact. In addition, affordability assessments would also be carried out on current residents of TA, to assess whether they should be required to contribute to costs going forward.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 – to approve the proposed policy in its entirety in order to ensure that residents receive appropriate support to remain independent, and contributions towards costs are obtained from those who can afford to pay.

Option 2 - do nothing.

The preferred Option was Option 1 to approve the policy.

Resolved:

That the proposed Temporary Accommodation Fair Share Policy, as outlined in the submitted report, be approved and adopted.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.20pm



<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Shah (Chair) Councillors Brownridge (Substitute) and Taylor	
	Also in Attendance:	
	Mike Barker	Deputy Chief Executive
	Rob Jackson	Managing Director, MioCare
	Andrew Mather	Constitutional Services

1           **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Goodwin and Jabbar (Councillor Brownridge substituting).

2           **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3           **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4           **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions.

5           **MIOCARE ANNUAL REVIEW**

Rob Jackson, Managing Director, MioCare, submitted the organisations Annual Review 2023/24. The Review highlighted a number of notable events and achievements during the year including the celebration of MioCare’s 10<sup>th</sup> year providing care and support.

The organisation had retained a rating of ‘Good’ from the Care quality Commission across all registered services. MioCare had also achieved the highest rating of ‘Advanced’ from the National Autistic Society for the support provided to autistic adults.

A small financial surplus had been achieved and reinvested in the organisation.

Mr Jackson also highlighted the importance of customer and staff engagement, asking people what they think. The Review highlighted some of the feedback that had been received. A staff survey had demonstrated a high level of understanding of, and commitment to the values of the organisation.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the report be noted and MioCare be congratulated for its achievements during 2023/24 and the positive difference it makes to people’s lives.
2. Noted that commercially sensitive information provided by MioCare, was to be presented at Item 7.



6 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting, for the following item of business, on the grounds that it contains exempt information under paragraph 3 Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the documents considered

7 **MIOCARE ANNUAL REVIEW**

Consideration was given to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 5.

The Shareholder Committee received a further report providing an update on the operational and financial performance of MioCare Group during the financial year 2023/24, and giving an overview on business strategy and an update on the budget for 2024/25.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.



## Report to CABINET

# Oldham Town Centre Built Heritage Project

### Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Arooj Shah, Cabinet Member for Building a Better Oldham

**Officer Contact:** Paul Clifford, Director of Economy

**Report Author:** Jennifer Penn, Town Centre Business Manager

**Ext.** 6582

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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### Reason for Decision

Oldham town centre benefits from a wealth of important heritage buildings thanks to the town's rich economic and cultural history. Several of these buildings have in recent times become vacant or underutilised. The Council has engaged with key partners to set out a clear pathway to understand what is required to bring the buildings back into viable and sustainable uses. The successful delivery of the project would protect the assets and enhance the economic and social value the buildings can bring to the local economy.

As part of the engagement with partners, the Council has been awarded, subject to approval of this Cabinet report, revenue grants by Historic England (£200,000) and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (£100,000) to deliver a project to support the heritage assets within the town centre.

The project described in this report is to develop a clear vision and delivery plan incorporating surveys and appraisals of a minimum of five heritage buildings. The aim is to increase the understanding of at-risk heritage buildings with the objective of enabling their restoration and repurposing back into viable uses.

The delivery of the project aligns with the Creating a Better Place framework to regenerate and enhance Oldham town centre and the wider borough.

### Recommendations

Cabinet members are requested to approve:

- 
1. Delivery of a project to survey a minimum of five heritage buildings in Oldham town centre and generate a new strategic vision and delivery plan for these assets by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.
  2. Acceptance of a revenue grant worth £200,000 from Historic England.
  3. Acceptance of a revenue grant worth £100,000 from Greater Manchester Combined Authority.
  4. The Council providing match funding towards the external grants at a ratio of 25% subject to a maximum Council commitment of £100,000.
  5. Delegating approval to the Cabinet Member for Building a Better Oldham in consultation with the Director of Economy, the Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, the Director of Finance (or their nominees) to
    - (i) appoint external advisors (for the provision of professional services) up to contract value of £400,000 in accordance with the Council's procurement procedures and
    - (ii) select the buildings which are to be part of the project.
  6. Authorising the Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer or their nominated representative to sign and/or affix the Common Seal of the Council to all the documents and associated or ancillary documents referred to above and/or required to give effect to the recommendations in this report.

Oldham Town Centre Built Heritage Project  
ESR-27-24

## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 The listed and heritage buildings in Oldham town centre make a positive contribution to the town's character. However, the historic nature of the buildings and associated high costs to repurpose has discouraged their renovation and occupation leading to their declining use and creating a heritage deficit. The recommendations contained in this report seek to unlock these obstacles by setting out a clear pathway to understand the costs to refurbish, repurpose and align future uses to provide a sustainable economic and social value.
- 1.2 The proposed Heritage Vision and Asset Delivery Plan responds to the concerns of the local community about the deterioration of Oldham town centre heritage assets, obtained during public conversations and consultations including Oldham's Big Conversation; the Oldham Town Centre Vision linked to the Creating a Better Place strategic regeneration framework; and meetings of the Oldham High Street Partnership (since February 2024) and Oldham Town Centre Board (since February 2020).
- 1.3 In the draft Local Plan (2023), Oldham's heritage assets are referenced as an "irreplaceable resource that should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance so they can be enjoyed for their contribution to quality of life."
- 1.4 The Council has already demonstrated its significant commitment to the heritage of its buildings including:
  - The restoration of the Grade II listed Old Town Hall to create a cinema and restaurant complex (opened 2016) and Egyptian Room (opened November 2024)
  - The renovation of the Grade II listed former Oldham Library and associated public realm improvements (commenced January 2022)
  - Refurbishment and restoration of Royton Town Hall (opened September 2024)
- 1.5 This next phase of the Council supporting Oldham's heritage assets builds upon the refurbishments listed above, complements our draft local plan and aligns with ongoing public consultation and is described in detail below.

## 2.0 Current Position

### Proposal

- 2.1 Oldham Council with the support of Historic England and GMCA will deliver a Vision and Asset Delivery Plan for selected heritage assets within the town centre. Developing this vision will require detailed surveys, development appraisals and analysis of potential future uses and needs.

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- 2.2 The delivery of the project will provide the Council with a clear pathway to bring these assets back into viable and sustainable uses. The proposal and grant awards are the result of engagement with Historic England, GMCA and Oldham Civic Society.

### **Priority Heritage Properties**

- 2.3 The proposal will focus initially on the five buildings described below, although the proposed grant agreements will allow flexibility to bring in other heritage assets.

**Lyceum, 95 Union Street:** a Grade II listed asset owned by Oldham Council and comprising three buildings. This building is in part occupied by Music Services and part is vacant.

**Masonic Hall, Union Street:** a Grade II listed building dating back to the 1830s that has been vacant for several years. This property will be included in the project if the Council secures formal consent from the owner (requested December 2024).

**Old Museum and Friends Meeting House, Greaves Street:** the building was constructed between 1867-69, as a Friends Meeting House for Oldham's Quakers. It is owned by Oldham Council and the occupiers are Oldham Theatre Workshop, who will vacate the property upon completion of the restoration of the Old Library.

**Old Post Office, 84 Union Street:** this Grade II listed building was purpose-built as a post and telegraph office in 1875. It is owned by Oldham Council and is vacant.

**Prudential Assurance Building, 79 Union Street:** this Grade II listed building from 1889 has recently been acquired by Oldham Council.

Other heritage assets can be brought in to replace the assets described above or as an addition to the project.

### **Project Objectives**

- 2.4 The project will increase knowledge and understanding of heritage assets and include:
- The development of a heritage vision for the Cultural Quarter with and for local stakeholders, to establish local ambitions and priorities for the historic environment.
  - The procurement of building surveys/heritage studies, so that the Council and its partners can develop and own a comprehensive suite of heritage information for the purpose of better understanding and identifying possible uses for the historic environment.
  - The development of a delivery plan presenting each of the assets as investment propositions, with potential end uses to be informed by the results of the building condition surveys and associated studies, and an assessment of supply and demand for different commercial/non-commercial uses. The investment propositions will enable the Council to pursue funding opportunities to look at bringing the building back into active use.

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## Indicative Timescales

2.5 Indicative timescales for the project are set out below:

### Up to 31 March 2025

- Formalise grant awards with funders.
- Progress procurement for all project stages.
- Arrange appointments, manage project, and undertake or commission surveys, appraisals and drawings.
- Appoint cost consultant.
- Appoint consultant to report on market demand, supply and detailed gap analysis.

### 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026

- Architect and heritage consultants to draft up proposals for re-use.
- Architect/surveyor or other to bring together the overarching strategic heritage vision and report presenting recommendations.
- Architect/surveyor to produce asset delivery plan to include different funding options for end use(s) proposed for each asset in recommendations, in line with the overarching vision for the town's heritage.

## Funding summary

2.6 Below is a summary of the funding resource:

Funder	Max Amounts
Historic England	£200,000
GMCA	£100,000
Council – internal funding	£100,000
Total	£400,000

## 3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 There are two options:

**Option 1 (preferred option):** accept the external revenue grants offered by Historic England and Greater Manchester Combined Authority. This will commit the Council to providing revenue funding to the maximum value of £100,000 for spend by 31 March 2026.

**Option 2:** decline the offer of external grants from Historic England and Greater Manchester Combined Authority. This would lead to there being insufficient budget to proceed with the project and increase hurdles to the future use and occupation of the heritage buildings in the town centre.

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#### 4 **Preferred Option**

- 4.1 The preferred option is to formally accept the revenue grants offered by Historic England and Greater Manchester Combined Authority totalling £300,000 and commit internal resource of up to £100,000 to give an overall project budget of £400,000.

#### 5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 Historic England and Oldham Civic Society were consulted during the development of the funding application to Historic England.
- 5.2 Comments on this report have been received from colleagues within Finance, Legal and Procurement and the responses are recorded below.

#### 6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The approval to accept the Historic England grant of £200,000 and a further grant from Greater Manchester Combined Authority of £100,000 will provide the Council with an additional £300,000 financial resource.
- 6.2 As per the report the Council will have to match this grant with £100,000 of its own funding.
- 6.3 This matched funding will be provided from some or all of the following funding resources: the base budget within the Regeneration cost centre 24080, the Creating a Better Place reserve, or funding received from profit share arrangements linked to the Foxdenton/Broadway Green development.
- 6.4 There is sufficient Council financial resource to provide the match funding, thus enabling the acceptance of the grant allocation.  
(John Hoskins, Finance Manager)

#### 7 **Legal Implications**

- 7.1 The Service should ensure it can meet the objectives, milestones, and terms and conditions of the funding agreements with Historic England and GMCA, including providing match funding and submitting required monitoring reports and returns. Officers should verify that these terms do not conflict with existing funding arrangements for the buildings or related projects.
- 7.2 All works, services, and goods procured using grant funding or Council resources should comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (or the Procurement Act 2023, for procurements after its implementation), and the Council's Financial Procedure Rules. Officers are encouraged to liaise with the Procurement Team to ensure compliance with procurement processes.
- 7.3 The Service is advised to arrange with Legal Services to review and approve the terms of the grant agreements and agreements with consultants, contractors, and third parties, ensuring that any risks or key provisions are flagged for consideration.



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As the funding may constitute a subsidy under the Subsidy Control Act 2022, the Service should also liaise with Legal Services to analyse and ensure compliance with the Subsidy Control Act as necessary.

7.4 Ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the heritage assets should be documented, and it would be prudent to conduct a risk assessment addressing delays, cost overruns, or compliance issues before the project begins. Officers should also ensure compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty and secure any necessary Environmental Assessments.

7.5 Subject to a subsidy control analysis, compliance with procurement regulations, and confirmation that the Council can meet the grant terms, there are no known legal barriers to accepting the grants and proceeding with the project. The Service is encouraged to arrange for Legal Services to remain engaged throughout to address any emerging issues, as needed.

(Pamela Nsofor, Solicitor)

## 8 Procurement Implications

8.1 The acceptance and allocation of grant funding does not have any procurement implications, however, the manner of how it is spent does. Once grant funding has been approved to be used for the options in the report, the expenditure of the grant funding in order to deliver the expected outcomes will need to be spent following the most appropriate and compliant procurement route/s in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (or the Procurement Act 23 should the works be conducted after February 2025).

(Emma Wall, Category Manager)

## 9 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People

9.1 No

## 10 Key Decision

10.1 Yes

## 11 Key Decision Reference Number

11.1 ESR-02-25

## 12 Background Papers

12.1 None

## 13 Appendices

13.1 None

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## Report to CABINET

# Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Infrastructure

### Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Peter Dean, Portfolio Holder for Thriving Communities & Culture

**Officer Contact:** Dr Rebecca Fletcher, Director of Public Health

**Report Author:** Rachel Dyson, Community-led Prevention Lead (Public Health)

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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### Reason for Decision

To seek approval for the award of the Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise Sector (VCSFE) infrastructure grant of £270,500 per annum to Action Together CIO and for a grant funding agreement to be entered into with Action Together CIO under which the total funding of total £811,500 would be provided for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028 (3 years).

### Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to approve the recommendation that a VCFSE infrastructure grant of £811,500 to Action Together CIO is approved (subject to a satisfactory subsidy control assessment), and that authority is given for the Council to enter into a suitable form of grant funding agreement with Action Together CIO for a period of three years (1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028), as detailed in this report. The grant funding agreement would be drafted by Legal Services on standard terms and conditions and subject to a fit for purpose project specification.

Cabinet is also asked to grant approval for the Borough Solicitor to carry out all necessary legal formalities.

## Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Infrastructure

### 1 Background

- 1.1 The Council has, for a number of years, provided grant funding to Action Together CIO (AT) in contribution to a project designed and delivered by AT under which free support is provided to a range of voluntary, community and faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector organisations. The grant is funded through the Council's Priority Programme Fund (PPF). The grant funding includes VCFSE infrastructure provision.
- 1.2 AT provides a range of VCFSE infrastructure support in Oldham, as well as in both Tameside and Rochdale. They also play a prominent role in the leadership of the sector at a Greater Manchester level through 10GM and the GM VCFSE Leadership Group which champions the role of communities in devolution. Further, AT has an influential voice within these forums, which contributes to Oldham's co-operative ambition to influence across the GM city region.
- 1.3 AT has three strategic priorities across Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside:
- Strengthen social infrastructure for connected communities
  - Advance our approach to social change
  - Grow and transform as a local funder
- 1.4 The work which AT carries out in the borough contributes to the achievement of the Council's aims and objectives within the corporate plan, in particular the ambition to actively work to reduce the need for our services by focusing on prevention and early support.
- 1.5 AT plays a key role in community development and capacity building of the VCFSE sector which therefore increases the ability of communities to help themselves, which reduces dependence upon Council and partner services. The organisation also provides strategic leadership and representation of the sector and therefore provides a key conduit for public sector partners' relationship and communication with the VCFSE sector.
- 1.6 AT is also a key partner in the Oldham Partnership which brings together public, private, voluntary and community organisations in Oldham. As such they share the common priorities - A Great Place to Live, Healthier, Happier Lives and Green and Growing - and are committed to working with partners and the people of Oldham to create vibrant, safe neighbourhoods where people are proud to live, opportunities for healthier more fulfilled lives and a sustainable thriving economy. In addition, AT is a key representative of the VCSFE sector in shaping the integrated partnership for the delivery of Health & Social Care.

### 2 Current Position

#### *Infrastructure Support*

- 2.1 The Council granted a three-year grant allocation of **£270,500 per annum** to AT for 2022-2025 by way of contribution to AT's provision of infrastructure support for VCFSE sector organisations, made up of:

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## 1. Volunteering

- Act as the accredited volunteer centre for Oldham (through VCQA)
- Provide place-based volunteering hubs, annual volunteer fair and online volunteer brokerage
- Manage an online bank of volunteering opportunities
- Provide training and support for volunteers

## 2. Development

- Provision of 'place-based' organisational development infrastructure support to VCFSE groups and organisations e.g. constitution advice, organisational healthchecks, find and apply for funding, training, business planning
- Provision of 'place-based' community development infrastructure support to Oldham residents with an idea to strengthen or improve their community e.g. development of ideas, forming project groups, starting projects

## 3. Partnerships & Collaboration

- Co-ordinating the strategic representation of the VCFSE at key Oldham and GM Partnership Governance Boards e.g. Health & Wellbeing Board, Community Safety Partnership, Adults Safeguarding Board, Economy Board, 10GM
- Co-ordinating and facilitating VCFSE forums that bring people together e.g. Community Explorers, VCSE Leadership Group, Community Centres Network
- Development of strategic and thematic networks e.g. Poverty Action Network, VCFSE Women's Network
- Relationship building and peer support between organisations

## 4. Communication & Sharing Information

- Communicate with members about key events and opportunities for the VCFSE sector in Oldham

2.2 A grant agreement, delivery schedule and outcome monitoring framework were put in place for the three-year period 2022-2025. An interactive summary of AT's activity in Oldham during 2023-24 is provided here: [2324 Annual Impact Report - Action Together in Oldham](#), and activity to date in 24-25 here: [Q2 Impact Report](#). This includes activity directly funded by the infrastructure grant, as well as projects supported by other income streams which strengthen the infrastructure offer and provide wider benefit to the borough.

2.3 AT is currently in the process of assessment for the Local Infrastructure Quality Award (LIQA) from the National Association of Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA). Oldham was recently included as a case study in an LGA Good Practice Guide: [Working with Local Infrastructure Organisations to engage smaller VCFSE organisations](#). Oldham is also being included in Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) funded research examining the role of Civil Society Infrastructure.

2.4 During 2023 a review of grant funding to the VCFSE was undertaken, including a particular focus on the infrastructure provision. This review included benchmarking against national standards and provision and funding across GM LAs, as well as stakeholder engagement across the Council to understand the extent to which the current provision was meeting needs. In brief the review found:

- The scope of AT's provision is in line with the national framework for infrastructure provision.
- The value of the grant is in line with other similar GM boroughs, and using a multi-year grant agreement is considered best practice. The grant has remained static

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for a number of years and does not cover the full costs of the core infrastructure provision which is supplemented by other income generation by Action Together.

- The four areas of AT's grant funded scheme remain priorities for stakeholders, in particular Community Development and Volunteering. Strategic representation of the sector is spread very thin across a considerable number of public sector led partnerships.
- The capacity of AT's grant funded scheme is limited, and it is evident that stakeholder expectations remain high and often go beyond the scope of explicitly funded activity (e.g. social value brokerage, engagement). AT is flexible and responsive in supporting with additional priorities linked to the agreed purpose of the grant and it utilises external resources to respond to such priorities wherever possible. However, additional grant funding would be needed if AT was to extend its grant funded scheme.
- AT undertakes other activities funded through public sector grants, contracts and external funding, and AT also acts as the Council's agent under separate arrangements by distributing grant funding on the Council's behalf. This can raise expectations amongst stakeholders with regard to the capacity for core infrastructure functions and create a lack of clarity around AT's role in different projects and partnerships.

2.5 The stakeholder engagement undertaken as part of the review highlighted a number of issues in relation to the Council's wider strategic relationship with the VCFSE sector, beyond the infrastructure provision in scope of the grant, and of other funded activity. In particular, this included the ambition to strengthen our approach to working with the sector in areas such as; social value, public sector volunteering, resident engagement, community use of assets, social enterprise, commissioning, community-led prevention.

2.6 Following the review, the Council liaised with AT in respect of the wider recommendations of the VCFSE infrastructure review. This included the development of a joint action plan to drive forward practical improvements identified in the review around the core functions and how the Council can collaborate to support these (e.g. joined up communications, promotion of employer supported volunteering etc.) This will be undertaken outside of the proposed grant arrangements.

2.7 In addition, as recommended through the review it has been agreed that a VCFSE and Volunteering Strategy & Action Plan should be co-designed between Council, ICB and VCFSE stakeholders. The strategy should recognise and build on the existing strengths of the sector and partnership working. The action plan will support the prioritisation of areas for development (including those identified through the review, e.g. public sector volunteering, community use of assets, development of the One Oldham Fund, consistent funding approaches). Again, this work will be undertaken outside of the proposed grant arrangements.

2.8 To support the above, a strategic VCFSE partnership will be established to co-design the strategy, and support the delivery of the Action Plan, recognising that all stakeholders have a role to play in strengthening our approach to working with the sector. The partnership will also provide a more direct strategic connectivity between local voluntary sector forums and key officers and commissioners across the Council and ICB, where issues and challenges can be discussed and addressed collectively.

#### *Infrastructure Grant*

2.9 The proposed 2025 – 2028 grant to AT is intended to contribute to the costs of AT's core activity to provide infrastructure support to the VCFSE sector in Oldham through their

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strategic objectives outlined at 1.2 above. The vast majority of the grant will contribute to AT's salary costs in respect of those staff members delivering AT's core outcomes, and the remainder of the grant will contribute to AT's overheads, including management costs and direct expenses.

- 2.10 Without the infrastructure grant, AT would not be in a position to deliver its core activity for the benefit of the VCSFE (taking into account earned income or other grant funding).
- 2.11 The provision of core grant funding over a longer timeframe is anticipated to increase AT's ability to attract other grant funding or investment because the grant offered by the Council would cover costs which other grant funders and investors would not meet. Further, medium-term certainty of funding levels for AT will enable them to set budgets and plan strategically over the longer-term. This in turn has a direct benefit for the VCFSE sector and communities in several ways. For example, staff retention within the infrastructure organisation will enable AT to better understand Oldham and build relationships and trust with organisations and communities over a longer period, which is key to effective asset-based community development. Similarly, it enables strategic development of the sector over a timescale in which it is possible to achieve impact, for example VCFSE workforce and system leadership development.
- 2.12 As part of the project which AT intends to deliver under the grant arrangements, AT will act as a strategic VCFSE partner, which will be beneficial to the community and the Council; AT is better placed to participate and commit resources within longer-term partnership plans and strategies.
- 2.13 The award of a three-year rather than annual grant reduces the resource required by the Council in managing the potential for an annual grant renewal process, whilst also allowing for the objectives and outcomes of the grant to be reviewed in light of current priorities in the medium-term.
- 2.14 AT is uniquely placed to offer VCSFE support due to its extensive knowledge and experience of working in the borough, as well as the relationships, networks and trust which already exist with VCFSE organisations across Oldham. This grant would have limited impact on the wider sector as AT remains the only organisation providing infrastructure support within the borough. The proposed grant would remain separate and be managed separately from other grants and contracts the Council may have with AT during the grant period. Robust monitoring arrangements would be put in place to ensure the outcomes continued to be delivered throughout the period of the grant funding.

### **3 Options/Alternatives**

- 3.1 Option 1 - Cabinet approves the award of the VCFSE infrastructure grant of £811,500 (£270,500 per year) to Action Together CIO (subject to a satisfactory subsidy control assessment), and authority is given for the Council to enter into a suitable form of grant funding agreement with Action Together CIO for a period of three years (1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028), as detailed in this report. The grant funding agreement would be drafted by Legal Services on standard terms and conditions and subject to a fit for purpose project specification. Also, Cabinet approves the Borough Solicitor carries out all necessary legal formalities. The grant does not cover the full costs of delivery and represents a real term cut year on year taking into account the increase of costs. Given the limitations of the funding available the agreement should ensure continued focus on core provision of community development, volunteering and strategic representation. The option would provide medium-term continuity of provision and strategic support for the wider VCFSE sector.



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3.2 Option 2 – The VCFSE Infrastructure Grant is renewed for a further one year (1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028) at the same level. This would be out of line with current NAVCA best practice and commitment in the Greater Manchester GM VCFSE Accord. The short-term nature of the agreement may impact on the level and quality of support available for the wider VCFSE sector.

3.3 Option 3 – Do not award the infrastructure grant. This is not regarded as a viable option as there would be a loss of infrastructure support to the VCFSE sector in Oldham. This would impact upon the capacity of the sector to develop and grow, the recruitment and placement of volunteers, and opportunities for securing external funding.

#### 4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 Option 1 - Cabinet approves the award of the VCFSE infrastructure grant of £811,500 (£270,500 per year) to Action Together CIO (subject to a satisfactory subsidy control assessment), and authority is given for the Council to enter into a suitable form of grant funding agreement with Action Together CIO for a period of three years (1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028), as detailed in this report.

#### 5 **Consultation**

5.1 As described in the report a review of the infrastructure provision was undertaken in 2023, this included consultation with the Portfolio holder, Deputy Chief Executive, Integrated Care Partnership Place Lead, and a range of service leads from across the Council. Action Together Director for Oldham has also been consulted.

#### 6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 The preferred option as detailed in paragraph 4.1 is to award Action Together CIO a VCFSE infrastructure grant of £811,500 over a three-year period between 1st April 2025 and 31st March 2028.

6.2 An allocation of £270,500 will be paid to Action Together CIO in each of the three financial years (subject to a satisfactory subsidy control assessment).

6.3 This will be funded from the revenue budget allocated to the Priority Programme Fund (PPF), which is £306,500 for 2025/26.

(Matthew Kearns – Finance Manager)

#### 7 **Legal Implications**

7.1 The Council has statutory powers to make grant awards, including under its general power of competence, which stems from the Localism Act 2011.

7.2 The Contract Procedure Rules will not apply to the award of grant funding, save in terms of the grant agreement formalities.

7.3 In regard to the grant award, the report specifically covers the individual position of Action Together CIO in the VCSFE sector and that there is no other organisation offering free support to VCSFE organisations. The infrastructure grant proposed would cover the general operating costs of Action Together CIO thus enabling the organisation to deliver the purpose of the proposed grant and meet the prescribed aims and objectives.



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- 7.4 It is recommended that any grant award is made subject to a satisfactory subsidy control analysis, which will look at not only whether the grant would amount to a subsidy, but also whether the subsidy control principles will be met if it is assessed as a subsidy.
  - 7.5 A fit for purpose grant agreement would be drafted and put in place to secure any grant award made. The terms of the grant agreement would deal with the purpose for which the grant is awarded, the aims and objectives, any monitoring arrangements and any clawback rights of the Council should the grant recipient fail to meet the prescribed aims and objectives or if any monies are spent on ineligible expenditure.

(Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor)

## 8 **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

- 8.1 No – the impact of the preferred option would be neutral as the current support offer would be maintained. An impact assessment would be required if an alternative option was agreed.

## 9 **Key Decision**

- 9.1 Yes

## 10 **Key Decision Reference**

- 11.1 EE/05/24

## 12 **Background Papers**

- 12.1 None

## 13 **Appendices**

- 13.1 None

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## Report to CABINET

# Acceptance of Funding Allocations 2024-2025 for Oldham Lifelong Learning Service

### **Portfolio Holder:**

Councillor Mohon Ali, Cabinet Member Education and Skills

**Officer Contact:** Jon Bloor, Assistant Director – Education, Early Years and Skills

**Report Author:** Jon Bloor, Assistant Director – Education, Early Years and Skills

**Ext.** 07900957623

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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### **Reason for Decision**

To accept the funding allocation for the academic year 2024 -2025 for the Lifelong Learning Service.

### **Executive Summary**

The report details funding offer received Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) in respect of the Adult Education Budget grant for the 2024-2025 academic year and highlights how this funding will be used to meet GMCA's and the Council's key priorities.

### **Recommendations**

To accept the Adult Education funding offer from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority for the academic year 2024-2025

**Acceptance of Funding Allocations 2024-2025 for Oldham Lifelong Learning Service****1 Background**

- 1.1 Following devolution of the Adult Education Budget, the Council's Lifelong Learning Service is now funded by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (prior to devolution this was directly awarded by the Education & Skills Funding Agency).
- 1.2 The Service is designed to meet the GMCA Strategy, the Council's ambition and key objectives as set out in the Corporate Plan and to support the Oldham Partnership Our Future. The Service works with the 5 district partnerships with a focus upon the Council's 'Get Oldham Working' campaign and the Co-operative Agenda. The funding will support the Service to specifically assist the Council to deliver outcomes against the Healthier, Happier Lives corporate mission.
- 1.3 The Service delivers a range of employability programmes in liaison with the Employment and Skills team (GOW), Job Centre Plus, Welfare to Work Providers and the 5 districts. The Service also works closely with the Voluntary, Community, Faith sector (VCFS) via Action Together. Partnerships with Children's Centres, Family Hubs, Schools, Public Health, Adult and Children Social Care and others to enable the Service to deliver targeted work which develops self-reliance, confidence, independence, health and progression to further learning, training and employment.

**2 Current Position**

- 2.1 For the academic year 2024 – 2025, the Adult Education Budget will continue to be split based on the initial 2019/20 geographical delivery with an allocation of GMCA Devolved Education Budget. The allocation which is payable by GMCA to the Council for the Lifelong Learning Service for the Funding Year from 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025 is **£2,865,926** (Two Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand, Nine Hundred and twenty six Pounds Sterling). This is the total of all 3 elements of AEB (adult skills, learner support and where applicable, tailored learning.)
- 2.2 All funds are to be used to support Oldham Lifelong Learning Service's Strategic Plan, Self-Assessment Report (SAR), Quality Improvement Plan (QIP), the Oldham Community Learning Plan and Lifelong Learning Service's Business Plan and the Council Corporate Plan. The funding will also support the GM Strategy and GM Local Industrial Strategy and in negotiation with GMCA it will maintain the position of prioritising Adult Skills funded provision.
- 2.3 The Adult Education Budget (AEB) block grant aims to engage adults and provide skills and learning they need to equip them for work, an apprenticeship or other learning. It enables more flexible tailored programmes of learning to be made available, which may not require a qualification. This will help those furthest from learning or the workplace.
- 2.4 The AEB allocation for 2024-2025 includes Adult Skills, Tailored Learning, (formerly Community Learning) and Discretionary Learner Support. The Adult Skills element is used to fund the accredited programmes offered by the Service. Discretionary Learner Support is used specifically for childcare provision and to provide financial support towards the cost of fees, books, travel costs and equipment for learners who otherwise would be unable to attend classes.

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- 2.5 GMCA will not be implementing the national approach to tailored learning. Tailored Learning (formerly Community Learning) will be used to fund the non-vocational programme offered by the Service which continues to fall under the following seven delivery strands: • Engaging and/or building confidence • Preparation for further learning • Preparation for employment • Improving essential skills (English, including English for Speakers of Other Languages, maths and digital provision) • Equipping parents/carers to support children’s learning • Health and well-being • Developing stronger communities.
- 2.6 GMCA has removed the tolerance for under allocation; to manage flex and growth in year. GMCA is also committed to having a positive conversation with individual and groups of grant providers to manage underspends for the benefit of ‘place’ first, and then opened up to other GM providers. It is expected that the Lifelong Learning service will not underspend and meet all of the given allocation.

### 3 **Options/Alternatives**

- 3.1 To accept the funding and to enter into suitable funding agreements.
- 3.2 To decline the funding.

### 4 **Preferred Option**

- 4.1 **To accept the funding and to enter into suitable funding agreements**

### 5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 The Service undertakes extensive and regular consultation with learners, other users, partners and non-users.

### 6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The initial funding allocation for Oldham Lifelong Learning Service is £2,865,926. The funding will be utilised to fund the Service’s delivery programme, which is developed to meet the ESFA, GMCA and the Council’s priorities and targets.
- 6.2 There is an additional element for GM Devolved AEB Local Level 3 Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) which will be allocated based on outcomes received via the ILR online system and paid monthly. This is to a maximum amount of £50,000. The service achieved £11,491 in Academic Year 2023/2024 and the service is expecting to achieve £12,000 for academic year 2024/2025
- 6.3 The budget is for the 2024/2025 academic year and covers the delivery of the Service’s programme for the same period, income therefore falls into the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 financial years. As the grant funding runs across two financial years, any unspent funding at the end of the financial year 2024/2025 will be carried forward as a receipt in advance to be spent in 2025/2026 financial year.
- 6.4 GMCA continues to honour over delivery payable at the end of year reconciliation up to a maximum of 110%. For academic year 2023/2024 this was factored into the financial year budget. Any overachievement for Academic year 2024/2025 will be factored into the relevant financial year budget. The Service is currently planning an overachievement of 102%; £57,318 planned for the 2024/25 academic year. The £11,491 outlined in section

6.2, for Level 3 funding is for 2023/2024 academic year and the expectation is that Level 3 funding will be similar for 2024/2025:

	2024/25	2025/26	Total
2024/2025 GMCA AEB Allocation	£1,910,617	£955,309	<b>£2,865,926</b>
102% overachievement (planned)	£38,212	£19,106	<b>£57,318</b>
2024/2025 AEB Local Level 3	£8,000	£4,000	<b>£12,000</b>
Total (within financial year)	£1,956,829	£978,415	
<b>Total Academic Year (Aug 24 – Jul 25)</b>	<b>£2,935,244</b>		

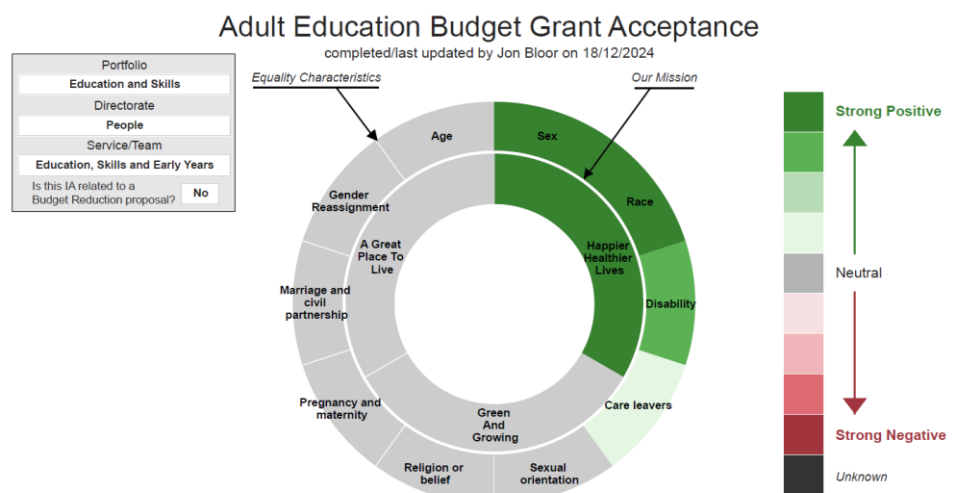
- 6.5 As in previous years, the Service may receive additional one-off grant allocations from the GMCA and other funding bodies and will seek approval to accept these as and when they arise. Again, this funding will be linked to specific delivery programmes and targets from varying sources. They may fall into the academic year or financial year.
- 6.6 The AEB grant is fully ring-fenced to the Lifelong Learning Service and is subject to a detailed annual grant return and detailed monthly data returns and an annual audit. The monthly data returns, namely the Individual Learner Record (ILR), record the amount of funding drawn down by individual learners and calculate the overall amount of funding earned each month. The Service is paid on a monthly profile. GMCA provide Red/Amber/Green (RAG) rate for each audit and the service is pleased to have maintained a “green” award for each audit with no additional conditions attached.
- 6.7 Should performance issues arise then the Service delivery programme will be revised to reflect the new budget allocation at no additional cost to the Authority.  
(Catherine Dunkerley - Accountant)

## 7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 The GMCA grant offered to the Council will, as per the contents of this report, assist the Council to meet its aims, objectives and priorities. The terms and conditions upon which the grant funding is made available are currently unknown, so it is recommended that the form of grant agreement is reviewed by Legal Services prior to the transfer of any funds. Provided the Council is in a position to meet the requirements of the grant funding agreement, there are no known legal implications in respect of the proposed recommendation.  
Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor

## 8 Oldham Equality Impact Assessment, including implications for Children and Young People

8.1



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9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

10.1 EDS-08-24

11 **Background Papers**

11.1 None

12 **Appendices**

12.1



Oldham Council - GMCA ASF Funding  
Allocation Letter 24/25 and Performance M

GMCA Funding and Performance Management rules  
Allocation Letter for 24/25 funding from GMCA

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Jon Bloor  
Head of Lifelong Learning, Investment and Employment Skills Services  
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Greater Manchester Combined Authority  
Broadhurst House  
56 Oxford Street  
Manchester M1 6EU

21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

## **GMCA funded Adult Education Budget - Allocation for 2024 to 2025**

Dear Jon,

The purpose of this letter is to share your GMCA funded Adult Education Budget (AEB) allocation for the 2024-2025 funding year.

All values and references in this letter relate to your AEB allocation for delivery to residents in Greater Manchester (GM) for the 2024-2025 funding year, unless otherwise stated.

### **2024-2025 GMCA AEB allocation**

Ministers agreed that the methodology for calculating ESFA and Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCAs) and the Greater London Authority (GLA) budgets should be based on delivery and learner residences in 2017 to 2018. They also agreed that this budget baseline would not be renewed with delivery data from 2018 to 2019. The rationale for this was to give a level of certainty to ESFA and MCAs/GLA over their budgets and there are no plans to change this approach.

Your AEB base allocation for 2024-2025 is **£2,865,926**.

This is the total of all 3 elements of AEB (adult skills, learner support and where applicable, tailored learning). You will be required prior to the start of the 2024/2025 to submit a delivery and financial plan, which will need to include a breakdown of these elements.

The final allocation for core GM devolved AEB for 2024/25 has been approved by the GMCA as of 22nd March 2024. **This does not include confirmation of funding for continuing learners, if applicable.**

We have removed the tolerance for under allocation; this will allow a positive relationship to be formed to manage flex and growth in year. GMCA is also committed to having a positive conversation with individual and groups of grant providers to manage underspends for the benefit of 'place' first, and then opened up to other GM providers.

## **GMCA Funded AEB**

The GMCA Adult Education Budget: Funding and Performance Management Rules 2024 to 2025 will set out how you can continue to fund adult skills, learner support and where applicable, tailored learning from your GMCA AEB allocation, subject to the terms of your grant funding agreement.

You can spend your GMCA funded AEB as follows:

- GMCA funded AEB (adult skills, learner support and where applicable, tailored learning) – on learners who are a resident of Greater Manchester only. Unless you have any allocation for delivery to Liverpool City Region residents.

## **Traineeships**

GMCA AEB funding (adult skills, learner support and where applicable, tailored learning) cannot be used to support Traineeships for 16–18-year-olds or 19-23 year olds.

## **Funding for continuing learners in 2023-2024**

An indicative allocation for continuing learners will be identified. This allocation will continue to be recalculated on a month-by-month basis within the remainder of 2023-2024 academic year.

## **Funding for GM Single Pot Level 3 2024-2025**

Your GM Single Pot Level 3 allocation for 2024-2025 is **£50,000**

## **Appeals Process**

GMCA are developing an appeals process, which will apply to key aspects of AEB delivery, including funding allocations, growth cases etc. This will be communicated to all AEB grant and procured providers and will be incorporated within the GMCA Adult Education Budget: Funding and Performance Management Rules 2024 to 2025.

On receipt of this letter, meetings will be organised, if desired, with GMCA. Please contact your Performance and Contract Officer to discuss its contents.

Yours sincerely,



Eamonn Boylan  
Chief Executive

# Greater Manchester Combined Authority Devolved Adult Skills Fund (ASF): Funding & Performance Management Rules

For the 2024 to 2025 funding year  
(1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025)

Reference - GMCA136

Of interest to all providers delivering GMCA ASF and GM  
Adult Skills Level 3 funded provision

Version 1 (Accessible Version)

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# Preface: The Greater Manchester Ambition

- 1 Devolution of the Adult Skills Fund (formerly Adult Education Budget) formed a landmark agreement within Greater Manchester's ground-breaking devolution deal. The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) assumed responsibility for ensuring high quality adult education is available across the city-region from the 2019-20 academic year onwards.
- 2 Skills underpin every facet of life in Greater Manchester (GM), from running the businesses our economy needs, to building the homes we live in and delivering the public services we rely upon. Both nationally and in Greater Manchester there is a pressing need for more highly skilled people than ever before, trained effectively, to grow the economy and raise productivity.
- 3 Our people and their skills, knowledge and experience are a key focus of Greater Manchester's Local Industrial Strategy<sup>1</sup>, published in June 2019. The Local Industrial Strategy is a unique opportunity to spread the benefits of prosperity across the city-region, delivering inclusive growth and quality employment. We need to ensure that, in implementing this plan, no-one is held back, and no-one is left behind, and that our key sectors – both the frontier sectors where we have assets of national and global significance and the foundation sectors which employ large numbers of our residents in a range of core occupations and industries – can access the skilled people they need.
- 4 Forecasts suggest greater demand for higher-level technical and specialist skills in the future. Greater international competition and faster technological change might put many roles that exist today at risk of automation but will in turn create a myriad of new opportunities for GM residents and businesses. It is also clearer now than ever before that we must ensure that our residents and our labour market have the resilience to withstand economic shocks, both those that are the expected

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<sup>1</sup> GMCA and central Government have worked together to develop one of the country's first modern local industrial strategies. The [GM Local Industrial Strategy](#) outlines a set of long-term policy priorities to help guide industrial development and provides a joint plan for good jobs and growth in the region. The Strategy has been developed with business (including those in the voluntary and social enterprise (VCSE) sector) and residents, and was informed by extensive consultation and by the GM Independent Prosperity Review

consequences of political or technological change, and those caused by unforeseen local, national, or global circumstances. GM's economic strength now is in its diversity: in contrast to many other cities in the UK, the city region is not reliant on a single sector or large employer for growth and that offers real opportunities for both business and residents. The ASF is one part of a broad and complex skills landscape that contributes to the talent pipeline that supports that economic growth.

5 GMCA wants an integrated education, skills and employment support system that works for everyone, as set out in the priorities within the [Greater Manchester Strategy 2021 – 2031 good lives for all:](#)

- A greener Greater Manchester: responding to the climate emergency
- A fairer Greater Manchester: addressing inequalities and improving wellbeing for all
- A more prosperous Greater Manchester: driving local and UK growth

6 However, to realise our ambitions for Greater Manchester as a dynamic, inclusive and knowledge-intensive city region, GM's skills base must improve. Despite recent progress and the commitment, expertise and enthusiasm of providers and stakeholders, the current skills system does not deliver enough people with high quality, relevant skills and, at higher levels, the technical knowledge required by employers. Too many young people reach the age of 19 without having attained the expected levels of attainment, leaving a gap that must be filled by the ASF.

7 To increase productivity and promote inclusive growth in GM, we need a flexible and responsive skills and employment system, which puts the needs of residents and employers at the heart of all that we do and has a strong focus on 'place'.

8 To that end, the ASF is one of the funding streams through which we will work together to respond to the recommendations of Greater Manchester's Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP). The LSIP, led by Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce as the employer representative body designated by the Secretary of State for Education for this purpose, articulates employers' skills needs and makes recommendations about changes needed to ensure the skills offer within

Greater Manchester better aligns with the needs of the local labour market. GMCA will work closely with the Chamber to ensure that the LSIP docks into the wider strategic landscape for education, skills and work in Greater Manchester and to ensure coordinated implementation. We will also work with all ASF funded providers to respond to the LSIP's employer-led recommendations, in particular supporting FE institutions in meeting their statutory obligation to review how well the education and training they deliver meets local needs and in considering what action they might take (alone or in conjunction with other institutions) in order to meet those needs better.

- 9 The devolved ASF must sit within a transformational education, skills, employment and health system within GM that delivers a step-change improvement in the basic and generic skills needed for life and work, including English, maths and digital skills. At the same time, it must deliver the higher level and technical skills needed to drive productivity in GM's growth sectors. A devolved Greater Manchester ASF will form a key element in supporting this progression within the broader delivery of the skills and employment system linking with other provision including technical education and apprenticeships / traineeships.
- 10 The devolved ASF plays a key role in Greater Manchester's growth and reform agenda, linking with other activity aimed at supporting our residents to progress in learning and to move towards / into productive and sustained employment.
- 11 Devolution of these functions and of the associated funding must be seen as the start of a journey towards creating a local skills strategy to support Greater Manchester's overarching ambitions for its residents and employers as set out in our Local Industrial Strategy.
- 12 However, it is only one part of the jigsaw; GMCA is keen to ensure that, over time, it delivers on its crucial role in securing the skills that employers require and delivering better outcomes for residents, aligning the devolved ASF with other reform initiatives such as Greater Manchester Working Well (Work & Health Programme). It will also have an impact on other skills budgets accessed by providers, including the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
- 13 Furthermore, the Trailblazer Devolution deal between Greater Manchester and central Government (March 2023) opens up new opportunities by laying the



groundwork for a fundamentally new way of working, with the commitment to provide a single funding settlement similar to the way in which government Departments are funded. The single settlement, which will span an entire spending review period, will encompass a range of devolved functions, including adult skills, and will be underpinned by new governance and accountability arrangements. This, together with new flexibilities around currently ring-fenced adult skills activities with a view to their inclusion in the single funding settlement, opens up new opportunities to work in more strategic and streamlined ways. GMCA will work with providers as we move towards those new arrangements to ensure that, together, we harness the new flexibilities and autonomy in ways that deliver maximum benefits for our residents, communities and employers.

14 GMCA recognises that, for some Greater Manchester residents, the line of sight into further learning and / or work is clear; the positive outcomes we want for them may be relatively accessible. However, for others, that journey is more complex and may require multiple skills programmes delivered over a longer period of time. GMCA wants to work with providers to consider those individual journeys and the skills that each GM resident needs to acquire in order to make positive progress, rather than being constrained by what can be achieved and funded in a year. This is the start of a long-term journey of change focused on supporting the longer-term ambitions of our people and meeting the skills needs of our place.

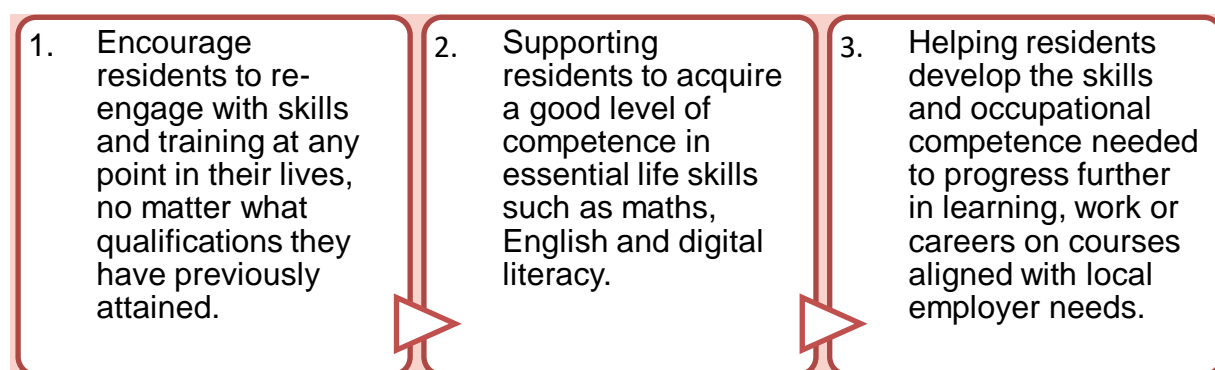
# Section 1 - Greater Manchester Adult Skills Fund.

## Background

1.1 The principal purpose of the ASF is to engage adults and provide them with the skills needed for entering and sustaining work, an apprenticeship / traineeship, or other further learning. In Greater Manchester, this means high quality provision that leads to demonstrable improvements in opportunities, positive outcomes for individuals and clear progression pathways for our residents, with a clear line of sight into the local labour market and future economic development opportunities.

1.2 In particular, it should focus on ensuring that adults have the essential core skills they need, including delivering the expanding range of statutory entitlements, which, notwithstanding the devolved nature of this budget, will continue to apply within Greater Manchester.

1.3 The ASF funding allocation is a key element of the Adult Skills Programme of GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Directorate and has three objectives linked to its priorities. These are to ensure that all residents over the age of 19 can:



1.4 These objectives are directly linked to the three principles which are central pillars to all GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Directorate's work moving forward:

- Reach your potential;
- Advance equality in the labour market;
- Maximise the business relationship to connect and invest in a talent pipeline.

1.5 The ASF funding allocation to Greater Manchester from Government to support the devolved functions has been calculated based on residents who are resident within the CA area. Greater Manchester's devolved ASF can therefore only be used to support eligible Greater Manchester residents.

1.6 With our strong focus on positive outcomes for residents, GMCA places significant importance on the quality of:

- initial assessment,
- ongoing review of residents' needs,
- delivery of the provision,
- prior attainment and future goals.

These are essential to enabling a progression / career pathway to be developed for each individual, whether this is:

- Supporting progression from entry level and level 1 into level 2 and higher and / or moving closer to the workforce, with a focus on residents who are least likely to participate;
- Enabling progression from level 2 to a higher level in order to gain the job / occupationally relevant skills required to enter and move on within the workforce, including a focus on those in work but on low incomes:
- Ensuring all residents engaging with ASF funded provision understand that they are entitled to support to gain the essential life skills they may need to acquire in English, maths and / or digital skills.

## **Greater Manchester devolved funding flexibilities**

### **Summary**

1.7 The single funding settlement due to be implemented in 2025 will allow GMCA to make full use of the freedoms and flexibilities afforded by devolution, utilising a robust evidence base to underpin changes made. While building that evidence, and to maintain stability in the system, GMCA is continuing to mirror for 2024/25 (where appropriate) current national statutory eligibilities, existing GMCA funding rates and formula, and current learning aims and qualifications (refer to paragraphs 2.22 to 2.31: Level of GMCA contribution).

1.8 As a devolved authority, GMCA will **not** be implementing the national changes to the funding rates for core ASF activities. Instead, GMCA will continue to apply a 6.5% funding rate uplift to the existing 2023/24 [matrix rates](#) to all core ASF Adult Skills activity (regulated and non-regulated) for the 2024/2025 academic year. For clarification, this is all activity coded as Funding model 38 Adult Skills in the ILR. This uplift is an interim measure for the 2024/2025 academic year as further work towards the single funding settlement from 2025 continues.

1.9 GMCA will **not** be implementing the national approach for tailored learning. Instead, GMCA will only allow what is classed as Community Learning activities (see paragraphs 2.76 – 2.86) to be delivered as part of tailored learning and will be utilising the Adult Skills Fund as follows:

- All formula-funded regulated qualifications and non-regulated courses listed on [FALA](#) and delivered as Adult Skills will remain formula-funded under Adult Skills Funding Model 38.
- All non-formula funded community learning activities will remain non-formula funded under the Tailored Learning Funding Model 11.
- Only non-regulated community learning aims can be selected for Tailored Learning.

1.10 As in the initial years of devolved funding, GMCA will continue to test some devolved funding policy flexibilities in 2024/2025. These flexibilities are not statutory requirements, although they will allow providers to support additional residents where they have not been able to previously. Any changes to funding flexibilities will be evidence-based and have transparent principles that guide our rationale, utilising tangible data and intelligence. All providers will need to ensure that if they want to deliver any of the GMCA devolved flexibilities they must ensure the GMCA has been informed, it has been approved and it is recorded correctly via the ILR and other relevant documentation submitted to the GMCA. GMCA devolved flexibilities and the relevant criteria / rules are set out in full in the “**What GMCA will fund**” section later in these Rules but in summary, the funding eligibility changes for GM ASF are as follows.

## **First Full Level 2 Expansion**

1.11 GMCA takes the view that, regardless of a resident's age, their life chances and progression opportunities, as well as supporting inclusive economic growth, are improved by having a level 2 qualification. GMCA is therefore expanding eligibility to the entitlement relating to a first full qualification at level 2 to include residents who are employed and would in the past have been co-funded. This means that, regardless of age, employment status or earnings, all Greater Manchester residents who do not have an existing first full level 2 can be supported to achieve this without being expected to contribute to the costs of their learning. GMCA is continuing to review the criteria relating to access to Level 2 qualifications, and providers should ensure they check the changes made, particularly in reference to paragraphs 2.91 to 2.95.

1.12 GMCA recognises that certain level 2 qualifications not designated as legal entitlement are deemed appropriate to support progression opportunities and pathways. GMCA is therefore allowing all residents aged 19 and over who do not hold a level 2 qualification to be fully funded to undertake their first level 2 qualification, irrespective of their employment status or earnings. Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.91 to 2.95 for further details.

## **British Sign Language (BSL) expansion**

1.13 GMCA recognises the challenges for our D/deaf community and understands how the use of British Sign Language (BSL) allows for greater independence for our residents. GMCA is therefore expanding its existing British Sign Language (BSL) flexibility and will fully fund the following residents aged 19+ to study for a first qualification in BSL up to and including level 2:

- Residents whose first language is BSL;
- Family members of residents whose first language is BSL;
- Residents employed by the emergency services;
- Residents employed in front-line public service.

Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.96 to 2.99 for further details and criteria.

## **GM Earnings Threshold**

1.14 GMCA has followed the same principles set by the national funding rules relating to the earnings threshold for residents undertaking core ASF activities. GMCA will fully fund residents, who are employed / self-employed and who would normally be co-funded. GMCA has agreed to use the national earnings threshold on its core devolved ASF activities and the median GM Vacancy Data on its Level 3 Targeted Adult Offer. The GM Vacancy Data provides near real-time earnings gathered from vacancy data across GM and is more reflective of the up to date GM median earnings. Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.38 for further details and criteria.

## **Level 2 Digital Skills**

1.15 GMCA recognise that the absence of basic digital skills can severely impact on life chances and progression. We aim to develop our residents and provide them with the digital skills they need for life, work, or further study. GMCA is continuing to develop the expansion to the national Digital Skills Legal Entitlement and will fully fund any resident aged 19+, regardless of their employment status and other prior attainment, to obtain a recognised qualification at level 2 in Digital Skills. GMCA is continuing to review the criteria relating to access to level 2 digital skills, particularly with regard to the current national level 2 qualifications review which could impact on this flexibility, and providers should ensure they check the changes made, particularly in reference to paragraphs 2.67 and 2.71.

## **Level 3 Units**

1.16 For some residents and employers, progression and productivity can be aided by discrete elements of learning that may not require a full qualification, or for whom committing to a full qualification may not be possible. These discrete elements of learning make our residents more employable and more knowledgeable and productive in the workplace to support our local employers with their higher skills. GMCA is therefore expanding access to level 3 units and combinations thereof for all residents who are either unemployed or economically inactive, or who are employed but earn below the GM earnings

threshold. The level 3 units must not deliver a level 3 qualification in its own right. Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.100 to 2.105 for further details and criteria.

## **Greater Manchester Level 3 Qualification Offer**

1.17 GMCA recognises there is a need for specific Level 3 qualifications to support the GM Local Industry Strategy frontier and foundational sectors, the sector skills shortages as identified in the GM LSIP and the technical education city-region seven occupational gateways and ensure that GM residents are able to move into suitable employment and progress in their chosen career through fully funding qualifications via the GMCA Adult Skills Level 3 single pot approach (refer to paragraph 1.18). These specific qualifications have been used to create a Level 3 Offer for Greater Manchester residents. GMCA is not only funding a wider list of Level 3 qualifications, it is also ensuring that adults can access these where it is needed. Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.106 to 2.114 for further details and criteria.

## **Great Manchester Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot Approach**

1.18 GMCA is aware of the complexities surrounding the funding of level 3 qualifications and has introduced a 'single pot' simplified funding approach to make accessing level 3 qualifications easier for residents and employers, as well as skills providers. This funding approach amalgamates different funding streams and eligibility criteria into one and also maximises the range of level 3 qualifications available for residents and employers to access.

## **Licence to Practise**

1.19 Some priority sectors / industries are facing skills gaps in occupational areas for which a licence to practise may preclude a resident from undertaking practical training and skills development. GMCA wants to understand the impact of funding licences to practise where they are priority sector specific and linked to a resident's programme of learning in which the absence of a licence would be a barrier to learning and / or employment. This will initially be trialled in the construction industry, incorporating the CSCS licence requirements as part of a



package of learning which will encompass suitable vocational qualifications that will support positive outcomes for the resident. The impact of this change will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set out in GM's Local Industrial Strategy in order to inform future funding policy. Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.115 to 2.118 for further details and criteria.

## **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)**

1.20 GMCA acknowledges that for some priority sectors, a DBS check is required to allow residents to participate in learning, and the cost of obtaining this check is met by the provider. GMCA will trial making funding available for providers to obtain the DBS check for residents where this is a requirement of their course. Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.119 to 2.121 for further details and criteria.

## **English for speakers of other languages (ESOL)**

1.21 GMCA recognises that for individuals for whom English is not their first language (whether already living here or choosing to settle in Greater Manchester), the acquisition of English language skills is often essential to support these residents in their daily lives, helping them to integrate into their local communities and enabling them to progress into further education, training or employment. GMCA will therefore expand the criteria for those residents who are unemployed or economically inactive but not claiming any benefits, and / or not allowed to look for work, to access fully funded ESOL provision, subject to any eligibility exclusions that apply as a result of wider central government policy (see para 2.14). Providers should refer to paragraphs 2.72 to 2.75 for further details and criteria.

## **Additional Considerations for 2024/25**

1.22 GMCA will work with providers and local stakeholders to develop test and learn / pilot approaches working alongside the existing system to drive better outcomes for residents based on the progress made from the starting point of their individual journey. We will pilot activity to test a range of potential policy changes which would impact on future ASF activity, such as focussing on certain

levels of qualifications; sectors linked to the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy and the GM occupational gateways; responding to the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) for GM where ASF is able to; key groups of residents or geographically targeted activity.

1.23 These changes will be developed and linked to detailed policy information and research work, and where appropriate resources will be commissioned through open procurement processes, with detailed specifications outlining key asks, and how funding will be released. The aim of this approach, will begin to enable all providers to understand key changes in relation to adult skills and how future working relationships will be grown. GMCA will take a consultation approach to some of the test and learn work streams and additional information will be issued outside of these Funding and Performance Management Rules, so that the new developments can be evaluated separately to understand their impact and whether they should be fully implemented within future budgets.

1.24 GMCA is keen to develop effective, high trust relationships with providers, delivering positive long-term impact for GM residents. We have committed to commissioning on a forward-looking basis, working towards four-year delivery plans for both grant funded organisations and procured contracts being awarded on a 1+1+1+1 basis from the 2023/24 academic year, in order to enable providers to plan their delivery and build capacity with greater surety.

1.25 We expect providers to develop a place-based skills offer and wrap-around support with a clear focus on ensuring residents achieve real impact and outcomes, not just progression, and on responding to the needs and priorities identified by GMCA and local authorities in the areas in which providers are operating. In line with this, GMCA will be embarking on a place-based approach during the 2024/2025 academic year and providers will be asked for underpinning information that supports the agreed delivery plans to help us to understand the decisions made about their chosen provision. This will also enable us to understand how providers are progressing their residents, given the focus on positive outcomes and progression to higher levels of learning / employment.

1.26 Providers should ensure business models are in place, which maximise the positive impact of funding streams from a range of sources including employers,

individuals and Government. We also want to encourage partnerships between providers and stakeholders in local areas and communities (including specialist partners and the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector) in order to help engage specific cohorts of residents, recognising that learning in local communities should be a valuable stepping-stone towards further learning.

1.27 GMCA wants to build strong, high trust relationships with providers as key strategic planning and delivery partners at the heart of the communities, places and economies that they serve. We will continue to apply the same underlying performance management principles across the entirety of the provider base, with the relationship between GMCA and providers being primarily strategic and quality driven rather than transactional. As part of our long-term collaborative vision around flexible, high quality skills that responds to the needs of our place, GMCA will work with providers to take a robust and proactive approach to performance / contract management and assurance to ensure that agreed outcomes and value for money are delivered. This is likely to include ongoing monitoring of monthly data returns as well as substantive performance management reviews on a minimum quarterly basis and in year compliance visits.

1.28 GMCA will manage performance within the parameters of its annual budget allocation from Government and does not have the option to make a growth case to government for additional ASF funds. This means that, within the finite resources available, GMCA must take a prudent approach to managing under delivery and growth, as well as discharging its obligation to ensure the best value for money for the public purse by avoiding committing funds to activity, which does not in fact take place.

# Section 2 – General Funding Requirements

## Introduction and purpose of documents

- 2.1 This document sets out the GMCA ASF funding and performance management rules for the 2024/25 funding year (1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025). These rules apply to all providers of education and training who receive devolved core ASF funding from the GMCA and / or devolved Adult Skills Level 3 funding from the GMCA, whether via a Grant Agreement or commissioned and paid under a Contract for Services. Providers must respond to the priorities set by GMCA.
- 2.2 This document forms part of the terms and conditions of funding with the GMCA. You must read them in conjunction with your Grant Funding Agreement or Contract for Services, including the delivery and financial schedule agreed therein. You must operate within the terms and conditions of these agreements / contracts. If you do not, you are in breach of your funding and agreement / contract with the GMCA and action may be taken up to and including contract termination.
- 2.3 These funding and performance management rules apply to all provision delivered to Greater Manchester residents who are starting new learning aims on or after 1st August 2024.
- 2.4 The GMCA reserves the right to make changes to these rules.

## Principles of Funding

- 2.5 The GMCA will undertake a full due diligence exercise in advance of agreeing a Grant or a Contract for Services. This will include agreeing a relevant and clear delivery and financial schedule with you, which will form part of your agreement / contract.
- 2.6 The devolved core ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 will be utilised to provide Greater Manchester residents who are aged 19 years and over with skills provision and associated support, including ensuring reasonable access to provision for any

resident who has a statutory entitlement as defined by the Apprenticeships, Skills and Children's Learning Act 2009. It will be prioritised towards delivering those entitlements to eligible residents as well as to securing provision which otherwise supports the Greater Manchester Strategy.

- 2.7 All providers will be treated equally and fairly. To aid transparency, the value of grant allocations and contracts for services provision are published annually by GMCA.
- 2.8 You must complete learner records accurately, including the resident's Unique Learner Number (ULN) field for enrolments onto all funding models, in order to access GMCA funding. It is particularly important that, as part of your initial assessment, you ensure the resident's postcode relates to where the individual resides at the start of their programme of learning and where they expect to be living for the duration of that learning. Should any changes occur the Learner Record Service information must be updated.
- 2.9 You must hold evidence to assure GMCA that you are using the funding appropriately. Most evidence will occur naturally from your normal business processes. GMCA retains the right to request information and related evidence for all aspects of your devolved core ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 provision as part of the ongoing contract monitoring and performance management process, included in your Grant Agreement or Contract for Services or both.
- 2.10 GMCA's relationship with the provider base will be primarily strategic rather than just transactional, with a strong focus on proactive performance management and working together on the long-term journey outlined above. GMCA will expect high quality provision delivering measurable impact on the progression and outcomes for Greater Manchester residents and value for money for the public purse.
- 2.11 GMCA devolved core ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 funding must be considered in the broader skills funding and policy landscape, which encompasses ESFA, traineeships / apprenticeships, Learner Loans and HE activity, none of which are devolved to GMCA but all of which are inextricably linked in terms of resident progression within the post-16 skills and employment system.
- 2.12 The GMCA supports sub-contracting where it is strategic such as:

- Extends the breadth and reach of provision to under-represented or hard to reach residents;
- Provides opportunities to offer small scale, niche or specialist provision; or
- Encourages employers to recruit and develop GM residents within their workforce.

2.13 Additional information on sub-contracting can be found at paragraphs 3.40 to 3.65 of this document.

## Whom GMCA will fund

2.14 Determining eligibility based on nationality, immigration status and other related considerations is a matter for central government, particularly in light of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union. The GMCA is required to follow any directive given by the Secretary of State in this regard and is therefore adopting the eligibility for funding rules as set out in the relevant section<sup>2</sup> of the ESFA's [Adult Skills Fund: Funding Rules 2024 to 2025](#) ('the ESFA Rules') insofar as they apply to individuals resident within Greater Manchester (refer to Annex A).

2.15 For clarification, GMCA has adopted the national rules for the following adults who are immediately eligible for the devolved ASF funding and exempt from the 3-year residency rule:

- All Afghan adults with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP)
- All Afghan adults with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS)
- British Nationals evacuated from Afghanistan under Operation Pitting
- British Nationals evacuated from Afghanistan by the UK government before 6 January 2022

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<sup>2</sup> At the time of publication of this document the relevant sections are listed under the Residency eligibility link in the ESFA Adult skills fund: Funding Rules 2024 to 2025. The most up to date ESFA Rules can be found [here](#) (link opens in to a web page)

- All Ukrainian individuals arriving in the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme or the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) or the Ukraine Extension Scheme or the Ukraine Permission Extension Scheme.
- 2.16 You must check the eligibility of the resident at the start of their programme of learning and only claim funding for eligible residents.
- 2.17 The age of the resident on 31<sup>st</sup> August in the funding year determines whether the resident's learning is funded through the GMCA's ASF funding methodology (for individuals aged 19 and over), or the ESFA's young people's funding methodology (for individuals aged 16 to 19 and those aged 19 to 24 with an Education Health & Care Plan).
- 2.18 To be funded by GMCA, on the first day of learning a resident must be aged 19 or older on or before the start date of their course within the 2024/25 funding year. Please note, GMCA are currently working with the ESFA to implement this change on the ILR therefore providers will need to identify these learners separately until the ILR validates the enrolment.
- 2.19 All individuals aged 19 or over who are continuing a programme they began while aged 16 to 18 ('19+ continuers') will be funded through the ESFA's young people's funding methodology.
- 2.20 A resident's eligibility and employment status will not change during the programme of learning. Residents will be eligible for funding for the whole of the programme of learning as detailed in their individual learning plan if they are eligible for funding at the start, even if the duration is for more than one year, across multiple learning aims, or if their employment status changes.
- 2.21 If the resident completes or withdraws from the programme of learning as detailed in their individual learning plan and then undertakes a new programme / further learning, you must reassess the resident for eligibility, including their employment status before the start of learning.

**The level of GMCA contribution for GMCA funded devolved ASF is as follows:**

2.22 The information detailed in paragraphs 2.23 to 2.31 shows the level of contribution provided by GMCA, and reflects the national ESFA funded ASF principles, particularly in relation to legal entitlements. Further details of GMCAs own devolved flexibilities and how they apply are detailed in paragraphs 2.91 to 2.121.

**For Grant Funded Institutions and Lot 1 Core Devolved ASF Contract for Services delivering provision to residents who are unemployed or economically inactive.**

2.23 GMCA defines a resident as unemployed or economically inactive and eligible for full funding if one or more of the following apply:

- The resident is not in employment / self-employment and is in receipt of out of work benefits;
- The resident is not claiming any benefits and is available and looking for work, i.e. economically inactive;
- Residents undertaking ESOL learning aims who are not in employment / self-employment and are prevented from looking for employment.

2.24 GM residents identified as unemployed or economically inactive who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be fully funded to access the following core devolved ASF activities:

- Residents aged 19 and over:
  - all regulated and non-regulated provision up to and including Level 2.
  - individual Level 3 units
- Residents aged 19-23 years old:
  - a first full Level 3 qualification as part of their legal entitlement.



**For Grant Funded Institutions and Lot 2 Core Devolved ASF Contract for Services delivering provision to residents who are employed / self-employed.**

2.25 GMCA defines a resident as being employed / self-employed if one or more of the following apply:

- The resident is in regular receipt of earned income from employment or self-employment;
- The resident is in regular receipt of earned income from employment or self-employment which is subsidised by Universal Credit.

**Residents earning below the GM earnings threshold:**

2.26 GM residents identified as employed or self-employed and earning **below** the GM earnings threshold who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be fully funded to access the following core devolved ASF activities:

- Residents aged 19 and over:
  - all regulated and non-regulated provision up to and including Level 2.
  - individual Level 3 units
- Residents aged 19-23 years old:
  - a first full Level 3 qualification as part of their legal entitlement.

**Residents earning above the GM earnings threshold:**

2.27 GM residents identified as employed or self-employed and earning **above** the GM earnings threshold who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be **fully funded** to access the following core devolved ASF activities:

- Residents aged 19 and over:
  - English and maths up to and including level 2 (legal entitlement);
  - Essential Digital Skills Qualifications up to and including level 2 (legal entitlement);
  - A first full level 2 qualification other than English, maths or digital (legal entitlement);
  - A first level 2 qualification (not legal entitlement);

- Residents identified as being eligible to undertake their first BSL qualification up to and including level 2.
- Residents aged 19-23 years old:
  - a first full Level 3 qualification as part of their legal entitlement.

2.28 GM residents identified as employed or self-employed and earning **above** the GM earnings threshold who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be **co-funded** to access the following core devolved ASF activities:

- all other regulated and non-regulated provision up to and including Level 2 that is not listed at paragraph 2.27.

**Information for Grant Funded Institutions and Contract for Services Providers delivering the GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot offer:**

2.29 GM residents identified as **unemployed or economically inactive** who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be fully funded to access the following GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot activities:

- Residents aged 19 and over:
  - Level 3 qualification(s) from the [combined level 3 approved qualification list](#).

2.30 GM residents identified as employed or self-employed and earning **below** the GM earnings threshold who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be fully funded to access the following GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot activities:

- Residents aged 19 and over:
  - Level 3 qualification(s) from the [combined level 3 approved qualification list](#).

2.31 GM residents identified as employed or self-employed and earning **above** the GM earnings threshold who meet the residency eligibility criteria will be fully funded to access the following GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot activities:

- Residents aged 19 and over:

- to undertake their first or second qualification from [the combined level 3 approved qualification list](#). Refer to paragraph 2.110 of this document for further details.

## **Residents with learning difficulties or disabilities**

2.32 We will fund residents with learning difficulties or disabilities as set out in the [Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, section 111](#).

2.33 The Secretary of State has devolved to the GMCA the responsibility for securing the provision of reasonable facilities for education and training suitable to the requirements of persons who are 19 and over. This includes residents with an identified learning difficulty or disability who have previously had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) and have reached the age of 25. These learners must:

- Have an EHC Plan that confirms their needs could only be met by the training organisation they are, or were attending; and
- Continue to make progress on the programme of learning as set out in their EHC Plan.

2.34 The young people's funding methodology will apply to learners aged 19 to 24, who have an EHC Plan.

## **Residents with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan)**

2.35 To access provision and support costs you must inform GMCA before the start of the 2024 to 2025 funding year where a learner:

- Has reached the age of 25 and has not completed their programme of learning as set out in their EHC plan by the end of the previous funding year; or
- Will reach the age of 25 in the funding year, where their EHC plan is not extended by their local authority to allow them to complete their programme of learning.

2.36 Residents whose EHC plan is extended by the local authority beyond their 25th birthday will not be funded by the GMCA. The local authority must continue to provide top-up funding and contract directly with the institution.

2.37 If a learner has an EHC Plan you must report this in the 'Learner funding and monitoring' fields in the ILR.

## **GMCA Earnings threshold**

2.38 You may fully fund residents who are unemployed, economically inactive, employed or self-employed up to and including the level 2 and the level 3 offers if they earn below the following thresholds:

- £25,000 annual gross salary for core devolved ASF activities;
- £32,200 annual gross salary for the GM Adult Skills Level 3 single pot activities.

2.39 You must have seen evidence of the resident's gross annual wages in these circumstances. This could be a wage slip or a Universal Credit statement within 3 months of the resident's learning start date, or a current employment contract which states gross monthly/ annual wages. You must record what evidence you have seen, with a signature from a member of staff to acknowledge the said evidence. This signature can be replaced with a digital / electronic footprint. Please note this is not an exhaustive list but must support your decision to award full funding to an individual who would normally be eligible for co-funding.

2.40 To claim full funding for learners who earn below the earnings threshold, you must use LDM code 391 and FFI code 1.

## **What GMCA will fund**

2.41 For 2024/25 GMCA will continue to fund all ASF legal entitlements and core skills, as well as tailored learning, detailed in paragraphs 2.77 to 2.88, and learning and learner support.

2.42 Providers should refer to the following documents, which should be read alongside the GMCA ASF Funding and Performance Management Rules:

- [Greater Manchester Strategy 2021 – 2031 good lives for all;](#)

- The GMCA [ILR Submission Guidance](#);
- [Combined Level 3 Qualifications List](#);
- The ESFA [Adult Skills Fund: Funding Rules 2024 to 2025](#)
- The ESFA reference guide on qualifications eligible for public funding, available at [Overview - ESFA List of Qualifications approved for funding](#) (education.gov.uk);
- The ESFA reference guide on [Minimum Standards](#);
- The ESFA [Specification of the Individualised Learner Record for 2024 to 2025](#);
- The ESFA [Earning Adjustment Statement Guidance 2024 to 2025](#).

## Eligible qualifications

2.43 Where you deliver regulated qualifications and / or their components, you must ensure they are eligible for ASF funding and available on the [Qualifications website](#) unless agreed in writing by exception with GMCA.

2.44 You must make sure that learning is eligible for funding before the resident starts. The [Find a Learning Aim](#) and [Qualifications website](#) contain details of eligible regulated qualifications, qualification components and non-regulated learning aims OR programmes of learning agreed with GMCA that have then been entered on the [Find a Learning Aim](#) website.

2.45 Before delivering a component, you must check with the awarding organisation that they provide a learner registration facility and the resident can achieve it alone or as part of accumulating achievement towards a qualification.

2.46 ASF also supports delivery of flexible tailored provision for adults, including qualifications and components of these and / or non-regulated learning, up to level 2; we call this 'local flexibility'.

2.47 Local flexibility provision is either fully or co-funded, depending on the resident's circumstances. Please refer to the 'level of GMCA contribution' at paragraphs 2.22 to 2.31 of this document.

2.48 The intention is that the initial assessment undertaken should look at what can be achieved by the resident over an agreed period with the opportunity to

consider what skills can be acquired and what progress can be made over that period. It is no longer appropriate to consider only what can be achieved and funded in a year. The assessment should focus on what are the longer-term ambitions of the resident and how you can support them to achieve this.

- You must make sure that learning is eligible for funding before the resident starts. [Find a Learning Aim](#) and the [Qualifications website](#) contain details of eligible regulated qualifications, qualification components and non-regulated learning aims.
- You must not claim funding where a resident only sits or resits a learning aim assessment or examination and no extra learning takes place.
- You must not claim funding for any provision you deliver to a resident whose learning is taking place outside England.
- You or your sub-contractors must not claim funding for any part of any resident's learning aim or programme that duplicates provision they have received from any other source.
- You must not enrol residents on learning aims or programmes eligible for ASF funding at the same time as any new apprenticeship they start, funded from an employer's digital account or government-employer co-investment.
- We will not fund a resident to repeat the same regulated qualification where they have previously achieved it unless it is for any GCSE where the resident has not achieved grade C, or 4, or higher.
- We will not fund a resident to repeat the same non-regulated learning aim where it has been previously undertaken unless it has a specific purpose to support progression.
- You must provide accurate unique learner number (ULN) information to awarding organisations and ensure all information you use to register residents for qualifications are correct. You can find more information about the [Learner Records Service](#) on GOV.UK.

## **National and GM Legal entitlements**

2.49 The ASF currently supports four legal entitlements, which enable full funding for eligible adult residents. The core principles are set out in the [Apprenticeships](#).

Skills and Children's Learning Act 2009, with GMCA extending some where it is appropriate.

2.50 The current national and GM legal entitlements enable eligible residents to be fully funded for the following qualifications:

- English and maths, up to and including level 2, for individuals aged 19 and over, who have not previously attained a GCSE grade A\* - C or grade 4, or higher; and / or
- First full qualification at level 2 for individuals aged 19 and over; and / or
- First full qualification at level 3 for individuals aged 19 to 23;
- Essential digital skills qualifications, up to and including level 2, for individuals aged 19 and over, who have digital skills assessed at below level 2.

2.51 If a resident meets the legal entitlement eligibility criteria, you must not charge any course fees.

2.52 Eligible residents exercising their legal entitlement must be enrolled on qualifications from the ESFA list of qualifications approved for funding , for the following entitlement offers:

- Level 2 and level 3 and / or
- English and maths and / or
- Essential digital skills qualifications (EDSQ)

### **Sector-based Work Academy Programme (SWAP)**

2.53 The Sector-based Work Academy Programme (SWAP) is designed to help Job Centre Plus claimants build confidence to improve their job prospects and enhance their CV, whilst helping employers in sectors with current local vacancies to fill them.

2.54 A SWAP can last up to 6 weeks and has 3 main components:

- Pre-employment training
- Work experience placement
- A guaranteed job interview

2.55 GMCA will only fund the pre-employment training element through ASF which usually lasts 2 to 3 weeks. This can be accredited or bespoke non-accredited training to match employer needs. Jobcentre Plus fund the other components and will pay any travel or childcare costs whilst claimants are on the work experience placement..

2.56 You are required to keep a copy of the claimant's SWAP referral notification issued by Job Centre Plus in the resident's learner file to claim funding for claimants referred to SWAP pre-employment training.

2.57 Only residents referred by Job Centre Plus are eligible for funding on designated SWAP pre-employment training.

2.58 GMCA is working closely with the DWP in Greater Manchester to ensure the delivery of SWAPs is meeting the correct requirements and need. To meet GMCA compliance requirements, providers must be able to evidence the following for the programme to be designated a SWAP:

- Employer identified, or
- Multiple employers identified in the same sector, and
- Vacancies identified, and
- Referral notice from Job Centre Plus.

Any SWAP model of delivery that does not meet the above requirements must not be coded as a SWAP in the ILR.

2.59 Use DAM code 13 and complete the Benefit Status Indicator (BSI) to identify the claimant is in receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance (BSI 1), Universal Credit (BSI 4) or Employment and Support Allowance (BSI 5) to claim funding for learners who meet these requirements.

## **English and maths for those aged 19 and older**

2.60 As part of their legal entitlement, we will fully fund individuals who are aged 19 or older and who have not previously attained a GCSE grade A\* to C or grade 4 or higher in English and maths, for the following qualifications:

- GCSE English language or maths;
- Functional Skills English or maths from Entry to level 2; or



- Stepping-stone qualifications (including components, where applicable) in English or maths approved by the DfE and ESFA.

2.61 If a resident wants to 'retake' their GCSE English and maths qualification because they did not achieve a grade 4 or higher (C or higher), we will not fund the resident to resit the exam only. To be eligible for funding there must be evidence that additional learning has taken place.

2.62 You must not enrol individuals on qualifications, which are not necessary for progressing towards a GCSE or Functional Skill level 2.

2.63 You must not fund an apprentice for English or maths from the ASF.

2.64 We will only fully fund non-regulated English and maths learning for residents, including those assessed at pre-entry level, aged 19 years and over with significant learning difficulties or disabilities as part of a personalised learning programme. This will be where an assessment has clearly identified that the resident cannot undertake GCSE English language or maths, Functional Skills English or maths from Entry to level 2 or Stepping-stone qualifications (including components, where applicable) in English or maths approved by the Department for Education.

2.65 You must:

- Carry out a thorough initial assessment to determine an individual's current level using current assessment tools based on the national literacy and numeracy standards and core curriculums;
- Carry out an appropriate diagnostic assessment to inform and structure a resident's learner file to use as a basis for a programme of study;
- Enrol the resident on a level above that at which they were assessed and be able to provide evidence of this;
- Deliver ongoing assessment to support learning; and
- Record the evidence of all assessment outcomes in the learner file.

2.66 The assessments must place a resident's current skills levels within the level descriptors used for the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

## Digital Skills for those aged 19 and over

2.67 We will fully fund individuals, including individuals who are employed earning above the earnings threshold, aged 19 or older, assessed at below level 2, as part of their legal entitlement on the day they start the following qualifications:

- Essential Digital Skills qualification (EDSQ up to and including level 1)
- Non-accredited provision for learners with very low digital skills (see 2.69)
- A range of IT user qualifications at Level 2 (see 2.68)

2.68 GMCA has expanded the Digital Skills legal entitlement for GM residents, including those in employment earning above the earnings threshold, so that they can now access a range of fully funded Level 2 ICT for User qualifications. Providers can access the list of qualifications that GMCA will fully fund in the ILR Submission Guidance. Included in this list are certain qualifications that have had funding approval removed at a national level from 1 August 2022. These qualifications are still funded for residents in Greater Manchester.

2.69 We will fully fund non-regulated learning for learners, including those assessed at pre-entry level with significant learning difficulties and/or disabilities as part of a personalised learning programme, where assessment has clearly identified that the resident is not yet ready to undertake an Essential Digital Skills qualification approved by the Department for Education at Entry Level or level 1. This provision must be aligned with the [national standards for essential digital skills](#) and must not be a non-regulated version of a regulated qualification.

2.70 You must:

- Carry out an initial assessment using current assessment tools based on the national standards for essential digital skills:
- Carry out an appropriate diagnostic assessment to inform and structure a learner's learner file to use as a basis for a programme of study:
- Enrol the learner on a level above that at which they were assessed and be able to provide evidence of this:
- Deliver ongoing assessment to support learning; and
- Record the evidence of all assessment outcomes in the evidence pack.

2.71 The assessments must place a learner's current skills levels within the level descriptors used for the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

## **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)**

2.72 We will fully fund individuals aged 19 and over on the day they start their ESOL learning aim where they are unemployed, economically inactive or earning below the earnings threshold, up to and including level 2. GM devolved flexibilities can be applied for individuals prevented from looking for employment and / or unemployed and not claiming benefits (subject to any specific exclusions arising as a result of wider UK central government policy – see para 2.14 above).

2.73 We will co-fund all other individuals aged 19 and over who are employed or self-employed and earning above the earnings threshold on the day they start their ESOL learning aim, up to and including level 2.

2.74 GMCA is striving to reduce how often residents are assessed for ESOL provision, and the duplication of ESOL waiting lists, therefore require all providers offering ESOL provision to fully participate in the [GM ESOL Advice Service](#) within the local authority areas that they operate and contribute to the assessment and referral service onto ESOL provision. This will support and continue to assist in the development of the service, allowing for the management of one waiting list in each local authority area.

2.75 Providers offering ESOL qualifications may need to deliver additional learning to individual residents that incurs additional cost above the qualification rate. You can access information on this in the [ESFA funded adult skills fund: funding rates and formula 2024 to 2025](#).

## **Tailored learning (formerly community learning)**

2.76 GMCA recognises that widening participation in education and training through learning delivered in local communities can transform people's lives, particularly where individuals and communities face complex barriers. Informal learning delivered in a friendly local environment can help develop stronger communities, with more confident, self-sufficient, connected and proactive residents. Evidence also shows that wider family learning programmes and family

English, maths & language provision can better equip parents / carers to support and encourage their children's learning and provide wider benefits in terms of health and / or social wellbeing.

2.77 However, whilst recognising the inherent value of all learning, GMCA do not see tailored learning as an end in itself; rather, the acquisition of skills to prepare residents for a range of next steps, including building confidence, improving health and well-being, equipping parents / carers to support their children as well as progress towards more formal learning, employment or self-employment.

2.78 Tailored learning courses must be appropriate for the resident, have clear pathways identified and lead to progression relevant to personal circumstances.

2.79 GMCA do not expect to see multiple enrolments on tailored learning courses, or a repeat of learning aims onto similar provision. Instead, GMCA expect to see residents enrolled on fewer courses to reflect the whole learner pathway. **The focus of tailored learning should be on supporting residents to learn something new, not something similar, each time a resident enrolls on a learning aim.**

2.80 Tailored learning courses are delivered and reported on the ILR under the following purpose types:

- Engaging and / or building confidence;
- Preparation for further learning;
- Preparation for employment;
- Improving essential skills (English, ESOL, maths, digital);
- Equipping parents / carers to support children's learning;
- Health and well-being;
- Developing stronger communities.

2.81 GMCA will only accept learning aims contained in the [Community Learning: new Learning Aim Class Codes from the 2023 to 2024 academic year](#) to be reported as tailored learning on the ILR.

2.82 Learner outcomes of tailored learning courses must be reported on the ILR when a learner completes or withdraws from the learning activity as detailed in the [2024 to 2025 ILR specification](#), to demonstrate how tailored learning is

supporting residents. GMCA is currently working with Holec and the ESFA to clarify these definitions but expect outcomes to relate to the purpose type.

These outcome areas are as follows:

- Increased confidence;
- Improved skills for progressing to further learning;
- Improved skills for work;
- Improved essential skills;
- Improved ability to support a child's learning;
- Improved physical health;
- Improved mental health and well-being;
- Improved skills to participate in community life;
- Increased understanding of democratic values;
- Improved skills for Independent Living;
- No outcome achieved.

2.83 You must not use non-formula tailored learning funding for the following purposes:

- Taster sessions that are promotional events, i.e. open days, skills fairs or fun days;
- Where the primary or sole intent of the learning is for leisure;
- To fund the acquisition of a CSCS card;
- To deliver a sector-base work academy (SWAP);
- To deliver a regulated qualification;
- To deliver a non-regulated Adult Skills learning aim listed on [FALA](#).

2.84 GMCA require tailored learning taster sessions to be targeted at residents who are furthest away from employment, residents with no or low-level skills and those requiring essential life skills, to provide them with the opportunity to sample and engage in learning. It is expected that all residents undertaking a taster session would be encouraged and supported to progress onto more stretching provision to achieve the essential life skills and occupational skills that they require.

2.85 You must not use non-formula tailored learning funding for learning that is eligible to be funded through other available funding models, i.e. Adult Skills, the GM Adult Skills Level 3 single pot or an advanced learning loan.

2.86 Providers are reminded to refer to Annex D – Tailored Learning for further information.

## **Non-regulated learning**

2.87 Where you are delivering non-regulated learning aims under the Adult Skills Funding Model 38, you must ensure you have appropriate and robust quality assurance processes in place, such as 'The Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement (RARPA) Cycle'. Further information on RARPA and is available from the [Learning and Work Institute](#).

2.88 In addition, where you deliver non-regulated learning you must ensure it is eligible for funding. The eligibility principles we apply to non-regulated learning are as follows:

- It must not be provision linked to UK visa requirements;
- It must not be provision linked to statutory employer requirements (including a licence to practise) unless there is an agreed concession in place;
- It must not be vendor-specific provision, linked to a particular employer or commercial system;
- It must not be learning, for example, 'induction to college', that should be part of a resident's experience;
- It must not be used primarily or solely for leisure purposes;
- It must not be a non-regulated version of a regulated qualification;
- It must not be above notional level 3; and
- At notional level 2 or 3 it must focus on technical provision.
- Where appropriate for the resident, you can deliver local flexibility provision alongside a legal entitlement qualification.

2.89 All the above would either be claimable via the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) / learning aims service (Learnings Aims Reference Service) or through the earnings adjustment statement. The evidence requirements and the timescales

required for claiming any of the above will be defined in your Grant Agreement or Contract for Services.

## **Learning in the workplace**

2.90 We will fund any regulated qualifications and / or learning aims which are delivered at an employee's workplace. Providers must ensure the learning aims are approved for funding and available on the [Find a Learning Aim](#) website.

## **First level 2 qualification and first full level 2 qualification**

2.91 GMCA will fund all residents regardless of age, income or employment status for their first level 2 qualification.

2.92 Residents can enrol on qualifications from the:

- [Statutory entitlement to study for a first qualification at level 2, or](#)
- [Level 2 regulated local flexibility learning aims.](#)

2.93 Residents aged 19+ who hold a level 2 qualification not designated a full level 2 qualification are still able to exercise their statutory entitlement and will be fully funded to undertake their first full level 2 qualification. This will be in line with the current legal entitlement for a resident's first full qualification at level 2 for individuals aged 19 to 23.

2.94 Providers will be required to ensure if they intend to deliver this element, it must be included in their delivery plan and any agreement with the GMCA will be confirmed in writing.

2.95 The impact of this change will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set out by GMCA and skills gaps identified through work with employers in order to inform future funding policy.

## **British Sign Language (BSL) expansion**

2.96 We will fully fund the following residents aged 19+ to study for a first qualification in BSL, up to and including level 2, where there is no other appropriate funding available:

- Residents whose first language is BSL;
- Family members of residents whose first language is BSL;
- Residents employed by the emergency services;
- Residents employed in front-line public services.

2.97 The following qualifications will be covered under this entitlement:

- Entry level award in BSL (accredited by ABC);
- Level 1 certificate in BSL (accredited by Signature ABC); and
- Level 2 certificate in BSL (accredited by Signature ABC).

2.98 Providers will be required to ensure if they intend to deliver this element, it must be included in their delivery plan and any agreement with the GMCA will be confirmed in writing.

2.99 The impact of this change will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set out by GMCA and skills gaps identified through work with employers in order to inform future funding policy.

### **Level 3 Units**

2.100 GMCA has expanded access to level 3 units and combinations thereof for residents aged 19+ who are either unemployed, economically inactive or who are employed but earn below the earnings threshold.

2.101 The level 3 units must not deliver a level 3 qualification in its own right.

2.102 The level 3 units can be standalone, a combination of or be offered alongside another qualification (fully or co-funded via ASF).

2.103 The level 3 units should not replicate existing level 3 units which may already be included in a qualification delivered alongside.

2.104 Providers will be required to ensure if they intend to deliver this element, it must be included in their delivery plan and any agreement with the GMCA will be confirmed in writing.

2.105 The impact of this change will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set out by GMCA and skills gaps identified through work with employers in order to inform future funding policy.



## GM Adult Skills Level 3 single pot

2.106 GMCA will fully fund residents aged 19+ who meet the residency eligibility criteria and the eligibility criteria specified in paragraphs 2.109 to 2.111 to undertake Level 3 qualifications from the [Combined Level 3 Approved Qualifications List](#).

2.107 Providers should note that the [Combined Level 3 Approved Qualification List](#) is subject to national changes which GMCA will monitor.

2.108 Providers can request additional level 3 qualifications for inclusion on the [Combined Level 3 Approved Qualifications List](#) subject to a process of providing a clear rationale relating to employer and / or occupational need, and panel approval.

2.109 GMCA will fully fund all GM residents to undertake their **first** level 3 qualification from the [Combined Level 3 Approved Qualifications List](#) regardless of age, employment status or earnings.

2.110 GMCA will fully fund all GM residents to undertake their **second** level 3 qualification from the [Combined Level 3 Approved Qualifications List](#) regardless of age, employment status or earnings subject to the following:

- The qualification undertaken is not a replication / duplication of the first level 3 already achieved;
- The qualification can be in a different sector subject area (SSA) or in the same but reflecting a more nuanced learning skill;
- The qualification must be in a key occupational area where there are job opportunities leading to progression in employment;
- Should the qualification be a national Free Courses for Jobs qualification that is not contained within the GM Local List, it must meet GM requirements to be funded under this offer, i.e. the qualification must be in a key occupational area with job opportunities leading to progression, for example, funding would not be available for a generic Leadership & Management level 3 qualification, however a Leadership & Management level 3 qualification for a GM occupational or key sector area would be funded if the qualification was contained within the [Combined Level 3 Approved Qualifications List](#).

- 2.111 GMCA will fully fund residents aged 19 and over already holding two or more level 3 qualifications who are unemployed, economically inactive or earning below the earnings threshold to undertake a level 3 qualification from the [Combined level 3 Approved Qualifications List](#). Residents taking advantage of this opportunity can do so where there is clear job progression that is relevant to a GM sector.
- 2.112 Only approved providers who have received confirmation of the funding allocated for 2024/2025 via GMCA's Level 3 single pot approach will be permitted to deliver the GM Adult Skills Level 3 single pot offer.
- 2.113 Approved providers must refer to the [GMCA ILR Submission Guidance](#) when reporting this activity.
- 2.114 The impact of these changes will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set out in GM's Local Industrial Strategy and skills gaps identified through work with employers in order to inform future funding policy.

## **Licence to Practise**

- 2.115 GMCA is making available funding to support the construction industry, incorporating the CSCS licence requirements as part of a package of learning. This must be linked to a resident's programme of learning in which the absence of a licence would be a barrier to learning and / or employment. The support will need to encompass suitable vocational qualification/s that will support positive outcomes for the resident.
- 2.116 The GMCA devolved flexibility will enable residents to obtain the CSCS card and will need to include delivery of a level 1 award in Health and Safety; the online CITB Health, Safety & Environment CSCS test and the CSCS application fee. GMCA will specify the relevant coding to be able to claim this activity and the rate will be set per learner up to £120.00, providing a relevant level 1 or level 2 construction vocational qualification is delivered, and fully-funded or co-funded via ASF.
- 2.117 Providers will be required to ensure if they intend to deliver this element, it must be included in their delivery plan and any agreement with the GMCA will be confirmed in writing.

2.118 The impact of this change will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set out in GM's Local Industrial Strategy in order to inform future funding policy.

## **Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)**

2.119 GMCA is making funding available for providers to obtain the DBS check for residents where it is a requirement of their course. This support will need to encompass suitable vocational qualifications to drive positive outcomes for the resident.

2.120 GMCA will specify the relevant coding to be able to claim this activity and the rate will be set per learner up to £45.00, providing a relevant level 1, level 2 or level 3 vocational qualification is delivered, and fully-funded or co-funded via ASF or the Adult Skills level 3 single pot.

2.121 The impact of this change will be monitored and kept under review in the context of the priorities set by GMCA in order to inform future funding policy.

## **Prince's Trust Team Programme**

2.122 The Prince's Trust Team Programme is a 12-week course designed to improve confidence, motivation and skills for eligible 16-25 year-olds.

2.123 In order to deliver the Team Programme, you must get approval from the Prince's Trust.

2.124 GMCA will fund the Team Programme eligible residents aged 19 to 25 through our ASF funding methodology. Please also refer to the Prince's Trust section in the [Adult Skills Fund: funding rules 2024 to 2025](#) document or subsequent versions. The ESFA will continue to fund the Team Programme for residents aged 16-18.

## **Job outcome payments**

2.125 For fully funded residents who are unemployed or economically inactive, we will pay 50% of the achievement payment if they start a job before achieving the

learning aim. If the resident then achieves the learning aim, we will pay the remaining achievement payment. The following conditions apply:

- The resident must provide you with evidence through a declaration, that they have a job for at least 16 hours or more a week for four consecutive weeks;
- Where the resident was claiming benefits relating to unemployment, they must also declare that they have stopped claiming these.

## **Learning Support**

2.126 Learning Support is available to meet the cost of putting in place reasonable adjustments, as set out in the Equality Act 2010, for residents aged 19 or above who have an identified learning difficulty or disability, to achieve their learning goal.

2.127 Learning Support must not be used to deal with everyday difficulties that are not directly associated with a resident's learning on their programme.

2.128 You must:

- Carry out a thorough assessment to identify the support the resident needs;
- Agree and record the outcome of your assessment in the learner file;
- Record details of the reasonable adjustments required and how support will be planned and delivered;
- Keep all evidence to demonstrate that the planned support has been delivered; and
- Report in the ILR that a resident has a learning support need associated with an identified learning aim, by entering code LSF1, or such other code as we provide to you, in the 'Learning Delivery Funding and Monitoring' field and entering the corresponding dates in the 'Date applies from' and 'Date applies to' fields.

2.129 You can claim Learning Support at a fixed monthly rate if you report it in the Individual Learner Record (ILR) and the costs can be identified for specific individuals. You must use the Earnings Adjustment Statement (EAS) if your costs exceed this monthly rate and you must keep evidence of these costs. You will be required to evidence the expenditure.

2.130 You can claim Learning Support if learning continues past the planned end date and the resident needs continued support in order to complete their learning programme.

### **Exceptional Learning Support claims above £19,000**

2.131 If a resident aged 19 or above needs significant levels of support to start or continue learning and has support costs of more than £19,000 in a funding year, you can claim Exceptional Learning Support (ELS).

2.132 Residents aged 19 to 24 who require significant levels of support should have an EHC plan provided by their local authority and, therefore, would access funding from their local authority.

2.133 You must submit ELS claims to the GMCA at the beginning of the resident's programme, or when you identify the resident requires support costs of more than £19,000 in a funding year.

2.134 To claim ELS for a resident aged 19 to 24 you must confirm why the individual does not have an EHC Plan. This should be a letter or email from the resident's local authority stating the reason(s) why the individual does not need an EHC Plan.

2.135 When you claim ELS you must explain why you have claimed the amount you have, which would be linked to the learner's assessment and planned learning support claim. You must only claim amounts for your costs of providing support to the learner and not include any indirect costs or overheads.

### **Learner Support**

2.136 Learner Support is available to provide financial support for residents aged 19 or above with a specific financial hardship preventing them from taking part / continuing in learning. Before you award support to a resident, you must identify their needs within the following 'categories':

- Hardship funding: general financial support for vulnerable and financially disadvantaged residents to support participation, this includes the purchase of digital kit to loan to learners for the duration of their learning programme;

- 20+ childcare funding: for residents aged 20 or older on the first day of learning who are at risk of not starting or continuing learning because of childcare costs;
- Care to Learn top up for 19-year-olds: and
- Residential Access funding: to support residents where they need to live away from home.

2.137 You must not claim more than 5% of your total Learner Support final claim as administration expenditure. This should be managed within your overall Learner Support allocation. You must document your process for managing your administration costs over the current funding year and record, report and retain evidence on spending for each of the categories.

2.138 You will be required to estimate your spend relating to Learner Support within your delivery and financial schedule and any subsequent updated in-year delivery and financial schedule. We will review your actual spend on Learner Support during the year against the estimate agreed in your delivery plan as part of our performance management process.

2.139 If your actual spend is less than you have estimated you may request that some of that ring-fenced budget for Learner Support be moved to delivery. We will review a request to increase your Learner Support budget or reallocate Learner Support funding to delivery in accordance with our arrangements for reviewing increases and decreases in your contract / agreement value. You may also use your Flexible Allocation to cover additional costs of Learner Support over your original estimate. If your actual spend is less than you have estimated and you are unable to reallocate it to delivery, we may reduce your contract / agreement value by the unspent amount.

2.140 You must:

- Have criteria for how you will administer and distribute your funds; these must reflect the principles of equality and diversity and be available to residents and to us on request;
- Assess and record the resident's needs, demonstrating the need for support;
- Report the appropriate Learner Support Reason codes in the 'Learner Funding and Monitoring' fields in the ILR;

- Complete a monthly EAS for the Learner Support alongside the ILR;
- Submit the EAS online on a quarterly basis, along with a submission to GMCA to support the claim;
- Take into account the availability of other support for residents, for example from Jobcentre Plus; and
- Make it clear to residents it is their responsibility to tell the Department for Work and Pensions about any Learner Support they are receiving from you, as Learner Support payments may affect their eligibility to state benefits.

2.141 You must not use Learner Support funds for any of the following:

- Essential equipment or facilities if the resident is eligible to receive full funding;
- A resident carrying out a higher education course or learning aims fully funded from other sources; or
- To pay weekly attendance allowances or achievement and attendance bonuses.
- To fund organisational apportioned costs, that cannot be directly linked to any learner.

## **Hardship**

2.142 You can use hardship funds for the following:

- Course-related costs, including course trips, books and equipment (where costs are not included in the funding rate), domestic emergencies and emergency accommodation;
- Transport costs (but not make a block contribution to post-16 transport partnerships or routinely fund transport costs covered in the local authority's legal duty for residents of sixth-form age);
- Examination fees;
- Accreditation fees, professional membership fees and any fees or charges due to external bodies;
- Your registration fees; and
- Support provided by others, or by providing items, services or cash direct to the resident. This can be a grant or a repayable loan.

2.143 In exceptional circumstances, you can use hardship funds for course fees for residents who need financial support to start or stay in learning.

2.144 If an asylum seeker is eligible for provision, you may provide Learner Support in the form of course related books, equipment, cash payments or a travel pass.

### **Childcare costs (residents aged 20 years+)**

2.145 You can only use childcare funding to pay for childcare with a childminder, provider or childminder agency, registered with Ofsted.

2.146 You must not use childcare funding to:

- Fund informal childcare, such as that provided by a relative;
- Set up childcare places or to make a financial contribution to the costs of a crèche; or
- Fund childcare for residents aged under 20 on the first day of learning; instead you must direct them to the ESFA's 'Care to Learn' programme.

2.147 You must not use childcare for those aged 20 years or older to top up childcare payments for those receiving 'Care to Learn' payments.

### **19-year-olds Care to Learn**

2.148 You can use learner support to provide further help with childcare costs for 19-year-olds in receipt of Care to Learn where the childcare costs exceed the weekly maximum rates for that scheme.

2.149 This top up can only be applied to childcare provision eligible under the [Care to Learn Scheme](#) guidance.

2.150 You must hold evidence that the maximum amount of childcare is being paid under Care to Learn to confirm that a top up is required which must be kept on the learner file.

2.151 You must pay any top up in line with the Care to Learn Guidance, directly to the childcare provider.



## Residential access funding

2.152 You must:

- Set out the criteria and procedures for considering and agreeing applications for support from your residential access funds; and
- Give priority to residents who need accommodation and only pay for travel costs in exceptional circumstances.

## What GMCA will not fund

2.153 GMCA ASF funding is ring-fenced for the purposes set out in these Rules and cannot be used to support other nationally funded programmes or activity for which other specific funding is available, including:

- Provision delivered by organisations which do not have a Grant Agreement or Contract for Services in place with GMCA to deliver learning for Greater Manchester residents outside of Greater Manchester, unless agreed by exception;
- Non-devolved ASF provision contracted by ESFA or other areas;
- Provision for non-Greater Manchester residents, including residents of other devolved Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCAs) or Greater London Authority (GLA);
- Apprenticeships (all ages);
- Traineeships for 16-18-year olds;
- 16-18 funding such as the Study Programme (including 16-18 resident support);
- Advanced learner loan facility;
- Loans bursary fund;
- Offender Learning;
- Provision to individuals in custody where their learning is paid for by Ministry of Justice funding. GMCA will, as noted above, only fund provision for offenders not otherwise funded by the Ministry of Justice, such as learning undertaken by individuals released on temporary licence or studying outside a prison environment.

2.154 Providers should note that GMCA are currently considering the development of a 19-23 year old traineeship offer and until further notice is given, providers must not use their core devolved ASF allocation to fund 19-23 year old traineeships.

## Section 3 – Delivering GMCA funded ASF provision

### Rules that relate to providers and the delivery of ASF funded provision commissioned by GMCA through Grant Agreements and / or Contracts for Services.

- 3.1 GMCA commissions its ASF funded provision through a mix of Grant Agreements and Contracts for Services. The ASF market in GM is open to high quality providers of all kinds (including partnerships / alliances of providers and their supply chains) which build strong, place-focused relationships with the GMCA and with the businesses and residents of Greater Manchester. In this way, we provide the best value and impact for our people and our place by aligning the devolved ASF with the wider skills and employment system.
- 3.2 This Section outlines the rules that relate to providers and the delivery of ASF funded provision commissioned by GMCA through Grant Agreements and / or Contracts for Services.
- 3.3 You must not claim funding where a resident only sits or resits a learning aim assessment or examination and no extra learning takes place.
- 3.4 You or your sub-contractors must not claim funding for any part of any resident's learning aim or programme that duplicates provision they have received from any other source.
- 3.5 We will not fund a resident to repeat the same regulated qualification where they have previously achieved it unless it is for:
- Any GCSE where the resident has not achieved grade C, or 4, or higher; or
  - A qualification related to a specific sector where there is a skills shortage.
- 3.6 You must make sure that learning is eligible for funding before the resident starts. The [Qualifications website](#) and [Find a Learning Aim](#) contain details of eligible regulated qualifications, qualification components and non-regulated learning aims. Providers should factor the suggested Guided Learning Hours

(GLH) into their delivery to ensure residents are offered a comprehensive plan of learning.

- 3.7 You must not enrol residents on learning aims or programmes eligible for ASF funding at the same time as any new apprenticeship they start, whether funded from an employer's digital account or government-employer co-investment.
- 3.8 You must provide accurate unique learner number (ULN) information to awarding organisations and ensure all information you use to register residents for qualifications is correct. You can find more information about the [Learner Records Service](#) on GOV.UK.

### **Evidencing starting, participating, achieving and leaving learning**

- 3.9 The learner file must contain evidence to support the funding claimed and must be available for compliance checks in line with Section 4 Performance Management. If the time spent in learning is short, the level of evidence in the learner file would reflect this.
- 3.10 Evidence in the learner file must assure us that the learner exists.
- 3.11 You can only claim funding for learning when directly related learning starts. This would not include enrolment, prior assessment, diagnostic testing or induction.
- 3.12 You must have evidence that learning took place and that the resident was not just certificated for prior knowledge.
- 3.13 Where the learning is certificated you must follow your awarding organisation's procedure for claiming the relevant certificate(s) and ensure they are given to the resident. You must evidence that this has happened in the resident file.
- 3.14 You must report the learning actual end date within the learner file in the ILR for a resident who leaves learning as the last day that you can evidence they took part in learning.
- 3.15 Where you hold information centrally, you only need to refer to the source.
- 3.16 If applicable, the learner file must confirm the following:

- All information reported to us in the ILR and the Earnings Adjustment Statement (EAS), and if it applies, the supporting evidence for the data you report
- Your assessment and evidence of eligibility for funding and a record of what evidence the learner has provided
- All initial, basic skills and diagnostic assessments
- Information on prior learning that affects the learning or the funding of any of the learning aims or programme
- Evidence of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) to demonstrate that the learning programme is relevant, in the correct order and leads to a high quality learner journey.
- For 'personalised learning programmes', for example, learning not regulated by a qualification, full details of all the aspects of the learning to be carried out, including supporting evidence of the number of planned hours reported
- A description of how you will deliver the learning and skills and how the resident will achieve their learning aims
- The supporting evidence about why you have claimed funding and the level of funding for a resident, including details of any resident or employer contribution
- Support needs identified, including how you will meet these needs and the evidence of that
- That learning is taking or has taken place and records are available
- A resident's self-declarations as to what state benefit they claim
- A resident's self-declarations on their status relating to gaining a job
- All records and evidence of achievement of learning aims, including a destination / exit form. This must be available within three months of you reporting it in the ILR.

3.17 You must keep evidence that the resident is eligible for funding. Where the resident is unemployed or economically inactive, this must include a record of what you have agreed with them, including the relevance of the learning to their employment prospects and the labour market needs.

## Guided Learning Hours

3.18 You must keep evidence that reflects relevant and appropriate planned Guided Learning Hours (GLH) to be delivered per qualification. This must be recorded and can include classroom delivery, remote classroom learning and assessment. This should be supported by attendance records. Planned GLH should be based on the Scheme or Work/Curriculum Plan, with the number of delivery days, number of tutor led hours to calculate the planned delivery hours.

3.19 GMCA recognises that learning can take many forms and wants to ensure that residents gain the best approach to accessing adult education and different teaching techniques should be available, for example:

- classroom delivery
- one to one delivery
- Blended learning
- Synchronous education
- Remote education
- Digital remote education

## Alternative Delivery Models

3.20 GMCA recognises that certain alternative delivery models would be more beneficial to residents if they were exempt from the normal GLH expectations, i.e. a minimum of 70% of the stated hours on the [Find A Learning Aim](#) website. These delivery models would require certain evidence to be in place and / or supporting rationale provided and providers will be required to use relevant coding on the ILR that GMCA will provide. Current proposed models which these will apply to are:

- Sector-based Work Academy Programmes (SWAPS) (please refer to details as outlined in paragraphs 2.54 to 2.60).
- Part-time / evening courses or non-technical delivery (supporting rationale required).
- Hybrid distance learning (please refer to details in paragraph 3.24).

- 3.21 Individual providers considering using alternative delivery models for part-time / evening courses, non-technical delivery or hybrid distance learning must submit a list of courses, including rationale (where required) to GMCA for approval prior to the start of the year for these alternative course types to be considered as outside the normal GLH expectations.
- 3.22 Providers can update the list of courses during the academic year where new activity is being developed and implemented, and these must have prior approval from GMCA before activity commences.
- 3.23 Supporting rationale reflecting why the planned GLH are below the requirements as set out on the [Find A Learning Aim](#) site must be submitted to GMCA and should include why the GLH have been decreased in scale, for example:
- Feedback from employers / residents that has influenced the course offer
  - Whether the course offer is directly employer or learner led
  - Reasons why the level of GLH on the [Find A Learning Aim](#) site is excessive, i.e. non-technical course providing an overview of the sector / occupational areas
  - What has worked in the past

## **Distance Learning**

- 3.24 GMCA has considered its approach to distance learning, and deems the following to be a more appropriate form of distance learning:

### **Hybrid distance learning:**

- Delivered either online or via paper-based, with a module / unit plan supporting the learning,
- Learners' complete assessments throughout the course,
- Tutors / Assessors provide study schedules, supporting sessions, monitor progress, provide grades, detailed feedback and personal support by email or telephone or online chat etc to all learners.

3.25 GMCA considers provision delivered through certain distance learning models as not acceptable for public funding and hence GMCA will not fund activity delivered and defined as follows:

**Pure distance learning:**

- considered to be where there is minimal or no interaction with a teacher or other students
- learning is self-directed
- lack of individually targeted support and attention

3.26 A key focus of learning which is funded through the ASF budget, is that it is planned and supported by a curriculum plan, and that it is not reliant on the individual/learner to self-direct their learning experience.

### **Qualifying days for funding**

3.27 The resident must be in learning for a minimum number of days between the learning start date and learning planned end date before they qualify for funding, including learning support. The table below sets out the relevant qualifying period:

<b>Planned length of the learning aim</b>	<b>Minimum qualifying days</b>
168 days	42 days
14-167 days	14 days
Fewer than 14 days	1 day

### **Recognition of prior learning**

3.28 The GMCA expectation is that providers will not require residents to repeat learning related to employability programmes, unless there is a specific link to developing key sector vocational skills.

3.29 A resident could have prior learning that has been previously accredited by an awarding organisation or could be formally recognised and count towards a qualification. If this is the case, you must:

- Reduce the funding amount claimed for the learning aim by the percentage of learning and assessment the resident does not need;



- Follow the policies and procedures set by the awarding organisation regarding recognition of prior learning, including any restrictions concerning where it may not be applied;
- Ensure you have a robust internal recognition of prior learning policy and appropriate resources to deliver recognition of prior learning; and
- Not claim funding if the prior learning meets the full requirements of the awarding organisation to achieve the learning aim.

3.30 We do not set limits on the length of time of either prior learning or previously certificated learning. However, where the resident's learning and / or achievement occurs outside of five years, you must as part of the initial assessment determine whether the learning is still valid and relevant.

3.31 You must not use prior learning to reduce funding for English and maths qualifications up to and including level 2.

3.32 If a resident enrolls on an advanced subsidiary (AS) Level qualification followed by an A Level, you must reduce the funding claimed for the A Level and record this in the 'Funding adjustment for prior learning' field in the ILR. You can access [ILR information](#) on GOV.UK.

## **Breaks in learning**

3.33 As part of the initial assessment, you and the resident must agree a plan, which is flexible enough to enable the resident to not be penalised should they require to take a break in learning due to circumstances outside of their control.

3.34 We expect this approach to be utilised to support residents who have known barriers making it difficult for them to remain in learning for long periods of time e.g. mental health, caring responsibilities. It should wherever possible enable the resident to continue on their programme of learning where they left, and providers should minimise any necessity to redo or have the resident wait to restart a new programme of learning. You must have evidence that the resident agrees to return and continue with the same learning aim, otherwise you must report the resident as withdrawn.

3.35 We will not fund a learner during a break in learning.

3.36 You must not use a break in learning for short-term absences, such as holidays or short-term illnesses.

## **Fees and charging**

3.37 You must not make compulsory charges relating to the direct costs of delivering a learning aim to residents we fully fund. This includes those residents who are eligible for fully funded provision due to a statutory entitlement to learning that is free of charge at the point of delivery. Direct costs include any essential activities or materials without which the resident could not complete and achieve their learning.

3.38 If a fully funded resident needs a Disclosure and Barring Service check to participate in learning, you cannot charge them for this. If the learning is associated with the resident's employment, their employer is responsible for carrying out and paying for this check.

3.39 When charging a fee to co-funded learners, the sum of the contribution and the learner's fee must not exceed the fully funded weighted rate for the learning aim, and the learner should not have to pay more than 50% of the unweighted rate.

## **Sub-Contracting**

3.40 GMCA has commissioned ASF provision from a diverse provider base; analysis of the current capacity and configuration of the market suggests that, in addition to organisations, which will deliver on a sole provider basis, high quality sub-contracting arrangements will also be a feature of GMCA's ASF landscape.

3.41 In particular, it is important that small specialist providers (including the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector) continue to access the market in order to offer an appropriate range and choice of provision and delivery models for residents, and subcontracting arrangements can help to facilitate this where such organisations do not have a direct contract with GMCA.

3.42 GMCA expects all prime providers to deliver a minimum of 60% of their provision directly with a maximum of 40% being delivered by their supply chain partners. The minimum level will relate to the value of core devolved ASF / Adult

Skills Level 3 funding and not the volume of learners, both in terms of submission of the Delivery & Financial schedules and on final reconciliation. Prime providers requiring to deliver less than 60% of their provision directly must seek prior approval from GMCA to do so.

- 3.43 GMCA are mindful of management fees and expect providers to show a level of vigilance towards this with regards to subcontracting and therefore do not anticipate management fees for Supply Chain Partners to exceed 17.5%. Providers wishing to charge Supply Chain Partners a management fee of above 17.5% must request permission from GMCA in advance. As GMCA will be reviewing future management fee levels, we are requesting all providers, grant and procured, to provide a rationale for their management fee including what services are provided.
- 3.44 Only one level of subcontracting is allowed by GMCA.
- 3.45 We define a delivery subcontractor as a separate legal entity that has an agreement with you to deliver any element of the education and training we fund. A separate legal entity includes companies in your group, other associated companies and sole traders. It also includes individuals who are self-employed or supplied by an employment agency, unless those individuals are working under your direction and control, in the same way as your own employees.
- 3.46 GMCA do not define associate tutors who are paid directly for their services by a provider as a delivery subcontractor.
- 3.47 You must take your own legal advice about the impact of Public Contracts Regulations 2015 on your recruitment of delivery sub-contractors and have this advice available for inspection by us on request.
- 3.48 Your governing body or board of directors and your accounting officer (senior responsible person) must be satisfied that all your subcontracted delivery meets your strategic aims and enhances the quality of your offer. You must set out the reasons for sub-contracting in your published supply chain fees and charges policy, and indicate how these reasons reflect and support your strategic aims. You must be able to evidence this, such as through minutes of relevant meetings and sign-off.

3.49 GMCA expects ASF sub-contracting to be strategic in nature with a clear rationale of how the delivery of a sub-contractor can benefit the businesses, communities and residents of Greater Manchester and meet any skills gaps you cannot deliver yourself. You must not subcontract to meet short-term funding objectives.

3.50 A lead provider must not make any changes to their split of delivery across their supply chain after 1 April 2025 unless that change is directly relating to a strategic demand from GMCA, an employer, local authority or Job Centre Plus.

3.51 GMCA expects both grant providers and their supply chain partners to operate using a place-based approach and to focus their provision within their own local authority geographical area. The only exception to this expectation will relate to specialist provision that is unavailable elsewhere across Greater Manchester.

3.52 You must only use delivery sub-contractors:

- If you have the knowledge, skills and experience within your organisation to successfully procure, contract with and manage those sub-contractors, and can evidence this with:
  - the CVs of relevant staff;
  - Sub-Contractor management policy and/or framework
  - Evidence of any applicable quality mark your organisation may have undertaken e.g. Merlin Standard
  - Who your governing body/board of directors and your accounting officer (senior responsible person) determine as being of high quality and low risk, and provide written evidence confirming this; and
  - If you have robust procedures to ensure sub-contracting does not lead to the inadvertent funding of extremist organisations.

3.53 You are responsible for the actions of your delivery sub-contractors connected to, or arising out of, the delivery of the services which you sub-contract, and for ensuring their compliance with all relevant requirements, as set out in detail within your Contract for Services or Grant Agreement.

- 3.54 Sub-contractors who have an aggregated GMCA ASF sub-contract value of £100,000 or more may be subject to a GMCA compliance visit in their own right. GMCA reserve the right to liaise with sub-contractors directly regarding any compliance visits. GMCA will notify the Prime Provider(s) with whom the sub-contractor holds their sub-contract.
- 3.55 Prime providers who have separate sub-contracting arrangements for GMCA ASF may be subject to additional or separate compliance visits for each arrangement.
- 3.56 It is the responsibility of the Prime Provider to manage and monitor the delivery of its sub-contractors to ensure high quality activity takes place that meets the funding and performance rules laid out in this document.
- 3.57 All sub-contractors via their Prime Provider must provide detail of their intended ASF offer. This will be captured through a template provided by GMCA.
- 3.58 Any additional sub-contractors in-year must be agreed by the GMCA Performance and Contract team. You must not go forward with any sub-contract arrangements until you have received written approval. You will not receive funding for any delivery by a non-approved sub-contractor.
- 3.59 GMCA promotes proactive and supportive management of sub-contractors. Movement of funding between more than one approved sub-contractor, that does not alter the mix and balance of direct delivery and sub-contracted delivery, is allowed. If you wish to change the mix and balance of direct delivery and sub-contracted delivery, this must be approved by the GMCA Performance and Contract team and should still meet the minimum requirements as per paragraph 3.42.
- 3.60 GMCA reserves the right to request any documentation listed within this document or the relevant schedule of the contract for services and/or grant agreement as part of any audit process, including but not limited to
- Due diligence checks
  - Record of performance management including monitoring reviews
  - Audit reports of the Sub-contractor carried out by the Prime Provider

## Reporting your subcontracting arrangements

3.61 You must provide a fully completed delivery subcontractor declaration by the dates we will give you. This will be three times during the 2024 to 2025 funding year. If you do not make the declaration on time, we will suspend your payments. If you do not subcontract, you must still provide a nil return to confirm this.

3.62 You must also update your subcontractor declaration if, and when any of your subcontracting arrangements change during the year.

3.63 You must report to us the actual level of funding paid and management fee charged for each of your delivery subcontractors in 2024 to 2025. You must email this information to your Contract Officer using a template which we will supply to you. We will let you know the date by when you must do this.

3.64 You must include the following on the template for GMCA funded ASF delivery:

- Name of each delivery subcontractor;
- The UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN) of each delivery subcontractor;
- Contract start and end date for each delivery subcontractor;
- Funding we have paid to you for GMCA funded ASF delivery by each delivery subcontractor in that funding year;
- Funding you have paid to each delivery subcontractor for GMCA funded ASF delivery in that funding year;
- Details of the funding you have charged as a management fee in relation to each delivery subcontractor's GMCA funded ASF delivery for that funding year and
- If appropriate, funding each delivery subcontractor has paid to you for services or support you have provided in connection with the subcontracted delivery.

3.65 All delivery subcontractors must be clearly identified with their individual UKPRN and provider name within your MI systems, to ensure all learning aims can be fully reconciled.

## Evidence and Data Collection

- 3.66 You must hold evidence to assure us that you are using the funding appropriately. Most evidence will occur naturally from your normal business processes.
- 3.67 Data and management information underpin the funding and commissioning decisions made by GMCA. It also underpins and informs the work of Ofsted and other agencies. When aggregated, it presents the progress and impact of the adult skills sector to the GMCA, sponsoring departments and to the Government, thereby informing policy and commissioning decisions in the future.
- 3.68 The data gathered provides information about the effectiveness of the learning programmes in terms of whom they reach, what learning they receive and what outcomes are subsequently achieved. The data collected will go beyond the ILR for the duration of this contract. You must be prepared that the GMCA will ask for further data items and your systems and processes must be adapted to cater for this at your own cost. GMCA will work with providers on an ongoing basis to further develop the types of information collected to ensure that it can adequately demonstrate progression, outcomes and impact. Data recorded in the ILR must identify the learner's destination at the end of the learning episode. The use of the 'Unknown' or 'Other' identifier should only be used for genuine learners and not used as the default response.
- 3.69 In 2024/25 GMCA will use the data recorded on the ILR and information submitted through the Earnings Adjustment Statements to calculate funding earned by all providers. The data will provide management information, including performance indicators, which will be used to manage your current Grant Agreement or Contract for Services.
- 3.70 The data collected in the ILR and information submitted through the Earnings Adjustment Statements will be used to ensure that the ASF funding devolved to the GMCA is being spent in line with its statutory duties and its wider skills ambitions. The Adult education skills funding model supports flexible and responsive provision to residents.

3.71 You can collect the data required to make an ILR return in whatever way you wish and in the best way that supports your natural business processes. For example, information about a resident may be gathered on a paper enrolment form or through an online enrolment process. Much of the information about the learning aims and programmes being undertaken may be held within a Management Information System (MIS) and can be exported directly from this. You are responsible for ensuring that whatever systems you use are compliant with relevant data protection legislation.

3.72 A series of Devolved Area Monitoring (DAM) codes have been developed to record delivery under GM ASF when ILR data is submitted. This will be updated within the GMCA ILR Submission Guidance of 2024/25.

## **Data Protection**

3.73 For the purposes of this Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, you have been identified as being a Data Controller, as defined in the Data Protection Act 2018, Section 6. This makes you responsible for ensuring that the requirements of any and all relevant data protection legislation are complied with, by both yourselves and any approved subcontractors.

3.74 It is a requirement of your Grant Agreement or Contract for Services that, if requested, you will provide evidence that you have complied with the data protection legislation to enable you to process data to provide the services required by ASF funding.

3.75 You will be required to ensure that all residents have seen the Privacy Notices, which informs them about how their data will be used. The first Privacy Notice will be issued by the GMCA. This will identify the GMCA's role in the ASF programme and that they will be receiving data from the ESFA. This is in addition to any data protection processes you may decide to have in place. You should ask residents if they do not wish to be contacted for marketing, survey or research purposes and record this information in the Learner contact preference fields in the ILR.



## Confirmation and signatures

- 3.76 You must keep effective and reliable evidence. You are responsible for making the evidence you hold easily available to us when we need it.
- 3.77 The resident must confirm that all information is correct when it is collected. You must have evidence of this, which can include electronic formats.
- 3.78 We accept electronic evidence, including digital signatures where appropriate, but where electronic evidence is relied upon you must have wider systems and processes in place to assure you that residents exist and are eligible for funding.

## Individualised Learner Record

- 3.79 The ILR must accurately reflect what learning and support (where applicable) has been identified, planned and delivered to eligible residents. You must not report inaccurate information that would result in an inflated claim for funding.
- 3.80 You must accurately complete all ILR fields as required in the ILR Specification<sup>3</sup>, even if the fields in question are not used for funding purposes. Where your data does not support the funding you have claimed, we will act to correct this and will recover funds you have over claimed.

## Self-declarations by residents

- 3.81 All self-declarations must confirm the resident's details and describe what the resident is confirming.
- 3.82 If a resident self-declares prior attainment, you must check this in the personal learning record and query any contradictory information with the resident. The personal learning record will not necessarily override the resident's self-declaration.

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<sup>3</sup> Full specification can be found here: [Specification of the Individualised Learner Record for 2024 to 2025](#)

## Section 4 – Performance Management & Payments

- 4.1 GMCA aims to build strong strategic relationships with providers of all kinds, regardless of whether they are funded by Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, with a long-term shared vision that results in localised, flexible, high quality provision that responds to GMCA's strategic priorities. This requires proactive and collaborative performance management that supports us to understand and improve the impact and outcomes achieved for our residents through GMCA's exercise of the devolved functions and our risk based approach.
- 4.2 GMCA have adopted a commissioning approach for the allocation of ASF and Adult Skills Level 3, which includes a mixture of grant funded, and procured provision.
- 4.3 Although the process of making payments to providers will differ depending on whether you hold a Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, our approach to Performance Management will be standardised across all providers.
- 4.4 GMCA's approach to the reconciliation requirement previously referred to as ESFA Funding Claims differs when dealing with reconciliation tolerances, reductions and growth, which is set out in detail below.
- 4.5 Providers are required to submit [ILR](#) data and [Earnings Adjustment Statement](#) via the ESFA on a monthly basis post R04, in line with the timescales set by the ESFA, and as per your Grant Agreement / Contract for Services. This will be used to support our payment and performance management processes.
- 4.6 GMCA ASF Grant Agreements and Contracts for Services remain separate with different payment arrangements. If you hold both you cannot vire funds between the two.
- 4.7 You cannot vire funds between your GMCA ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 and any other funding streams. You can use other funding streams to complement ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 if that improves the chances of the resident progressing.

## Performance Management

4.8 This section sets out GMCA’s approach to performance management, which is standardised across all providers.

### Quarterly Performance Monitoring

4.9 GMCA will have five key Performance Monitoring points during the year, which are used to review the overall position of GMCA’s ASF funding in terms of expenditure and delivery. These points are set out below:

Monitoring Point	Month
Progress & Monitoring Review 1 – Procured Only	October
Progress & Monitoring Review 2 – All Providers	January
Progress & Monitoring Review 3 – All Providers	April
Progress & Monitoring Review 4 – All Providers	July
Progress & Monitoring Review 5 – All Providers	October (Final Reconciliation)

4.10 GMCA reserve the right to increase or decrease the number of Performance Monitoring points we operate, in line with delivery against the funding available for ASF / Adult Skills Level 3. We also reserve the right to adjust your contract value if there is a risk that demand for ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 may exceed the budget available.

4.11 At the Performance Monitoring points outlined above, you will need to complete a Progress & Monitoring Report, which sets out performance to date, forecast to the end of the funding year, along with details of any existing or potential issues/risks relating to under/over performance in terms of expenditure or delivery. This report will provide qualitative information on your progress in terms of delivery, as well as financial and numerical data. GMCA will use these reports alongside your ILR, EAS and any performance review data, to review the overall position of all Grant Agreements and Contracts for Services.

4.12 At these Performance Monitoring points, where providers have identified actual or potential underspend within their current allocation, for reasons outlined in the Progress and Performance report, they will be given the opportunity to

voluntarily reduce their allocation. Any underspend will be returned to the central pot to be redistributed within GM.

### **Information Specific to Core ASF Contract for Services**

4.13 At these Performance Monitoring points, where providers have identified actual or potential underspend by Local Authority area within their current agreed overall allocation, for reasons outlined in the Progress and Performance report, they will be given the opportunity to voluntarily reduce their Local Authority allocation, resulting in a reduction in their overall allocation. Any underspend will be returned to the central pot to be redistributed within that Local Authority area.

4.14 Where providers have identified that they have reached or exceeded an individual local authority allocation as indicated in their approved delivery and financial schedule, GMCA will allow providers to deviate from their agreed funding allocation under the following circumstances:

- The request does not result in the original total combined allocation for an individual local authority area being exceeded **and**
- A revised delivery and financial schedule is submitted to GMCA for approval clearly indicating the movement of funding values and subsequent learner volumes between individual boroughs.
- The request does not result in the provider's overall funding allocation being exceeded.

4.15 GMCA is reviewing what is considered when deciding whether to offer a plus one contract extension or not to Contract for Services providers and will share this detail in the early stages of the 2024/25 academic year.

### **Information Specific to Core ASF Grant Agreements**

4.16 Where grant providers have identified actual or potential underspend in their current allocation, GMCA reserves the right to review future funding allocations.

4.17 In addition, if at the Performance Monitoring points set out above, we have evidence that you will not deliver in full, we may reduce it to a level that is line

with your actual in-year delivery. Any underspend will be returned to the central pot to be redistributed within GM.

4.18 The risk-based criteria will be defined prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024, and may include the following considerations (these are not exhaustive and are subject to change):

- Consistently strong progress in line with your profiled delivery at key monitoring points;
- Achievement Rates are consistently equal to or above national rates;
- Ability to respond to GMCA's strategic skills priorities;
- A good track record, including accuracy of forecasts you have provided at key monitoring points (see paragraphs 4.9 to 4.16 and 4.18 onwards).
- You are not at Level 2, 3 or 4 of GMCA's Performance Management Framework;
- You are not under notice for an inadequate inspection result or financial control;
- You are not under a notice to improve, additional conditions of funding or additional contractual obligations in relation to minimum quality standards for 19+ education and training.

## **Performance Management Framework**

4.19 We will use the GMCA funding and Performance Management approach for your ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 funding. This regime is designed to ensure that providers meet the agreed Delivery and Financial schedule, and the minimum standards stipulated in your contract / grant agreement. Should you fail to meet the requirements and obligations arising from your Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, GMCA will take appropriate action against you as required. This involves a four stage approach as follows:

- **Level 1:** Performance and Compliance Management
- **Level 2:** Performance Action Plan
- **Level 3:** Formal Action – Performance Improvement Notice
- **Level 4:** Termination

## Level 1: Performance and Compliance Management

4.20 A review of all providers will take place within the first quarter of delivery, in order to inform an interim RAG rating, which will establish the frequency of the Performance Management and Compliance approach for each provider.

4.21 The review will focus on the GMCA performance and compliance standards and using a combination of methods, IT-based management information and compliance checks. A number of tools will be used to undertake the review, which include but are not limited to:

- Financial Assessment;
- Due diligence checks for supply chain (if applicable);
- Delivery and Financial Schedule; and
- Review of systems and processes (interim visit).

4.22 Following the review, a rating will be assigned to providers through a rating system. This RAG rating is for GMCA internal purposes only and is not something GMCA would publish or be obliged to publish. This will indicate the level of intensity of Performance and Compliance Management to be undertaken:

- **Green:** Low Intensity –minimum of 1 compliance check per year.
- **Amber:** Medium Intensity –2 compliance checks per year.
- **Red:** High Intensity –a minimum of quarterly compliance checks per year.

4.23 GMCA will conduct compliance checks which will be RAG rated and contribute to the final RAG rating awarded. The overall RAG rating will be made up of:

- Compliance checks;
- Financial performance against the Delivery and Financial Schedule;
- Place-based delivery against profile in the Delivery and Financial schedule;
- Financial assessment.

4.24 It is important to note that a providers RAG rating can change in year, based on actual delivery, performance reviews and compliances checks.

## **Performance Reviews**

- 4.25 Your lead contact within the GMCA Performance and Contract Monitoring Team will hold monthly Performance Reviews (PR) with you, which will focus on achieving contractual / grant agreement performance levels. Performance will be managed on both quantitative and qualitative aspects of your Contract for Services / Grant Agreement.
- 4.26 The purpose of the PR is to formally examine with you, your performance for individual Contracts for Services / Grant Agreements. All relevant aspects of performance will be assessed against contractual requirements and outcomes.
- 4.27 The PR meeting will focus on the ongoing achievement of performance levels and customer service standards and depending on priority issues for each meeting, is likely to cover the following areas (this list is non-exhaustive):
- Actions arising from any previous PR
  - Performance including that reported in the ILR and EAS against your Delivery Schedule and expected future performance
  - Performance against Social Value outcomes (where applicable)
  - Review of Action Plan (where applicable)
  - Sub-contractor and supply chain performance
  - Collaborative working
  - Compliance monitoring
  - GMCA Strategic Priorities
  - GMCA / DfE policy changes.
- 4.28 The achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives from Public Sector procurement is a key objective for GMCA. Providers will be expected to manage and monitor social value commitments, working to achieve the key performance indicators in line with the Social Value Act 2012. Agreed Social Value Key Performance Indicators will form a key ongoing element of the performance management and monitoring.
- 4.29 The outcomes of your performance review may impact on your RAG rating.

## **Compliance Monitoring**

4.30 You must ensure you have systems and processes in place to assure GMCA that you are using the ASF appropriately. GMCA reserve the right to perform Compliance Monitoring for any provider, including sub-contracted provision.

4.31 In order to gain this assurance, the GMCA's Performance & Contract Monitoring Team will undertake regular compliance checks of all providers. The number of compliance checks undertaken per year will be dependent upon the RAG rating assigned to you as outlined above.

4.32 The compliance checks will include, but not be limited to:

- Sample checks of learner files
- Systems and process
- ILR data quality
- Residency and eligibility criteria
- EAS submission
- Planned GLH will be based on the Scheme or Work/Curriculum Plan, with the number of delivery days, number of tutor led hours to calculate the planned delivery hours. Attendance records must be available.
- Next steps/timely learner outcomes and learner tracking for progression.
- Sub-contracting arrangements
- Other contractual requirements

4.33 GMCA will select a sample of learner files to check randomly using a method chosen by GMCA. The frequency, periodicity and size of the samples may change throughout the contract period.

4.34 As part of our compliance monitoring, we will continue to monitor compliance with the funding rules. We will contact you where we identify you have submitted data that does not meet our funding rules and ILR requirements. We will require you to correct inaccurate ILR and EAS monthly data or to adjust your final funding claim.

4.35 As part of our compliance monitoring we will individually RAG rate the areas determined by GMCA specified in paragraph 4.31 which will provide you with an overall RAG rating for the visit.



4.36 A compliance monitoring report will be issued by GMCA detailing any areas for improvement.

4.37 If we identify that the number of Planned GLH, based on the calculations from the Scheme of Work/Curriculum Plan, are below the number stated on the [Find A Learning Aim](#) site, we will take the following action unless approval from GMCA has been granted prior to the compliance visit for an alternative delivery model as detailed in paragraphs 3.20 to 3.23:

- If the planned GLH are over 70% of the stated hours, no action will be taken
- If the planned GLH are between 50% and 70% of the stated hours, you will be advised to increase the hours delivered to GM residents. This will impact your RAG rating, meaning Amber would be the highest grading you could receive.
- If the planned GLH are below 50% of the stated hours you will:
- Receive a RAG rating of Red and will trigger the Performance Management process at Level 2.
- Receive a reduction in funding for the identified learning aims.

### **Audit and Assurance**

4.38 In addition to GMCA's own financial assurance work, providers will still be subject where appropriate to audit through the national systems operated by DfE and the ESFA. GMCA, DfE and ESFA are responsible for assurance of their own funds however working together they will minimise the administrative burden across the providers for ASF learning and skills activity through a joint audit code of practice.

4.39 Where GM residents are selected for sampling, compliance will be assessed against GMCA funding and performance management rules.

### **Level 2 – Performance Action Plan**

4.40 If your overall performance and compliance RAG rating has been determined a red, we will issue you a Performance Action Plan. The Action Plan will be used to capture all agreed actions for performance and compliance improvement including actions to improve performance and compliance in line with the agreement / contract. Moving to Level 2 within the Performance Management

Framework will impact on your RAG rating and therefore, the intensity of the performance Management approach.

- 4.41 The Action Plan will be reviewed as part of your Performance Review.
- 4.42 If subsequent reviews show that you may not achieve the Action Plan set out in your Performance Review, we will discuss your contract and delivery with the GMCA Skills and Work Executive. Once these discussions have taken place, a decision will be made as to whether to progress to Level 4.

### **Level 3 – Formal Action – Performance Improvement Notice**

- 4.43 If formal action is required, GMCA will issue a Performance Improvement Notice (PIN) in accordance with the terms of your Grant Agreement or Contract for Services, to address the failure to meet the performance levels set out in the grant / contract.
- 4.44 In the event that performance does not improve sufficiently to meet the performance levels as required by the PIN, GMCA may act to terminate your contract or grant agreement – Level 4 – Termination.
- 4.45 The PIN will be reviewed as part of your monthly Performance Review.  
Moving to Level 3 within the Performance Management Framework will impact on any request for growth or contracts in future academic years.

### **Local Governance**

- 4.46 GMCA is keen to ensure there is a strong focus on how delivery looks within a place as well as at a GM level for the ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 provision. To enable this GMCA intend to provide a supportive and engaging environment whereby key stakeholders, including but not limited to LAs and providers, can shape, contribute to and take ownership for the Greater Manchester adult skills provision.
- 4.47 Strategic network meetings will take place throughout the duration of the contract to provide a forum in which the ASF programme and wider skills delivery can be openly discussed with providers, including supply chain partners, Local Authorities, other key stakeholders and the GMCA.

- 4.48 GMCA will share with the local authorities key information such as:
- Actual progress of delivery by local authority area and sector skills areas, split by residents, volumes and value.
- 4.49 GMCA will want to see collaboration across all prime providers and their supply chains to enable high quality learner pathways, both at a local level and across GM.

### **Subsidy Control (Under Legal Review)**

- 4.50 For the purposes of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) subsidy rules, a subsidy is defined as a financial contribution (which includes income and/or price support and 'in kind' contribution) provided by a public authority that provides an economic advantage to the recipient that affects or could affect international trade.
- 4.51 For the purposes of the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) (UK-EU TCA), subsidy means financial assistance arising from the resources of the Parties which confers an economic advantage on one or more economic actors (a single entity engaged in an economic activity) over others which has or could have an effect on trade or investment between the Parties.
- 4.52 Examples of financial contributions include but are not limited to a transfer of funds from a public authority to an organisation through measures such as a grant or loan or the purchasing of goods or services.
- 4.53 Further information can be found on the [Government UK subsidy control statutory guidance](#) webpage.

### **Subsidy Control Obligations (Under Legal Review)**

- 4.54 The Subsidy Control Act 2022 came into force in January 2023 and it is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with the provisions of the Subsidy Control Act 2022 in relation to any payments that GMCA makes to you from the devolved ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 (whether these payments are made by way of Grant Funding or under a Contract for Services).

- 4.55 In the event that any devolved GM ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 funding paid to you under a Grant Funding Agreement or under a Contract for Services is deemed to constitute unlawful subsidy under the Subsidy Control Act 2022, the GMCA reserves the right to require immediate repayment of any such funding.
- 4.56 Your obligations to ensure that you comply with the provisions of all applicable rules on Subsidy Control also apply where you are using devolved GM ASF to provide support to individuals in employment and/or their employers. Where the rules on Subsidy Control apply, you must assess the employer for the subsidy they have already received to date and the subsidy that they are to receive from devolved GM ASF funding.
- 4.57 The GMCA may require you to obtain a contribution towards the cost of services delivered under a devolved GM ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 Grant Agreement or Contract for Services from the employer of any person who is receiving support. Where an employer contribution is required, the GMCA will confirm to you in writing the exact percentage of the contribution and you will be required to maintain (and provide on demand) evidence that the required employer contribution has been made.

## **Information specific to ASF Grant Agreements**

### **Payments**

- 4.58 Where your ASF is allocated to you in the form of a Grant Agreement between yourselves and GMCA for the 2024/25 academic year, your grant agreement will state the maximum amount of ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 provision and learner support you can deliver between 1st August 2024 and 31st July 2025.
- 4.59 GMCA will make payments to you based on a standardised profile for your core ASF activities. Payments will be made for a fixed amount on a monthly basis on a set date each month.
- 4.60 GMCA will make payments to you for any Adult Skills Level 3 activity on the basis of actual delivery. We will calculate the value using your monthly validated ILR and EAS submissions. Payments will be made within 30 days of the ILR

submission, subject to GMCA receiving ILR data from the ESFA within the agreed timescales.

- 4.61 GMCA expect all providers, whether devolved under a Grant Agreement or Contract for Services to forward payment to any supply chain partners within 15 days of receipt of funding from GMCA.
- 4.62 All providers must include any area cost uplifts and / or disadvantage uplifts generated in all payments made to supply chain partners.
- 4.63 In order to claim learner support, you must ensure the values contained in the ILR reconcile with the amount claimed in the EAS.
- 4.64 Your ASF grant can be used to fund new starts, non-formula funded community learning (where applicable to you) and learner support in line with eligibility criteria.
- 4.65 GMCA will agree with you a Delivery and Financial Schedule which will be used to monitor delivery and expenditure profiled place-based approach. This will form part of the Performance Management process.
- 4.66 A series of Devolved Area Monitoring (DAM) codes have been developed to record delivery under GM ASF when you submit ILR data, this will be updated within the ILR Submission Guidance of 2024/25.

## **Reconciliation Tolerances**

- 4.67 GMCA will look to support its ASF skills providers where activity is showing a growth in delivery, i.e. core devolved ASF allocations could be achieved and additional financial allocations would be required.
- 4.68 It is not GMCA's intention to open an annual growth case approach and hence this will ensure that ASF skills providers consider all aspects of performance, i.e. planned versus actual delivery for learner and enrolment volumes as well as impact on the funding levels.
- 4.69 GMCA will in 2024/2025 implement a more dynamic approach to measuring and supporting growth where this is needed and will apply the option necessary as outlined below:

- Support providers who over deliver in 2024/2025, based upon the actual final ILR and relevant manual claims at the end of year reconciliation (as at R14) by up to 10% above their current core devolved ASF allocation to continue to offset the impact of the 6.5% funding rate uplift applied to all Adult Skills activity.

## **Information specific to ASF and Adult Skills Level 3**

### **Contract for Services**

#### **Payments**

4.70 Where your core ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 is allocated to you in the form of a Contract for Services between yourselves and GMCA for the 2024/25 academic year, your contract will state the maximum amount of ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 provision and learner support you can deliver between 1st August 2024 and 31st July 2025.

4.71 GMCA will make payments to you for all funding lines on the basis of actual delivery. We will calculate value using your monthly validated ILR and EAS submissions. Payments will be made within 30 days of the ILR submission, subject to GMCA receiving ILR data from the ESFA within the agreed timescales.

4.72 In order to claim learner support, you must ensure the values contained in the ILR reconcile with the amount claimed in the EAS.

4.73 Your ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 funding can be used to fund new starts and learner support in line with eligibility criteria.

4.74 A series of Devolved Area Monitoring (DAM) codes have been developed to record delivery under GM ASF / Adult Skills Level 3 when you submit ILR data, this will be updated within the ILR Submission Guidance of 2024/25, when released.

4.75 GMCA will look to support its core ASF skills providers where activity is showing a growth in delivery, i.e. core devolved ASF allocations could be achieved and additional financial allocations would be required.

4.76 It is not GMCA's intention to open an annual growth case approach and hence this will ensure that core ASF skills providers consider all aspects of performance, i.e. planned versus actual delivery for learner and enrolment volumes as well as impact on the funding levels.

4.77 GMCA will in 2024/2025 implement a more dynamic approach to measuring and supporting growth where this is needed and will apply the option necessary as outlined below:

- Support providers who over deliver in 2024/2025, based upon the actual final ILR and relevant manual claims at the end of year reconciliation (as at R14) by up to 3% above their current core devolved ASF allocation.

# Annex A – Residency Eligibility

Individuals will be eligible for ASF if they meet the criteria in the [who we fund](#) section, the learning is taking place in England, and they fulfil the residency requirements set out in one or more of the categories below.

Unless otherwise stated, individuals must be ordinarily resident in the UK on the first day of learning to meet the residency requirements.

## **Learners who live in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland**

Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own funding arrangements. You must develop arrangements with the relevant devolved administration if you are planning to deliver a significant quantity of learning to learners who do not live in England.

You must not actively recruit learners who live or work outside of England.

We will fund an individual who does not live in England if specialist skills training is only available in England and the individual wants to travel to, or live in, England to study or learn. We do not expect these numbers to be significant.

We will fund individuals for learning that is delivered at an employee's workplace, whose main employment or normal place of work is in England.

We will fund individuals who live in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland who require and are eligible for ASF, and work for a UK-based employer. Delivery must take place in England. We do not expect these numbers to be significant.

Providers located close to the borders can deliver ASF to learners who are not resident in England but reside in their catchment area. Delivery must take place in England. We do not expect these numbers to be significant.

## **Temporary residence in the UK for educational purposes**

People who have been temporarily resident in the UK solely for the purposes of receiving full-time education would not be deemed ordinarily resident in the UK and are therefore not eligible for funding unless they meet one of the other eligibility criteria.



## **Temporary absences from the UK**

Learners who are temporarily outside of the UK for reasons such as education, employment or a gap year, but remain settled in the UK, can count this time outside the UK towards their 3 years ordinary residence.

Individuals resident in areas of England outside of devolved authority areas and who work outside of England as part of their job are eligible for ASF as long as some of the learning takes place in England. You cannot claim for the additional expense of delivering learning outside of England.

Where learners move outside the UK during their course, you must cease funding them. This applies also to distance learning – you should only fund distance learners who meet the residency criteria, and you should expect that they remain in the UK for the duration of their course even if no attendance at a physical location is required. If a learner is temporarily absent from the UK, for example for a family event, for a short period, for example a week or less, then they may continue their distance learning course while overseas. If they will be absent for a longer period then you should not fund them to continue their learning while overseas.

British armed forces, MoD personnel or civil crown servants on postings outside of the UK, or people who are resident in England but work outside England, can be treated as ordinarily resident in the UK. You may continue to fund them despite the above restriction on funding learners outside the UK.

## **Learners who have applied for an extension or variation of their immigration permission**

Any person who has applied for an extension or variation of their current immigration permission in the UK is still treated as if they have that leave. This only applies if the application was made before their current permission expired. Their leave continues until the Home Office decide on their immigration application. Their leave will continue where they have appealed or sought an administrative review of their case within the time allowed to them for doing so.

Therefore, a person is considered to still have the immigration permission that they held when they made their application for an extension, administrative review or appeal, and their eligibility would be based upon this status.

## **Learners with limited length visas**

Providers must not fund learners who would not have enough time on their visa to complete their course and who do not intend to, or would not be eligible to, renew their visa. Where a course continues past a learner's visa expiry date, providers may at their discretion fund that learner only where they have a high degree of certainty that a learner intends to (and will be eligible to) renew their visa.

Learners will have an eligible residency status if they meet the conditions laid out in one of the following sections:

### **UK nationals and other persons with right of abode**

UK nationals or other person with a right of abode<sup>[footnote 1](#)</sup> have an eligible residency status if they have been ordinarily resident in the UK, Republic of Ireland, or the British Overseas Territories, or the Crown Dependencies (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning.

All family members of UK nationals must meet the required residency eligibility criteria in their own right, unless they meet the criteria in the section entitled 'UK nationals in the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland', or the criteria in the section entitled 'family members of an eligible person of Northern Ireland'.

The British Overseas Territories are listed in [annex A](#).

### **UK nationals in the EEA and Switzerland**

UK nationals who have resided in the EEA, Switzerland or EU overseas territories have an eligible residency status if they:

- resided in the EEA or Switzerland, EU overseas territories or Gibraltar by 31 December 2020 (or resided in the UK, having moved to the UK from the EEA, Switzerland, EU overseas territories or Gibraltar after 31 December 2017), and
- resided in the EEA, Switzerland, EU overseas territories, Gibraltar or the UK for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning, and
- remained ordinarily resident in the UK, Gibraltar, the EEA, Switzerland or EU overseas territories between 31 December 2020 and the start of the course and

- the course starts before January 2028<sup>[footnote 21](#)</sup>

Family members of UK nationals, where both the UK national and the family member have resided in the EEA, Switzerland or EU overseas territories, have an eligible residency status if:

- both the UK national and the family member resided in the EEA, Switzerland or EU Overseas Territories by 31 December 2020 (or resided in the UK, having moved there from the EEA, Switzerland or EU Overseas Territories after 31 December 2017), and
- both the UK national and the family member remained ordinarily resident in the UK, the EEA, Switzerland or EU Overseas Territories between 31 December 2020 and the start of the course
- the UK national to whom they are a family member has been ordinarily resident in the UK, EEA, Switzerland or EU Overseas Territories for at least 3 years on the first day of the first academic year of the course
- the course starts before January 2028

A 'family member' for these purposes is either:

- the husband, wife, civil partner of the UK national (principal) or
- the child, grandchild, spouse/civil partner's child or spouse/civil partner's grandchild of the UK principal who is either:
  - under 21, or
  - dependant on the principal and/or his/her spouse/civil partner

The EEA includes all the countries and territories listed in [annex A](#).

### **EEA and Switzerland nationals in the UK**

EEA and Switzerland nationals have an eligible residency status if they have obtained either pre-settled or settled status under EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) and have lived continuously in the EEA, Switzerland, Gibraltar, or the UK for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning.

The EEA includes all the countries and territories listed in [annex A](#).

Although the deadline for most people to apply to EUSS was 30 June 2021, there may be individuals who have reasonable grounds for making a late application to EUSS and there may also be some individuals who have made an EUSS application on time but are still waiting on a final decision on their status from the Home Office, including those that have lodged an appeal. Once a valid application has been made to EUSS (evidenced by receipt of a certificate of application), the applicant will have temporary protection, pending the outcome of that application.

### **EEA and Switzerland frontier workers**

An EEA or Switzerland frontier worker is someone who is employed or self-employed in the UK who resides in the EEA or Switzerland and returns to that residence in the EEA or Switzerland at least once a week.

Frontier workers, and their family members, have an eligible residency status if they have been ordinarily resident in the UK, EEA and/or Switzerland for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning.

A 'family member' of an EEA frontier worker for these purposes is either:

- the husband, wife, civil partner of the EEA frontier worker ('principal') or
- the dependant parent or grandparent of the principal or of the principal's spouse/civil partner or
- the child, grandchild, spouse/civil partner's child or spouse/civil partner's grandchild of the principal who is either:
  - under 21, or
  - dependant on the principal and/or the principal's spouse/civil partner

A 'family member' of a Swiss frontier worker for these purposes is either:

- the husband, wife, civil partner of the Swiss frontier worker ('principal' or
- the child or spouse/civil partner's child of the principal

Unlike other categories, a frontier worker or their eligible family member does not have to be resident in the UK on the first day of learning in order to have an eligible residency status.

## **Family members of EEA or Swiss nationals**

A family member of an EEA national is eligible for funding if:

- where required to do so, they have obtained pre-settled or settled status under EUSS and
- the EEA national (principal) has obtained pre-settled or settled status under EUSS and has been ordinarily resident in the UK, EEA and/or Switzerland for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning

Family members of an EEA or Swiss national can apply to EUSS after 30 June 2021 if they are joining them in the UK on or after 1 April 2021. They have 3 months to apply to EUSS from the date they arrive in the UK. They will have temporary protection and therefore be eligible for funding during those 3 months and pending the outcome of any EUSS application made during that period (and of any appeal). More information on [applying to join a family member in the UK](#) can be found on GOV.UK.

A 'family member' for these purposes is either:

- the husband, wife, civil partner of the EEA national (principal) or
- the dependant parent or grandparent of the principal or of the principal's spouse/civil partner or
- the child, grandchild, spouse/civil partner's child or spouse/civil partner's grandchild of the EEA principal who is either:
  - under 21, or
  - dependant on the principal and/or his/her spouse/civil partner

## **Irish citizens in UK or Republic of Ireland**

Irish citizens in the UK or Republic of Ireland have an eligible residency status if they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands, and/or Republic of Ireland for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning.

## **Irish citizens in EEA and Switzerland**

Irish citizens have an eligible residency status if they:

- resided in the EEA or Switzerland by 31 December 2020 (or resident in the UK, having moved to the UK from EEA or Switzerland after 31 December 2017), and
- resided in the EEA, Switzerland, Gibraltar or the UK for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning and
- remained ordinarily resident in the UK, Gibraltar, the EEA or Switzerland between 31 December 2020 and the start of the course and
- are on a course which starts before January 2028

The EEA includes all the countries and territories listed in [annex A](#).

### **Other non-UK nationals**

Non-UK nationals have an eligible residency status if they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning and:

- have permission granted by the UK government to live in the UK and such permission is not for educational purposes only, or
- have obtained pre-settled or settled status under EUSS

### **Family members of an eligible person of Northern Ireland**

Family members of an eligible person of Northern Ireland<sup>[footnote 3]</sup> have an eligible residency status if:

- they have been living in the UK by 31 December 2020, and
- they have obtained pre-settled or settled status under EUSS, and
- the eligible person of Northern Ireland (principal) has been ordinarily resident in the UK by 31 December 2020, for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning

A 'family member' for these purposes is either:

- the husband, wife, civil partner of the person of Northern Ireland (principal) or
- the dependant parent or grandparent of the principal or of the principal's spouse/civil partner or

- the child, grandchild, spouse/civil partner's child or spouse/civil partner's grandchild of the principal who is either
  - under 21, or
  - dependant on the principal and/or his/her spouse/civil partner

### **Long residence**

A person who, on the first day of learning, has lived in the UK half their life or a period of 20 years or more, where this period of residence is ongoing, has an eligible residency status.

Learners may be able to prove this status via a confirmed entry date from Immigration Control, verified by the Home Office. Alternatively, they may provide evidence that they have been living in the UK for the period in question. This should ideally be from an official and independent source. Examples could include a signed letter on headed paper from someone in a leadership position at the school they attended, a letter from their GP, wage slips or a P45/P60. Providers funding learners under this category should obtain enough evidence to assure themselves beyond reasonable doubt that the learner was living in the UK for the necessary period.

### **Individuals with certain types of immigration status and their family members**

Individuals with any of the statuses listed below, or leave under the listed schemes, has an eligible residency status and is exempt from the 3-year residency requirement rule. In relation to these categories, you must have seen the learner's immigration permission. This would include the biometric residence permit (BRP) and in some cases an accompanying letter from the Home Office.

### **Refugee status**

Individuals with refugee status, where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK.

Family members of individuals with refugee status, as defined below:

- The spouse or civil partner of a person with refugee status is eligible if all of the following apply:

- they were the spouse or civil partner of the person on the asylum application date, and
- have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK
- The child of a person with refugee status to enter or remain, or of the person's spouse or civil partner, is eligible if all of the following apply:
  - they were the person with discretionary leave's child or the child of the person's spouse or civil partner on the asylum application date, and
  - they were under 18 on the asylum application date, and
  - they have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to enter or remain

### **Humanitarian protection status**

Individuals with humanitarian protection status, where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK.

The family members of individuals with humanitarian protection status, as defined below:

- The spouse or civil partner of a person granted humanitarian protection is eligible if all of the following apply:
  - they were the spouse or civil partner of the person on the asylum application date, and
  - have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK
- The child of a person with humanitarian protection status to enter or remain, or of the person's spouse or civil partner, is eligible if:
  - they were the person with humanitarian protection status's child or the child of the person's spouse or civil partner on the asylum application date, and
  - were under 18 on the asylum application date, and



- have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to enter or remain

### **Discretionary leave to enter or remain**

Individuals with discretionary leave to enter or remain, where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK.

- The spouse or civil partner of a person granted discretionary leave to enter or remain is eligible if all of the following apply:
  - they were the spouse or civil partner of the person on the asylum or leave application date, and
  - they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK
- The child of a person with discretionary leave to enter or remain, or of the person's spouse or civil partner, is eligible if:
  - they were the person with discretionary leave's child or the child of the person's spouse or civil partner on the asylum or leave application date, and
  - they were under 18 on the asylum or leave application date, and
  - they have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to enter or remain

### **Extant leave to remain as a stateless person**

Individuals who have extant leave to remain as a stateless person, where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were granted such leave.

Family members of individuals with extant leave to remain as a stateless person, as defined below:

The spouse or civil partner of a person granted stateless leave is eligible if all of the following apply:

- they were the spouse or civil partner of the person on the leave application date, and
- they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK
- The child of a person with stateless leave, or of the person's spouse or civil partner, is eligible if:
  - they were the person with stateless leave's child or the child of the person's spouse or civil partner on the asylum or leave application date, and
  - they were under 18 on the leave application date, and
  - they have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to enter or remain

### **Leave outside the immigration rules**

Individuals with leave outside the immigration rules, where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK.

The spouse or civil partner of a person granted leave outside the rules is eligible if all of the following apply:

- they were the spouse or civil partner of the person on the asylum or leave application date, and
- they have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands throughout the period since they were given leave to enter or remain in the UK

The child of a person with leave outside the rules, or of the person's spouse or civil partner, is eligible if:

- they were the person with leave outside the rules' child or the child of the person's spouse or civil partner on the asylum or leave application date, and
- they were under 18 on the asylum or leave application date, and
- they have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to enter or remain

## Ukraine schemes

Persons granted leave under one of the Ukraine schemes:

- individuals with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme
- individuals with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine)
- individuals with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Ukraine Extension Scheme
- individuals with leave to remain in the UK under the Ukraine Permission Extension Scheme

## Afghan schemes

Persons granted leave under one of the Afghan schemes:

- individuals with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS)
- individuals with leave to enter or remain in the UK under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP)
- British Nationals evacuated from Afghanistan under Operation Pitting
- British Nationals evacuated from Afghanistan by the UK government before 6 January 2022

## Additional leave to remain

Individuals with indefinite leave to remain or enter granted:

- as a victim of domestic abuse where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to remain<sup>[footnote 4]</sup>
- as a bereaved partner, where they have been ordinarily resident in the UK since they were given leave to remain or enter<sup>[footnote 5]</sup>
- under Section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 leave<sup>[footnote 6]</sup>
- under Calais leave to remain<sup>[footnote 7]</sup>

## **British Indian Ocean Territory**

British citizens who were born in the British Indian Ocean Territory or, prior to 8 November 1965, in those islands designated as the British Indian Ocean Territory on that date, or are direct descendants of a person who was born in the British Indian Ocean Territory or, prior to 8 November 1965, in those islands designated as the British Indian Ocean Territory on that date.

## **Children of Turkish workers**

A child of a Turkish worker is eligible if both the following apply:

- the Turkish worker is ordinarily resident in the UK on or before 31 December 2020 and has Turkish European Community Association Agreement (ECAA) rights or extended ECAA leave and
- the child has been ordinarily resident in the UK, EEA and/or Turkey for at least the previous 3 years on the first day of learning and is resident in the UK on or before 31 December 2020

## **Asylum seekers**

Asylum seekers are eligible to receive funding if they:

- have lived in the UK for 6 months or longer while their claim is being considered by the Home Office, and no decision on their claim has been made, or
- are receiving local authority support under [section 23C](#) or [section 23CA of the Children Act 1989](#) or the [Care Act 2014](#)

An individual who has been refused asylum will be eligible if:

- they have appealed against a decision made by the UK government against granting refugee status and no decision has been made within 6 months of lodging the appeal, or
- they are granted support for themselves under [section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#), or
- are receiving local authority support for themselves under [section 23C](#) or [section 23CA of the Children Act 1989](#)

## **No recourse to public funds conditions**

The learner's immigration permission in the UK may have a 'no recourse to public funds' condition. Public funds does not include education or education funding.

Therefore, this does not affect a learner's eligibility, which must be decided under the normal eligibility conditions.

## **Individuals who are not eligible for funding**

You must not claim funding for individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out in the [residency eligibility](#) section. Examples of individuals who do not meet the eligibility criteria include the following. Please note this list is not exhaustive:

- those who are here without authority or lawful status
- those who are resident in the UK on a student visa unless they are eligible through meeting any other of the categories described above
- those who are in the UK on holiday, with or without a visa
- any family member of a person granted a student visa, who have been given immigration permission to stay in the UK and have not been ordinarily resident in the UK for the previous 3 years on the first day of learning
- those whose biometric residence permit or residence permit imposes a study prohibition or restriction on the individual

## **Learners in the armed forces**

British armed forces personnel, Ministry of Defence personnel or civil and crown servants resident in England, who meet the criteria in the [who we fund](#) section, are eligible for ESFA funded ASF where learning takes place in England.

Members of other nations' armed forces stationed in England, and their family members, aged 19 and over, are eligible for ESFA funded ASF, set out in the [who we fund](#) section, if the armed forces individual has been ordinarily resident in England for the previous 3 years on the first day of learning. We will not fund family members that remain outside of England.

# Annex B: Eligibility for Funding

This Annex details the countries falling within the below categories as referenced in the Residency link of the [ESFA Adult skills fund: funding rules 2024 to 2025](#).

## British Overseas Territories:

- Anguilla
- Bermuda
- British Antarctic Territory
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Falkland Islands
- Gibraltar
- Montserrat
- Pitcairn, Henderson Island, Ducie and Oeno Islands
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Isles
- St Helena and its dependencies (Ascension and Tristan da Cunha)
- Turks and Caicos Islands

## EEA:

The EEA comprises of the following countries:

- All Member States of the European Union You can access a list of member states on the [EU website](#).
- With respect to EEA nationality, note that any Cypriot national living on any part of the island qualifies for EU residency and is considered an EU national.
- Iceland
- Lichtenstein
- Norway

## **Territories categorised as being within the EU:**

Territories that are categorised as being part of listed countries such that they satisfy our residency requirements for the purposes of the ASF funding rules are:

Denmark, including

- Greenland
- Faroe Islands

Finland, including

- Aland islands

France, including

- the French Overseas Department (DOMS) (Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana (Guyana), Reunion and Saint-Pierre et Miquelon)
- New Caledonia and its dependencies French Polynesia
- Saint Barthélemy

Germany, including

- Tax-free port of Heligoland

Netherlands, including

- Antilles (Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St Eustatius and St Maarten)
- Aruba

Portugal, including

- Madeira
- The Azores

Spain, including

- the Balearic Islands,
- the Canary Islands,
- Ceuta

- Melilla

To note: Andorra, Macau, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican are not part of the EU or EEA.



# Annex C – Definitions used in the Adult Skills Fund

## Full level 2

Level 2 is the level of attainment which, is demonstrated by:

- A General Certificate of Secondary Education in five subjects, each at grade C or above, or grade 4 or above, or
- Technical Certificate at level 2 which meets the requirements for the 16 to 19 performance tables.

If a resident aged 19 to 23 has achieved a level 2 qualification that was, at the time they started, or still is, classed as a full level 2 then any subsequent level 2 qualifications will be co-funded. If a qualification gained overseas is comparable / compatible with a regulated qualification in England, currently part of the level 2 and level 3 19 to 23 legal entitlement, the resident will be deemed to have achieved their first level 2 and / or level 3 qualification.

## Full level 3

Level 3 is the Level of attainment which is demonstrated by a:

- General Certificate of Education at the advanced level in two subjects, or
- General Certificate of Education at the AS Level in four subjects, or
- QAA Access to Higher Education (HE) Diploma at level 3, or
- Tech level; or applied general qualification at level 3 which meets the requirements for the 16 to 19 performance tables, or
- Core maths qualification at level 3.

If a resident aged 19 to 23 has achieved a level 3 qualification, that was, at the time they started, or still is, classed as a full level 3, and wants to enrol on any subsequent level 3 qualification, of any size, they will have to either apply for an advanced resident loan or pay for their own learning. The only exception to this is if the resident aged 19 to 23 is enrolling on a subsequent level 3 qualification that is contained within the GM local Level 3 list.

When a resident starts an AS Level qualification and intends to continue through to a full A Level in the same subject, the funding of both the AS and A Levels will be treated as if they were a single qualification. This must be set out in their learning agreement and the learning must be in consecutive funding years.

## **Eligible qualifications**

Where you deliver regulated qualifications and / or their components you must ensure they are eligible for ASF funding and available on [Find a Learning Aim](#) or the [Qualifications](#) website. Certain qualifications that meet statutory employer requirements or a licence to practice are eligible for unemployed or economically inactive residents that meet the criteria that identifies unemployed or economically inactive residents earlier in this document.

Before delivering a component, you must check with the awarding organisation that they provide a facility for the resident to be registered on it and the resident can achieve it alone or as part of accumulating achievement towards a qualification.

## **Non-regulated learning**

Where you deliver non-regulated learning, you must ensure it is eligible for funding. Such learning could include:

- Independent living skills or engagement learning supporting adults to operate confidently and effectively in life and work;
- Locally-commissioned and / or locally-developed basic knowledge and skills needed to access technical qualifications;
- Employability and labour market re-entry;
- Locally-commissioned and / or locally-devised technical education short courses (also known as taster sessions);
- Community learning courses;
- Basic digital skills courses for learners who are not yet ready to do an Entry Level Essential Digital Skills (EDSQ) qualification or higher.

The eligibility principles we apply to non-regulated learning are as follows.

- It must not be provision linked to UK visa requirements;

- It must not be provision linked to statutory employer requirements (including a licence to practice) unless there is an agreed concession in place;
- It must not be vendor-specific provision which is linked to a particular employer or commercial system;
- It must not be learning that should be part of a resident's experience, such as an 'induction to college';
- It must not be a non-regulated version of a regulated qualification;
- It must not be above notional level 2 (that is, at notional levels 3 or 4);
- At notional level 2 or 3 it must focus on technical provision.

Where you are delivering non-regulated learning, you must ensure you have appropriate and robust quality assurance processes in place. For instance, 'The Recognising and Recording Progress and Achievement (RARPA) Cycle'. Further information on RARPA is available from the [Learning and Work Institute](#).

## Annex D – Tailored Learning

The purpose of tailored learning is to develop the skills, confidence, motivation and resilience of adults of different ages and backgrounds in order to:

- Progress towards formal learning or employment; and / or
- Improve their health and well-being, including mental health; and / or
- Develop stronger communities.

GMCA expect that the acquisition of skills gained through tailored learning should prepare residents for a range of next steps, including progress towards further learning, employment or self-employment. Tailored learning courses must be appropriate for the resident, have clear pathways identified and lead to progression.

GMCA is continuing to review the provision of tailored learning and is engaging with local authorities and skills providers to gain an understanding of, for example:

- The rationale and intent of tailored learning provision
- Whether the provision is mapped to individual local authority work and skills priorities and strategic plans
- The expected outcomes and progression routes
- What courses are delivered and the venues they are delivered at.

GMCA will share these conclusions with Local Authorities and tailored learning providers, and will consult further to develop a fair and consistent approach across GM in relation to, for example:

- The concept of 'Learning in the Community', i.e. utilising both Adult Skills and Tailored Learning funding models in the community
- The expected level of funding per resident,
- An appropriate level of tailored learning provision in each Local Authority area to meet the level of demand
- Ensuring the provision matches the priorities of the local area
- Expected involvement of stakeholders

## Learning in Local Communities – Provision

For activity claimed using the ‘non-formula funded’ approach, ILR data must be recorded using Funding model code 11.

For activity similar to learning in the community delivered through the ASF formula funded approach, you must follow the requirements for the Adult Skills funding model (Funding model 38) set out in the ILR specification and this guidance document.

### Non-formula funding

Where applicable, your ASF allocation will include an amount of non-formula tailored learning funding. We state this value in your Grant Agreement / Contract for Services. You must deliver non-formula funded tailored learning provision in line with the existing tailored learning objectives set out below, up to this maximum amount.

Non-formula tailored learning funding is paid on a monthly profile. You must ‘attribute costs’ for eligible residents, up to the value of your non-formula tailored learning allocation. This should include the cost of delivering learning and any support costs, in line with learner and learning support. You must record these costs in the resident’s learning plan.

If we fund you through a grant or financial memorandum, you have the flexibility to use all, or some, of your non-formula tailored learning funding in line with the ASF formula-funded methodology (fund model 38), to meet local demand.

You can use this amount of non-formula learning funding (stated in your grant agreement) to deliver non-regulated provision that may be similar to tailored learning. If you do, you must:

- Follow the ASF formula-funded methodology and submit ILR data under fund model 38; and
- Enrol residents following the ASF eligibility requirements set out in the table at paragraph 2.24 and paragraphs 2.25 to 2.41 in this document, you must not use your tailored learning local fee remission policy.

If we fund your organisation through a Contract for Services, you do not have this flexibility, and we will reclaim unspent non-formula tailored learning funding at year-

end. You must not use non-formula tailored learning funding for learning that is eligible for funding through an advanced learner loan.

## **Local fee remission policy**

You must have in place and operate a fair and transparent tailored learning local fee remission policy that requires individuals to pay a course / tuition / joining fee, but also sets out clear eligibility criteria for those individuals who, due to their circumstances, qualify for either partial or total fee remission. Your Local Fee remission policies must be available on your website and / or in the venues you deliver community learning to eligible residents.

## **Partnership working**

Partnership working underpins the objectives of learning in the community and is critical to developing and delivering an effective community-based offer in a given locality.

You must engage and work closely with a wide range of relevant partners and stakeholders in your local area to help shape your offer to engage specific groups. These could include specialist partners and voluntary / community / social enterprise (VCSE) organisations.

We expect you to work with other providers in your local area, who may be in receipt of non-formula tailored funding. We expect you to develop a strategic, efficient learning offer to reduce duplication of courses in a locality, and signpost residents to other partners as and when appropriate.

## **Objectives of learning in the community**

- Focus public funding on people who are disadvantaged and least likely to participate, including in rural areas and people on low incomes with low skills
- Collect fee income from people who can afford to pay and use where possible to extend provision to those who cannot.
- Widen participation and transform people's destinies by supporting progression relevant to personal circumstances, e.g.
  - Improved confidence and willingness to engage in learning

- Acquisition of skills preparing people for training, employment or self-employment
- Improved digital, financial literacy and / or communication skills
- Parents/carers better equipped to support and encourage their children's learning
- Improved/maintained health and / or social well-being
- Develop stronger communities, with more self-sufficient, connected and proactive citizens, leading to:
  - Increased volunteering, civic engagement and social integration
  - Reduced costs on welfare, health and anti-social behaviour
  - Increased online learning and self-organised learning
  - The lives of our most troubled families being turned around
- Commission, deliver and support learning in ways that contribute directly to these objectives, including:
  - Bringing together people from backgrounds, cultures and income groups, including people who can/cannot afford to pay
  - Using effective local partnerships to bring together key providers and relevant local agencies and services
  - Devolving planning and accountability to neighbourhood/parish level, with local people involved in decisions about the learning offer
  - Involving volunteers and Voluntary and Community Sector groups, shifting long term, 'blocked' classes into learning clubs, growing self-organised learning groups, and encouraging employers to support informal learning in the workplace
  - Supporting the wide use of online information and learning resources
  - Minimising overheads, bureaucracy & administration

## **Learner Outcomes of tailored learning courses**

Learner outcomes of tailored learning courses must be reported on the ILR when a learner completes or withdraws from the learning activity as detailed in the [2024 to 2025 ILR specification](#) to demonstrate how tailored learning is supporting residents.

The outcome areas are defined as follows:

- Increased confidence - Improved belief, or reduced doubt, in ones' abilities.
- Improved skills for progressing to further learning - Skills to enable learners to progress to further learning; and can include generic skills such as study skills and/or sector specific or technical skills.
- Improved skills for work - Skills to enable a learner to gain and sustain employment; and can include generic employability skills and/or sector specific or technical skills.
- Improved essential skills - Essential skills are defined as English (or ESOL), maths and digital skills.
- Improved ability to support a child's learning - Parent/carer more active in the support of their child's learning and development, and better equipped to support and encourage their children's learning.
- Improved physical health - Improved or maintained physical health. Maintained physical health is where health would have deteriorated without the learner participating in the learning programme or engagement.
- Improved mental health and well-being - Improved or maintained mental health and well-being. Maintained mental health is where health would have deteriorated without the learner participating in the learning programme or engagement.
- Improved skills to participate in community life - Learners have the knowledge and skills to take an active role in their local community.
- Increased understanding of democratic values - Learner understands the fundamental British values.
- Improved skills for Independent Living - The skills that learners need to live a life with agency; usually with a focus on life outside of work.
- No Outcome Area – the learner has completed or withdrawn from learning without achieving any of the Outcome Areas 1-10.



## Annex E – Glossary

The term ‘we’ refers to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA).

The term ‘you’ or ‘providers’ includes FE & Sixth form colleges, higher education institutions, training organisations, local authorities, employers and all other organisations who receive funding from GMCA to deliver education and training through the devolved ASF. We will use the generic term ‘you’ or ‘provider’ unless the requirements only apply to a specific provider type.

Glossary Term	Meaning
<b>20+ childcare</b>	A category of learner support to assist residents aged over the age of 20 who are at risk of not starting learning or leaving learning due to issues in obtaining childcare. ASF funded residents aged 19 who require support with the costs of childcare can apply for assistance through the Care to Learn scheme.
<b>Adult funding methodology</b>	The GMCA funding methodology for residents aged 19 and over, participating in ASF learning.
<b>Advanced learner loan</b>	Advanced learner loans are available for residents aged 19 or above to undertake approved qualifications at levels 3 to level 6, at an approved provider in England. Advanced resident loans give residents access to financial support for tuition costs similar to that available in higher education and are administered by Student Finance England.
<b>Blended learning</b>	Blended learning is an approach to education that combines online educational materials and opportunities for interaction online with traditional place-based classroom methods. It requires the physical presence of both teacher and student, with some elements of student control over time, place, path, or pace.
<b>Break in learning</b>	When a resident is not continuing with their learning but has told you beforehand that they intend to resume their learning in the future.
<b>Care to Learn</b>	A Department for Education (DfE) scheme to assist young parents under the age of 20 with the childcare costs that may form a barrier to them continuing in education.

<b>Components of regulated learning</b>	A subset of a qualification, which could be a unit.
<b>Contract for Services</b>	Funding agreement for providers not paid through a grant agreement.
<b>Devolved Area Monitoring (DAM) Code</b>	Codes entered into the ILR to identify devolved activity and GMCA devolved flexibilities.
<b>Digital Entitlement</b>	Fully funded qualifications available to all GM residents for digital/IT courses up to Level 2. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential Digital Skills qualifications (at Entry Level and Level 1)</li> <li>• Level 2 ICT for User qualifications.</li> </ul>
<b>Digital remote education</b>	Teaching is undertaken remotely using a digital platform.
<b>Direct costs of learning</b>	Any costs for items without which it would be impossible for the resident to complete their learning aim. This can include the costs of registration, examination or any other activities or materials without which the resident cannot achieve their programme of study.
<b>Distance learning</b>	Learning delivered away from the resident's main place of employment or place of learning.
<b>Earnings adjustment statement (EAS)</b>	The form providers need to fill in to claim funding that cannot be claimed through the Individualised Learner Record.
<b>Earnings threshold</b>	The threshold that enables residents to be fully funded if they earn below £25,000 for core devolved ASF activities and £32,200 for Adult Skills Level 3.
<b>Education Health &amp; Care Plan (EHCP)</b>	An EHCP replaces statements of special educational needs and learning difficulty assessments for children and young people with special educational needs. The local authority has the legal duty to 'secure' the educational provision specified in the EHC plan, that is, to ensure that the provision is delivered

<b>Employed</b>	A resident who has a contract of employment. This does not include residents who are self-employed.
<b>English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)</b>	The study of English by speakers of other languages.
<b>ESFA</b>	Education & Skills Funding Agency
<b>European Economic Area (EEA)</b>	The European Economic Area, abbreviated as EEA, consists of the Member States of the European Union (EU) and 3 countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway; excluding Switzerland). The Agreement on the EEA entered into force on 1 January 1994. Please refer to Appendix A for more information.
<b>EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (EU-UK TCA)</b>	UK/EU and EAEC: Trade and Cooperation Agreements [TS No.8/2021]
<b>Exceptional learning support</b>	Learning support when the needs of the resident cost more than £19,000 in a single funding year.
<b>Find a learning aim</b>	<a href="#">Find a learning aim</a> provides online services to find the latest information on available qualifications, apprenticeship standards, T Levels and units. Standards will show you information on funding, dates and common components. Qualifications and units show you funding streams for courses and the last date learners can start.
<b>Full level 2</b>	The following qualifications are designated full at level 2: A General Certificate of Secondary Education in five subjects, each at grade C or above, or grade 4 or above, or a Technical Certificate at level 2 which meets or has previously met the requirements for the 16 to 19 performance tables.
<b>Full level 3</b>	The following qualifications are designated full at level 3: a General Certificate of Education at the advanced level in two subjects, or a General Certificate of Education at the AS Level in four subjects, or a QAA Access to Higher Education (HE) Diploma

	<p>at level 3 or a Technical or applied general qualification at level 3 which meets the requirements or has previously met the requirements for the 16 to 19 performance tables.</p> <p>A core maths qualification at level 3.</p>
<b>Functional skills</b>	<p>Applied practical skills in English, maths and ICT that provide the resident with the essential knowledge, skills and understanding to enable them to operate effectively and independently in life and work.</p>
<b>Funding and delivery profile</b>	<p>Includes the conditions of funding (grant) or Contract for Services; and the delivery profile you have reached with the GMCA.</p>
<b>Grant funded providers</b>	<p>Providers with a financial grant agreement</p>
<b>Guided learning</b>	<p>As defined by Ofqual: “The activity of the resident in being taught or instructed by – otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision or – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.</p> <p>For these purposes the activity of ‘participating in education and training’ shall be treated as including the activity of being assessed if the assessment takes place under the immediate guidance or supervision of a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.” You can find more information in the Ofqual General Conditions of Recognition September 2016.</p>
<b>Hardship</b>	<p>Within learner support, a category of support to assist vulnerable and disadvantaged residents to remove barriers to education and training.</p>
<b>Immigration status</b>	<p>The permissions, or otherwise, granted by the government of the United Kingdom for a resident to reside here.</p>
<b>Individualised Learner Record (ILR)</b>	<p>The primary data collection requested from learning providers for further education and work-based learning in England. The data is used widely, most notably by the government, to monitor policy</p>

	implementation and the performance of the sector. It is also used by organisations that allocate funding for further education.
<b>Information, advice and guidance (IAG)</b>	Services available to residents to enable them to consider further learning opportunities, progression and career choices.
<b>Job outcome payments</b>	Payments made for residents who are unemployed or economically inactive at the start of learning who cease learning to take up a job.
<b>Learner file</b>	A collection of documents and information brought together to form a single point of reference relating to the learning that is taking place. This provides the evidence to prove that the resident exists and is eligible for funding, and for the learning to be provided.
<b>Learning aims</b>	A single episode of learning which could be a regulated qualification, a component of a regulated qualification or nonregulated learning.
<b>Learning support</b>	Funding to enable providers to put in place a reasonable adjustment, set out in the Equality Act 2010, for residents with an identified learning difficulty and / or disability to achieve their learning goal.
<b>Learner support</b>	Funding to enable providers to support residents with a specific financial hardship that might prevent them from being able to start or complete their learning.
<b>Learning aim reference number</b>	The unique eight-digit code used to identify a specific learning aim.
<b>Local flexibility</b>	Regulated qualifications, and or their components, and non-regulated learning that the ESFA funds, that is not part of the English and maths, or level 2 or level 3 legal entitlement offer. All regulated and non-regulated learning that is available for funding through the flexible local offer is listed on The Hub.
<b>Non-regulated learning</b>	Learning which is not subject to awarding organisation external accreditation in the form of a regulated qualification. It may be

	<p>designed, delivered and certificated by a provider or another organisation. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent living skills and engagement learning</li> <li>• Employability and work skills</li> <li>• Labour market re-entry</li> <li>• Technical education tasters</li> <li>• Essential skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL)</li> <li>• Tailored learning</li> </ul>
<b>Ofqual</b>	The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation which regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England.
<b>Ordinarily resident</b>	For funding purposes, a person who normally lives in the United Kingdom, are allowed to live there by law, and return there after temporary trips outside the country. Temporary absences from a country due to the resident or a relevant family member working or travelling abroad would be discounted when considering ordinary residency.
<b>Personal learning record (PLR)</b>	A database which allows residents access to their past and current achievement records. These can be shared with schools, colleges, further education training providers, universities or employers.
<b>Planned learning end date</b>	The date entered onto the Individualised Learner record (ILR) when the resident is expected to complete their learning.
<b>Programmes</b>	A coherent package of learning which may include regulated qualifications, components of regulated qualifications or nonregulated learning with clearly stated aims supporting agreed outcomes.
<b>Provision</b>	Refers to all learning that we fund, whether it is a regulated qualification or other learning that is not a regulated qualification as detailed in the ESFA <a href="#">Find a learning aim</a> or as agreed with GMCA.

<b>Qualifications</b>	Either from the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) or an Access to Higher Education Diploma recognised and regulated by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).
<b>Recognising and recording progress and achievement (RARPA)</b>	The Learning and Work Institute have undertaken a consultation on the RARPA Cycle and have published updated RARPA Guidance. This comprises a clear framework designed to support residents through the learning process, identifying key outcomes. It provides a robust approach to quality control and improvement of non-regulated provision with a focus on self-assessment that supports standards acceptable to the Office of Standards in Education (Ofsted). You can access further information from The Learning and Work Institute.
<b>Recognition of prior learning (RPL)</b>	An assessment method that considers whether a resident can demonstrate that they can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet the outcomes for a qualification or a component of a</li> <li>• Qualification through knowledge, understanding or</li> <li>• Skills they already have and so do not need to undertake a course of learning for that component or qualification.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)</b>	The RQF provides a way of understanding and describing the relative level and size of qualifications. The RQF, operated by Ofqual, is a single regulatory framework containing a range of general, technical and professional qualifications.
<b>GMCA Register of training organisations (the Register)</b>	A register that provides assurance on organisations that have a grant or contract for service with GMCA
<b>Resident</b>	Someone who has a home postcode in the GMCA
<b>Residential Support</b>	Support provided under learner support to residents receiving specialist provision which involves a residential element, or to support residents who cannot receive provision locally.
<b>Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)</b>	The RQF provides a way of understanding and describing the relative Level and size of qualifications. The RQF, operated by

	Ofqual, is a single regulatory framework containing a range of general, technical and professional qualifications.
<b>Sector-based Work Academy Programme</b>	A DWP scheme that offers pre-employment training, work experience placements and a guaranteed job interview for recipients of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Universal Credit (all work-related requirements group) or Employment and Support Allowance.
<b>Senior responsible person</b>	For example: chief executive, managing director, principal or their equivalent.
<b>Remote education</b>	Remote education occurs when the learner and instructor, or source of information, are separated by time and distance and therefore cannot meet in a traditional classroom setting
<b>Self-certification</b>	A process where the resident is able to confirm something through their own signature.
<b>Small or medium sized enterprise (SME)</b>	The category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises made up of enterprises that employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million euros, and / or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding 43 million euros.
<b>Start of learning</b>	The date on which learning begins. We do not consider enrolment, induction, diagnostic assessment or prior assessment to be part of learning.
<b>State benefits</b>	State benefits are contributions, both financial and nonfinancial, made by central and local government to residents in certain circumstances to meet their day-to-day living needs.
<b>Statutory entitlement</b>	The statutory entitlement to education and training allows residents to be fully funded who are aged: 19 and over, who have not achieved a Grade A*-C, grade 4, or higher, and study for a qualification in English or maths up to and including level 2 and 19 to 23, if they study for a first qualification at level 2 and / or level 3 and 19 and over, who have digital skills assessed at below level 2.
<b>Sub-contractor</b>	A separate legal entity that has an agreement with you to deliver any element of the education and training we fund. A separate



	legal entity includes companies in your group, other associated companies and sole traders. It also includes residents who are self-employed or supplied by an employment agency, unless those residents are working under your direction and control, in the same way as your own employees.
<b>Sub-contracting</b>	Refers to the contracting out of specific elements of provision to a third party by a lead organisation which holds a contract with GMCA. It is not expected that second-level sub-contracting will feature other than in exceptional cases or in response to sudden unexpected circumstances which might affect the local employment landscape or a provider's previously identified supply chain.
<b>Subsidy control</b>	In place of the EU State aid rules and as part of the new EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, the UK has committed to introducing its own domestic subsidy control regime, which must respect certain key principles designed to ensure a 'level playing field for open and fair competition and sustainable development' between the UK and the EU. On 28 April 2022 the Subsidy Control Act 2022 received Royal Assent and it came into force on 4 January 2023.
<b>Subsidy Control Act 2022</b>	The subsidy control regime which replaces the EU State aid rules and which came into force on 4 January 2023.
<b>Synchronous education</b>	Synchronous learning refers to a learning event in which a group of students are engaging in learning at the same time.
<b>Tailored learning</b>	Tailored learning is non-formula funded learning (formerly known as community learning). The primary purpose of tailored learning is to support learners into employment and to progress to further learning, in line with the overall purpose of the ASF. It will, however, also support wider outcomes including using it to improve health and wellbeing, equip parents/carers to support their child's learning and develop stronger and more integrated communities.

<b>UK Provider Reference Number (UKPRN)</b>	A number given to all providers by the UK register of learning providers to enable them to be easily identified.
<b>Unique resident number</b>	A 10-digit number used to match a resident's achievement to their personal learning record (PLR).
<b>Work Programme</b>	A government programme operated by the Department for Work and Pensions aimed at getting long-term unemployed residents into work.

# Annex F - Summary of main changes to the GMCA ASF Funding and Performance Management Rules 2023-2024

We have highlighted the changes made in the latest version of the GMCA ASF Funding and Performance Management Rules compared to the previous version we published in May 2024 in the table below.

Please note this is not an exhaustive list of all changes. You must refer to the main document for the definitive rules, which apply to all providers of education and training who receive funding from the Secretary of State for Education acting through the ESFA.

If you have a specific query on the funding and performance management rules, please email the [GreaterManchesterAEB@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:GreaterManchesterAEB@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) or speak to your Performance and Contract Officer.

Section	Paragraph	Change
1	1.8	GMCA will not be implementing the national changes to the funding rates for core ASF activities. Instead, GMCA will continue to apply a 6.5% funding rate uplift to the existing 2023/24 matrix rates.
1	1.8	Adult Skills is recorded as Funding Model 38 in the ILR.
1	1.9	GMCA will not be implementing the national approach to tailored learning. Only non-regulated community learning aims can be selected for tailored learning and recorded on the ILR as Funding model 11.
1	1.12	GMCA will fully fund all GM residents aged 19+ to undertake their first level 2 qualification.

1	1.13	GMCA has expanded its British Sign Language (BSL) flexibility allowing a wider range of GM residents to be fully-funded to undertake BSL qualifications.
1	1.14	An introduction to the GM earnings threshold.
1	1.18	An introduction to the GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot approach.
2	2.18	Residents aged 19 or above on or before the start date of their course will be eligible for GMCA devolved ASF funding.
2	2.23 to 2.24	Information for Grant Funded Institutions and Lot 1 Core Devolved ASF Contract for Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GMCA definition of unemployed / economically inactive residents</li> <li>• The level of GMCA funding contribution to unemployed / economically inactive GM residents.</li> </ul>
2	2.25 to 2.28	Information for Grant Funded Institutions and Lot 2 Core Devolved ASF Contract for Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GMCA definition of an employed / self-employed GM resident.</li> <li>• The level of funding contribution to employed / self-employed GM residents.</li> </ul>
2	2.29 to 2.31	Information for Grant Funded Institutions and Contract for Services providers delivering the GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot offer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents eligible to access full funding to undertake qualifications from the level 3 combined qualification list.</li> </ul>

2	2.38	Confirmation of the GM earnings threshold: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £25,000 for core devolved ASF</li> <li>• £32,200 for Adult Skills Level 3</li> </ul>
2	2.80	Providers must report tailored learning activities on the ILR under one of the specific purpose types listed at this paragraph.
2	2.81	A list of learning aims GMCA will accept to be reported as tailored learning on the ILR.
2	2.82	Providers must report the learning outcomes of tailored learning courses on the ILR under the outcome areas listed at this paragraph.
2	2.83	A paragraph detailing what tailored learning cannot be used to fund learning for.
2	2.91 to 2.93	GMCA has expanded the level 2 qualification offer and will fully fund all 19+ residents to undertake their first level 2 qualification (full or not full).
2	2.96	GMCA has expanded its British Sign Language (BSL) flexibility allowing a wider range of GM residents to be fully-funded to undertake BSL qualifications.
2	2.106 to 2.114	A new section clarifying the resident eligibility criteria to access full funding for provision under the GM Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot offer.
2	2.120	Clarification that GMCA will fund the DBS check on Adult Skills Level 3 Single Pot activity.
2	2.120	An increase to £45 in the rate set per learner to undertake a DBS check.

2	2.148 to 2.151	Guidance and confirmation that providers can use learner support to provide further help with childcare costs for 19-year-olds in receipt of Care to Learn.
2	2.154	Providers must not use their core devolved ASF allocation to fund 19-23 year old traineeships as GMCA are currently considering the development of a 19-23 year old traineeship offer.
4	4.9	GMCA have changed the number and frequency of Performance Monitoring Points.
4	4.14	For Contract for Services providers only: Information for providers who have exceeded their individual local authority funding allocation
4	4.15	For Contract for Services providers only: GMCA are reviewing what is considered when deciding to offer a plus one contract extension.
4	4.19	GMCA has re-classified the Performance Management Framework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 3 - Formal Action – Performance Improvement Notice</li> <li>• Level 4 - Termination</li> </ul>



**Report to CABINET**

## **Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023-24**

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Taylor, Cabinet Member Decent Homes

**Officer Contact:** Paul Clifford, Director of Economy

**Report Author:** Clare Davison, Strategic Planning and Information  
**Ext.** 4139

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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### **Reason for Decision**

To approve the publication of the Oldham's Monitoring Report (AMR) 2023 - 2024.

### **Executive Summary**

Under Regulation 34 and 35 of The Town and Country (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 local planning authorities must make monitoring information available for inspection as soon as possible after the information becomes available. The Monitoring Report covers the previous financial year that is 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. In terms of housing land supply, the Monitoring Report presents the position as at 1 April 2024.

Oldham's Monitoring Report is attached as Appendix One.

In line with the Regulations the Monitoring Report provides details on whether the council is meeting the milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for preparing the various Local Plan documents. Performance is monitored against the LDS that was in place at the start of the monitoring period. The Monitoring Report also monitors a range of planning indicators, such as housing, employment and biodiversity, which seek to assess the effectiveness of the council's land-use planning policies, and whether they are achieving their objectives and delivering sustainable development. This is our 20<sup>th</sup> Monitoring Report.

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In addition, this year's AMR includes the Places for Everyone (PfE) Monitoring Report at Appendix 2. The Places for Everyone (PfE) Joint Development Plan 2022 - 2039 is the strategic spatial plan for nine Greater Manchester local authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), and as such sets out a collective planning policy framework across the nine PfE local authorities. The PfE was adopted with effect from 21 March 2024.

The PfE Plan forms part of the nine Local Authority development plans and is used to assess individual planning applications. Local plans need to be consistent with it and neighbourhood plans need to be in general conformity with the plan's strategic policies. The monitoring framework for PfE is set out in Tables 12.1 to 12.7 of PfE. The monitoring report assesses the performance of the PfE against the indicators and policy outcomes in the monitoring framework.

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended to approve the Monitoring Report 2023 - 2024 for publication.



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## Oldham's Monitoring Report and Infrastructure Funding Statement 2023-24

### 1 Background

- 1.1 Under Regulation 34 and 35 of The Town and Country (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 local planning authorities must make monitoring information available for inspection as soon as possible after the information becomes available, through the publication of the authorities Monitoring Report. This Monitoring Report covers the previous financial year that is 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. In terms of housing land supply, the Monitoring Report presents the position as at 1 April 2024.
- 1.2 Oldham's Monitoring Report is attached at Appendix One.
- 1.3 In line with the Regulations the Monitoring Report provides details on whether the council is meeting the milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for preparing the various Local Plan documents. Performance is monitored against the LDS that was in place at the start of the monitoring period. The Monitoring Report also monitors a range of planning indicators, such as housing, employment and biodiversity, which seek to assess the effectiveness of the council's land-use planning policies, and whether they are achieving their objectives and delivering sustainable development. This is our 20<sup>th</sup> Monitoring Report.
- 1.4 In addition, this years AMR includes the Places for Everyone (PfE) Monitoring Report as an appendix. The Places for Everyone (PfE) Joint Development Plan 2022 - 2039 is the strategic spatial plan for nine Greater Manchester local authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), and as such sets out a collective planning policy framework across the nine PfE local authorities. The PfE was adopted with effect from 21 March 2024.
- 1.5 The PfE Plan forms part of the nine Local Authority development plans and is used to assess individual planning applications. Local plans need to be consistent with it and neighbourhood plans need to be in general conformity with the plan's strategic policies. The monitoring framework for PfE is set out in Tables 12.1 to 12.7 of PfE. The monitoring report assesses the performance of the PfE against the indicators and policy outcomes in the monitoring framework. It should be noted that it is the first Monitoring Report of PfE and it establishes the baseline at the point of adoption of the PfE in March 2024. Nevertheless, where possible, indicators have been reported on from the start of the PfE plan period in 2022.

### 2 Current Position

- 2.1 The key indicator results from Oldham's AMR this year are as follows:

#### Employment

- 27,848 sqm of industrial and commercial floorspace was completed.
- The total amount of employment land available for industrial and commercial use (Use Classes Order Eg)i), B2 and B8) as at 31 March 2024 was 100.72 ha. The total consists of 28.72 ha of saved UDP Business and Industry allocations, 30.86 ha of sites that are not allocations but have planning permission for employment use and are either unimplemented or under construction and 41.14 ha of land allocated for employment within Places for Everyone.

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## Housing

- Places for Everyone (PfE) was adopted on 21 March 2024. PfE sets out Oldham's housing requirement for 2022 to 2039 (the PfE plan period). Policy JP-H1 identifies a stepped housing requirement (minimum) for Oldham of 404 homes per year for 2022-2025, 680 homes per year for 2025-2030, and 772 homes per year for 2030-2039. This equates to an annual average of 680 new homes per year.
- The housing requirement of 404 homes per year applies to the assessment of housing delivery for 2023/24 – the base year for this monitoring report – in line with the PfE stepped housing requirement.
- As per paragraph 76 of the current NPPF, local planning authorities are not required to identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing for decision making purposes if: (a) their adopted plan is less than five years old; and (b) that adopted plan identified at least a five year supply of specific, deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded. PfE is less than five years old (being adopted on 21 March 2024) and identified a five-year supply of specific deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded. Further information on the PfE housing requirement is set out with JP-H1 of PfE.
- As of 1 April 2024, the borough's five-year housing land supply contains sufficient land to accommodate 3,520 dwellings before taking into account the clearance allowance. This equates to a 5.6-year supply of deliverable housing land.
- An update of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) demonstrates that there is a housing land supply of 13,475 dwellings.
- In 2023/24 there were 420 net housing completions.
- 55% of completions during 2023/24 took place on previously developed land. A further 103 dwellings or 25% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on mixed sites which contain both previously developed and greenfield land. Therefore 80% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on PDL or mixed sites. The number of dwellings completed on previously developed land is lower than the target and greenfield sites accounted for 24% (16 sites) of all sites (66 sites) with plot completions during 2023/24, which is higher than the previous year (9%). Despite this, brownfield and mixed sites still make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply.

## Heritage

- In 2023/24, there was one application granted for the dismantling of a chimney. The conservation officer agreed it was a later addition and the flue could be erected which allows the majority of the stone detailing to be repaired and seen. There was one application including the demolition of structures within a conservation area. This was for demolition of a conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension. It was considered that the proposed extension would have negligible implications.

## Renewable Energy

- In 2023/24, 12 out of 13 relevant major applications were granted permission with a condition attached (9) requiring applicants to meet Policy 18 or which included energy statements or plans (3) as part of the approved application, equating to 92%. This does not include change of use applications. In addition, a further four major applications had conditions attached requesting that applicants must submit details to show compliance with PfE policy JP-S, which now replaces Policy 18.

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## **Air Quality**

- The level of Nitrogen Dioxide and Particle Matter is slightly lower than last year and well below the target. The number of days where pollution was moderate or higher is slightly higher than last year.

## **2 Options/Alternatives**

- 3.1 Option 1 – To approve the authorities Monitoring Report and send it to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).  
(Advantages – approving the Monitoring Report will help with implementing and reviewing our local planning policies, whilst also being transparent and meets the requirements of the regulations).  
(Disadvantages – there are no disadvantages to approving the Monitoring Report and sending it to MHCLG.)
- 3.2 Option 2 – To not approve the authorities Monitoring Report 2023 – 2024 and not send it to MHCLG.  
(Advantages – there are no advantages in not approving the Monitoring Report.)  
(Disadvantages – not approving the Monitoring Report could result in less certainty and confidence in developments coming forward and would result in us not meeting the regulations.)

## **4 Preferred Option**

- 4.1 Option 1 – To approve the authorities Monitoring Report 2023 - 2024 for publication and send it to MHCLG.

## **5 Consultation**

- 5.1 N/A. The report is reporting on indicators and is made available for the public to view.

## **6 Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The Planning and Infrastructure Team is proposing to publish the Oldham Monitoring Report for 2023/24. The Council will have to make copies of the Monitoring Report publicly available online, in public libraries and Members meeting rooms. It is anticipated that costs for this will be in the region of £150 which will be met from Strategic Planning and Information Service revenue budget.

## **7 Legal Implications**

- 7.1 Under section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), every local planning authority must prepare reports on the implementation of the local development scheme and the extent to which the policies set out in the local development documents are being achieved. The reports must be in respect of a period which the authority considers appropriate in the interests of transparency, which begins with the end of the period covered by the authority's most recent report, and which is not longer than 12 months or such shorter period as is prescribed. The report must also be made available to the public. Under the Council's Local Development Framework scheme of delegation, the annual monitoring report can be approved by the Portfolio Member in consultation with the Executive Director. (A Evans)

## **8 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

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8.1 Please see Appendix 2

9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

11.1 ESR/19/24

12 **Background Papers**

12.1 There are no background papers for this report.

13 **Appendices**

13.1 Appendix One: Oldham's Annual Monitoring Report 2023-24  
Appendix Two: Equality Impact Assessment

**Oldham**

**Local**

**Plan**

**Oldham's Monitoring Report  
April 2023 to March 2024**

**January 2025**



**Oldham**  
Council

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## Abbreviations

The following is a list of abbreviations used in this report:

- AMR** – Authorities Monitoring Report
- BNG** - Biodiversity Net Gain
- CIL** - Community Infrastructure Levy
- DEFRA** - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- DLUHC** - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
- DPD** – Development Plan Document
- FRA** - Flood Risk Assessment
- GMCA** - Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- Ha** - Hectares
- HDT** - Housing Delivery Test
- HMR** - Housing Market Renewal
- IFS** - Infrastructure Funding Statement
- JMDPD** – Joint Minerals Development Plan Document for Greater Manchester
- JNCC** - Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- JWDPD** – Joint Waste Development Plan Document for Greater Manchester
- LDD** – Local Development Document
- LDS** – Local Development Scheme
- LLFA** - Lead Local Flood Authority
- LPA** - Local Planning Authority
- MHCLG** – Ministry for Homes, Communities and Local Government
- NDO** - Neighbourhood Development Order
- NDP** - Neighbourhood Development Plan
- NPPF** - National Planning Policy Framework
- OPOL** - Other Protected Open Land
- PfE** - Places for Everyone
- PDL** - Previously Developed Land
- RAWP** – Regional Aggregate Working Party
- SAC** - Special Area of Conservation

**SCI** – Statement of Community Involvement

**SBI** – Sites of Biological Importance

**SPA** - Special Protection Area

**SPD** – Supplementary Planning Document

**SSSI** - Sites of Special Scientific Interest

**SUDS** - Sustainable Urban Drainage System

**Sqm** - Square metres

**UDP** – Unitary Development Plan

### **Availability of Document**

**If you would like to receive this information in another format, such as large print, Braille, audio or alternative languages, please call us on 0161 770 4061.**



## Executive Summary

### Local Development Scheme Progress

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) in place at the start of the monitoring period was that approved in October 2022. During the monitoring period an update was published which took effect on the 22nd December 2023. The revised LDS reflected the latest Places for Everyone (PfE) Joint DPD and revised Local Plan timetables.

i) Performance on the LDS milestones was as follows:

- Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (PfE) – Following the examination into PfE, nine councils in Greater Manchester considered the Inspectors' recommendations and adopted the Plan at Council meetings held between 28th February and 20th March. In Oldham this was on 13 March 2024. PfE became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities, on 21 March 2024.
- Local Plan Review - Consultation on the Draft Local Plan was carried out between January and February 2024. This was later than the LDS had programmed due to delays in the progress of the PfE Joint Development Plan.

### Key Indicator Results

#### ii) Employment

- 27,848 sqm of industrial and commercial floorspace was completed in 2023/24.
- 7.95 ha of land was developed for business and industrial uses in 2023/24 (gross).
- The total amount of employment land available for industrial and commercial use (Use Classes Order Eg)i), B2 and B8) as at 31 March 2024 was 100.72 ha. The total consists of 28.72 ha of saved UDP Business and Industry allocations, 30.86 ha of sites that are not allocations but have planning permission for employment use and are either unimplemented or under construction and 41.14 ha of land allocated for employment within PfE.

#### iii) Housing

- PfE sets out Oldham's housing requirement for 2022 to 2039 (the PfE plan period). Policy JP-H1 identifies a stepped housing requirement (minimum) for Oldham of 404 homes per year for 2022-2025, 680 homes per year for 2025-2030, and 772 homes per year for 2030-2039. This equates to an annual average of 680 new homes per year.
- The housing requirement of 404 homes per year applies to the assessment of housing delivery for 2023/24 – the base year for this monitoring report – in line with the PfE stepped housing requirement.
- PfE is less than five years old (being adopted on 21 March 2024) and identified a five-year supply of specific deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded. Further information on the PfE housing requirement is set out with JP-H1 of PfE. As per paragraph 76 of the current NPPF, Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) are not required to identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing for decision making purposes if: (a) their adopted plan is less than five years old; and (b) that adopted plan identified at least a five year supply of specific, deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded.

- An update of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) demonstrates that there is a housing land supply of 13,475 dwellings.
- In 2023/24 there were 420 net housing completions.
- 55% of completions during 2023/24 took place on previously developed land (PDL). A further 103 dwellings or 25% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on mixed sites which contain both previously developed and greenfield land. Therefore 80% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on PDL or mixed sites. The number of dwellings completed on PDL is lower than the target and greenfield sites accounted for 24% (16 sites) of all sites (66 sites) with plot completions during 2023/24, which is higher than the previous year (9%). Despite this, brownfield and mixed sites still make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply.

iv) **Heritage** – In 2023/24, there was one application granted for the dismantling of a chimney. The conservation officer agreed it was a later addition and the flue could be erected which allows the majority of the stone detailing to be repaired and seen. There was one application including the demolition of structures within a conservation area. This was for demolition of a conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension. It was considered that the proposed extension would have negligible implications.

v) **Renewable Energy** – In 2023/24, 12 out of 13 relevant major applications were granted permission which sought to meet Policy 18 (92%). Nine of these had a condition attached requiring applicants to meet Policy 18 and three of the applications included energy statements or plans as part of the approved application. This does not include change of use applications. In addition, a further four major applications had conditions attached requesting that applicants must submit details to show compliance with PfE policy JP-S, which now replaces Policy 18.

vi) **Air Quality** - The level of Nitrogen Dioxide and Particle Matter is slightly lower than last year and well below the target. The number of days where pollution was moderate or higher is slightly higher than last year.

## Key Actions

xi) **Collection** - The Monitoring Report identifies several key actions designed to improve data collection and the ability of the council to monitor progress against indicators. These actions include working with the council's Development Management section to continue to develop ICT-based monitoring systems.

xii) **Timetables** - The LDS in place at the start of the monitoring period was "Issue 13 Update" (approved in October 2022). During the monitoring period 'Issue 14' was published which took effect on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. The revised LDS reflected the latest PfE and revised Local Plan timetables.

# 1 Introduction and Context

## Oldham's Monitoring Report

- 1.1** Oldham's Monitoring Report (AMR) covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 and sets out the five-year housing land position as at 1 April 2024. The council has also prepared an Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) as required under revised regulations, which sits alongside the monitoring report in a separate document and available [here](#)<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.2** The requirement to produce monitoring reports is contained within Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by paragraph 113 of the Localism Act 2011). The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 - Part 8 Regulation 34 also outlines what should be included within a Monitoring Report. In summary, these are as follows:
- Review actual progress against the LDS timetable;
  - List any adopted or approved Local Plan or Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) that were listed in the LDS;
  - Where policies are not being implemented, explain why and set out the steps (if any) to be taken to implement the policy;
  - Specify the number of net additional dwellings (including affordable dwellings) delivered during the reporting period and since the policy began, in any part of the area as relevant;
  - Detail any Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDO) or Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) made;
  - Report on financial information relating to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts as required under Reg 62(4) CIL Regulations 2012; and
  - Detail action taken under Duty to Co-operate requirements during the reporting period.
- 1.3** The Monitoring Report is the main mechanism for assessing the Local Plan's performance and effects. PfE came into force 21 March 2024. As set out in Appendix 1 - Table 11, PfE has replaced several policies in the Joint DPD. However, as this was towards the end of the period for this Monitoring Report the indicators relating to these policies have continued to be reported on. This will be reviewed as part of the next Monitoring Report.
- 1.4** The indicators in the main report relate to the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document (the Joint DPD), adopted in November 2011. Whereas the first Monitoring Report for PfE can be found at Appendix 2. The PfE Monitoring Report establishes the baseline at the point of adoption of PfE in March 2024. Where appropriate indicators have been reported on from the start of the PfE plan period in 2022. The report identifies several PfE indicators for which monitoring will only commence for the period 2024/25.

## Context

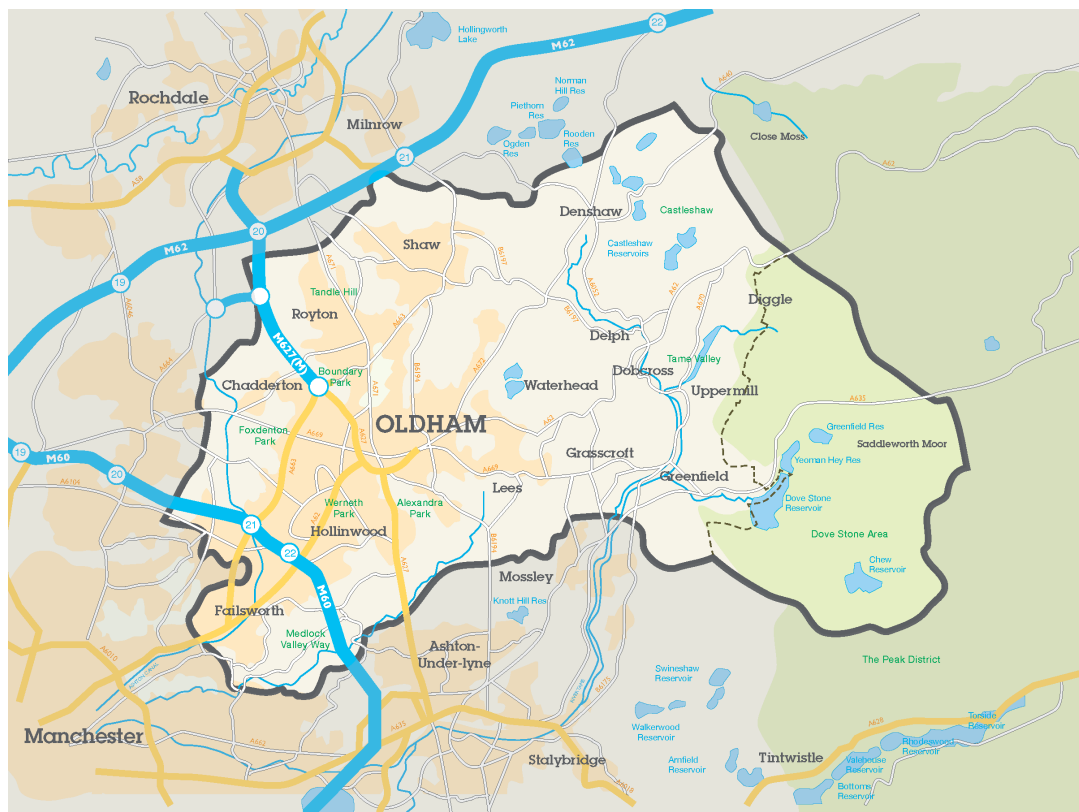
- 1.5** Oldham is situated in the northeast of the Greater Manchester conurbation, four miles from Manchester City Centre and covers an area of 55 square miles. Oldham has a mix of high-density urban areas, suburbs, and semi-rural locations and is in a pivotal position between the cities of Manchester and Leeds. It is made up of the districts of Shaw,

<sup>1</sup> The document can be viewed here: [https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/3154/infrastructure\\_funding\\_statement](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/3154/infrastructure_funding_statement)

Royton, Lees, Failsworth, Saddleworth, Chadderton and the town of Oldham itself. It contains a residential population of 242,100 and 93,100 households<sup>2</sup>. Around half the borough is open countryside and the southeast corner of the borough falls within the Peak District National Park, providing a unique and high-quality rural / semi-rural aspect to the borough.

- 1.6** The borough is one of contrasts, with significant levels of deprivation but also areas of prosperity. Oldham is home to an increasing, young population with a continuing upward trend in educational attainment. It also has a rich and diverse community with 34.8%<sup>3</sup> of the population being from ethnic minorities (all except white British).

**Map showing the borough in its sub-regional setting**



- 1.7** Regeneration, in all its forms - physical, social and economic - plays a huge part in the recent history and future development of the borough. There are still significant challenges that the borough faces on a range of issues including housing conditions; health; educational attainment; strengthening the economy; raising incomes and tackling pockets of high unemployment.
- 1.8** Oldham is home to several high-quality higher and further educational facilities including University Campus Oldham, Oldham College, Oldham 6th Form College and the Regional Science Centre Oldham.
- 1.9** There are over 7,440<sup>4</sup> businesses, employing 89,000<sup>5</sup> people in Oldham. These span key sectors including advanced manufacturing, health, construction, digital and creative and financial and professional services. Manufacturing remains an important element of the local economy, including high-technology sectors such as electronic, electrical and

<sup>2</sup> ONS 2021 Census – initial data release 28 June 2022

<sup>3</sup> Census 2021 – includes defining ethnic minorities as including the ‘white other’ groups – mostly Eastern European

<sup>4</sup> Business Demography and UK Business Counts, 2023

<sup>5</sup> The Annual Population Survey 2022

instrument engineering. The borough is home to well-known and high-profile businesses including Trinity Mirror Group, Diodes Incorporated, Park Cake Bakeries, Innovative Technologies, Ambassador Textiles, and Nov Mono Pumps.

- 1.10** Oldham Town Centre lies at the heart of the borough and is the focus for commercial, retail and education activity, whilst the borough's other centres also contribute to the economic, social and environmental fabric of the borough. The council's ambitions for Oldham Town Centre aim to create a more vibrant, revitalised centre that plays a greater role in Greater Manchester.
- 1.11** By 2035, Greater Manchester aims to be one of the world's leading sub-regions, driving sustainable growth across a thriving north of England. We want to ensure the sustainability of Oldham town centre as a place to work, visit and enjoy in addition, to being where our people can live and can take maximum advantage of the services, shops, skills and training they need to enjoy an excellent quality of life.
- 1.12** Creating a Better Place is an ambitious strategic plan to transform Oldham. It was introduced in January 2020 and refreshed in August 2020 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. It will unlock investment worth £285 million and create more than 2,000 new homes in Oldham Town Centre, 1,000 new jobs and 100 apprentice opportunities. Creating a Better Place builds on the Oldham Town Centre Vision (2019) that is aligned with national, regional and local strategic priorities and has a clear rationale, narrative and focus for everyone to embrace and own. The vision can be defined as 'Our Town Centre: a place that thrives' by:
- building quality homes;
  - providing opportunities to learn, develop new skills and gain employment;
  - having a diverse culture, leisure and night-time economy;
  - attracting, retaining and growing businesses;
  - ensuring a safer, healthier, and friendly environment; and
  - ensuring it is green, clean and sustainable.
- 1.13** These are all geared towards a host of objectives, including increasing footfall, giving a wider choice of residential options, improving access to work experience and jobs, ensuring a town centre that is easy to navigate and building on our culture and heritage.
- 1.14** In 2023 the council signed a Master Development Agreement with placemaker Muse, as its new Strategic Development Partner to deliver 2,000 new homes across several strategic sites within Oldham Town Centre.
- 1.15** Entering into a delivery partnership of this nature is an important step for the council helping to realise one of the key objectives within the Creating a Better Place Programme, notably the creation of 2,000 homes across a number of strategic sites within Oldham town centre.
- 1.16** Creating new homes on such a large scale will bring about a huge range of benefits for the whole borough including increased footfall in the town centre and boosting local businesses whilst maximising the opportunities presented by under-utilised sites. The partnership will also provide opportunities for employment, learning, skills and social contributions across the design, procurement, delivery, and operational phases of the projects.
- 1.17** A Detailed Business Plan has been signed off by the council and a comprehensive public consultation on the Development Framework took place between July and September 2024. The Development Framework is a pre-cursor to an outline planning application for the core sites being submitted early next year. One Public Estate (£3.2 M) and GMCA Brownfield Funding (£5.5 M) have been secured to help bring forward the first key sites.

**1.18** The plans are ambitious and can transform the quality of life enjoyed by those who live, work and visit the borough. The Local Plan is fundamental in the development and delivery of these plans.

## 2 Implementation of the Local Development Scheme

- 2.1** The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (“the Act”) requires Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to prepare and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS), which is a project plan listing all the planning documents that the council proposes to prepare and details their content and timescale for production.
- 2.2** This section of the Monitoring Report, therefore, examines the progress that the council has made in preparing the Local Plan documents as set out in the LDS project plan covering the monitoring period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 inclusive. It addresses the questions:
- Have the timetables and milestones for Local Development Document (LDDs) preparation set out in the LDS been met?
  - Is progress being made towards them?
  - If not, what are the reasons and what action is being taken to address them?
- 2.3** The assessment of timetables and milestones is undertaken against the LDS that was in force at the start of this monitoring period, which was "Issue 13 Update". A revised LDS was published and took effect on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2023 (Issue 14).

### **Performance in Preparing Local Development Documents, 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.**

#### Local Development Scheme

- 2.4** The LDS in place at the start of the monitoring period was that approved in October 2022. During the monitoring period an update was published which took effect on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. The revised LDS reflected the latest PfE and revised Local Plan timetables.

#### **Development Plan Documents (DPDs)**

#### Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan

- 2.5** Following the examination into PfE, the nine councils in Greater Manchester considered the Inspectors’ recommendations and adopted the Plan at Council meetings held between 28<sup>th</sup> February and 20<sup>th</sup> March. In Oldham this was on 13 March 2024. PfE became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities, on 21 March 2024.

#### Local Plan Review / Site Allocations DPD

- 2.6** Consultation on the Draft Local Plan was carried out between January and February 2024. The Local Plan timetable is now under review to consider the implications of the proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). A revised LDS will be published in due course.

## **Other Local Plan Documents**

### Neighbourhood Plans

- 2.7** The New Chadderton Partnership and Saddleworth Parish Council are both in the process of preparing their own neighbourhood plans.
- 2.8** Though it falls out of this year's monitoring period it is worth noting that Saddleworth Parish Council consulted on a draft Saddleworth Neighborhood Plan from 2<sup>nd</sup> April to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. They are now considering responses and preparing for pre submission stage.

### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 2.9** The council has determined not to proceed with a CIL schedule at this time and therefore no monitoring has or will take place in this regard.



### 3 The effects of the Local Plan

**3.1** This section of the Monitoring Report examines the effects that Oldham's planning policies are having by measuring a series of indicators. It covers the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The indicators relate to the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document (the Joint DPD), adopted in November 2011.

**3.2** Key questions to address in this section are:

1. What impact are the policies having on national targets and any other targets identified in LDDs?
2. What significant effects are implementing the policies having on the social, environmental and economic objectives by which sustainability is defined and are these effects as intended?

#### IMPACTS ON TARGETS AND OBJECTIVES

#### BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

##### Indicators

##### Business, Industry, and the Local Economy

##### Total amount of additional floorspace by type (Joint DPD Indicator 3)

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by providing employment land which is fit for the 21st century for existing and new businesses (SO3b).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: The total floorspace completed during 2023/24 for industrial and commercial uses (use classes Eg)i), B2 and B8) was 27,848 sqm (gross). Of this:

- 7,340 sqm was developed for Eg)i) uses;
- 259 sqm was developed for B2 uses; and
- 20,249 sqm was developed for a mixture of Eg)i), B2 and B8 uses.

The total floorspace completed in previous years was as follows:

- 2022/23: 48,635 sqm
- 2021/22: 746 sqm
- 2020/21: 2,938 sqm
- 2019/20: 11,223 sqm
- 2018/19: 10,734 sqm
- 2017/18: 13,416 sqm
- 2016/17: 3,565.5 sqm
- 2015/16: 2,676 sqm
- 2014/15: 8,976 sqm

## Business, Industry, and the Local Economy

### Total amount of additional floorspace by type (Joint DPD Indicator 3)

- 2013/14: 1,643 sqm

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Business, Industry, and the Local Economy

### Total Amount of employment floorspace (gross) on previously developed land by type (Joint DPD Indicator 4).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by ensuring the effective and efficient use of land and buildings (SO1c).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: The floorspace developed for employment on previously developed land in 2023/24 was 18,259 sqm (gross), representing 66% of the total developed floorspace. This is due to one completion on a greenfield site at Broadway Green.

In 2022/23 there was one completion on greenfield land that accounted for 31% of the total completions.

Prior to that the total floorspace developed for employment on previously developed land had been 100% for five years.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Business, Industry, and the Local Economy

### Employment land available by type (Joint DPD Indicator 5).

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by providing employment land which is fit for the 21st century for existing and new businesses (SO3b).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: The total amount of employment land available for industrial and commercial use (Use Classes Order Eg)i), B2 and B8) as at 31 March 2024 was 100.72 ha. The total consists of 28.72 ha of saved UDP Business and Industry allocations, 30.86 ha of sites that are not allocations but have planning permission for employment use and are either unimplemented or under construction and 41.14 ha of land allocated for employment within PfE.

In previous years the total amount of employment land available was:

- 2022/23: 57.7 ha
- 2021/22: 62.39 ha
- 2020/21: 67 ha
- 2019/20: 60.43 ha
- 2018/19: 70.56 ha
- 2017/18: 72.07 ha

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Business, Industry, and the Local Economy

### Employment land lost to other uses (Joint DPD Indicator 6)

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by providing employment land which is fit for the 21st century for existing and new businesses (SO3b).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: In March 2022 outline planning permission for residential development was granted on a former employment site known as Shaw Distribution Centre, Linney Lane, Shaw. A reserved matters application for Phase One was granted in October 2023 and development commenced on the new homes in March 2024. This Phase One site represents a loss of 5.22 ha of employment land. The AMR will continue to monitor the progress made on this site and record the employment land loss when appropriate.

Action needed: The Strategic Planning and Information section will continue to work with Development Management to improve the monitoring of this indicator, resources permitting.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Business, Industry and the Local Economy

### Land developed for business and industry (Joint DPD Indicator 7)

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by providing employment land which is fit for the 21st century for existing and new businesses (SO3b).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: 7.95 ha of land was developed for business and industrial uses in 2023/24. Of this:

- 0.78 ha was developed for E g i) (office) uses;
- 0.09 ha was developed for B2 uses; and
- 7.08 ha was developed for a mixture of Eg)i), B2 and B8 uses.

The total land completed in previous years was as follows:

- 2022/23: 12.12 ha
- 2021/22: 0.18 ha
- 2020/21: 1.35 ha
- 2019/20: 5.08 ha
- 2018/19: 2.97 ha
- 2017/18: 5.26 ha
- 2016/17: 1.73 ha
- 2015/16: 0.74 ha
- 2014/15: 2.15 ha
- 2013/14: 0.46 ha
- 2012/13: 4.31 ha

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Business, Industry and the Local Economy

### New business registration rate (Joint DPD Indicator 8)

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by addressing the worklessness agenda, tackling deprivation and creating skilled and accessible jobs for local residents (SO3a).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: In 2023, 1,005 new businesses were formed in Oldham. This is the latest information available.

In previous years business formation was:

- 2022: 1,335
- 2021: 1,070
- 2020: 1,245
- 2019: 1,270
- 2018: 910
- 2017: 1,060
- 2016: 1,500
- 2015: 940
- 2014: 865
- 2013: 965
- 2012: 695

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council and Inter Departmental Business Register

## Business, Industry and the Local Economy

### Overall employment rate (Joint DPD Indicator 9)

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by addressing the worklessness agenda, tackling deprivation and creating skilled and accessible jobs for local residents (SO3a).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: Oldham's employment rate for ages 16 - 64 was 75.4% as at 2024.

In previous years the rate was:

- 2023: 75%
- 2022: 66%
- 2021: 69%
- 2020: 71.1%
- 2019: 68.1%
- 2018: 68.1%
- 2017: 67.5%
- 2016: 68.6%
- 2015: 63.3%
- 2014: 63.6%
- 2013: 64.7%

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

## Business, Industry and the Local Economy

### Overall employment rate (Joint DPD Indicator 9)

Source: Oldham Council and Annual Population Survey

## Business, Industry and the Local Economy

### Foxdenton developed as a premium employment site (Joint DPD Indicator 46)

Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by encouraging and facilitating the development of new and emerging industries (such as high technology, knowledge based, innovative, environmental technologies and creative industries) in appropriate locations (such as Foxdenton, Hollinwood Business District and Chadderton Technology Park) (SO3d).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: Broadway Green is an employment-led, mixed -use development scheme which is being delivered by a Joint Venture Company formed between Oldham Council, Seddon Developments and Grasscroft Property.

To date, 360 homes have been built on the site and another 28 homes are currently under construction.

Unit 367 which is a speculatively built 367,000 square foot HQ-style logistics unit with dedicated office space and employee facilities is now completed, as is a further 110,000 square foot of small/mid box industrial units.

A new retail store was also approved on site, and it opened in December 2023.

In addition, planning approval was obtained for the new linear park and works have now commenced. A management company has been set up to deal with the maintenance of the park.

The whole site is forecast to deliver 600,000 square foot employment space, up to 500 new homes and significant green open space in the form of a new linear park. It is expected to create up to 2,000 new jobs

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 13, 14.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

### Key issues

- 3.3** There has been an increase in the supply of employment land available this year, due to the adoption of PfE which contains JPA 2 Stakehill and JPA 12 Broadbent Moss, both of which include employment land.
- 3.4** The systems in place for monitoring employment land losses need to be improved, and this should be resolved with an updated development management IT system. This is important to provide sufficient evidence for the council to take development management

decisions 'in the round' where it is proposed to release employment land for other uses, typically housing.

### **Future Actions**

- 3.5** Further develop monitoring systems particularly for loss of employment land, to ensure that the policies within the Joint DPD actively promote and enhance the needs of the local economy.

## Housing

- 3.6** PfE sets out Oldham’s housing requirement for 2022 to 2039 (the PfE plan period). Policy JP-H1 identifies a stepped housing requirement (minimum) for Oldham of 404 homes per year for 2022-2025, 680 homes per year for 2025-2030, and 772 homes per year for 2030-2039. This equates to an annual average of 680 new homes per year.
- 3.7** Some of the indicators and text in this section relate to the five-year housing land supply. The five-year housing land supply is forward-looking and covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2029.

### Housing

#### Plan period and housing targets; New additional dwellings – in previous years, for the reporting year, in future years and managed delivery target (Joint DPD Indicator 11)

Joint DPD Objective: To provide sufficient housing to meet the needs and demands of the borough's urban and rural communities, including affordable, low cost and high value market housing (SO2 (b)). Relevant Joint DPD policies: 1, 3, 11

Target: Oldham’s housing requirement is set out within policy JP-H1 of PfE for the plan period (2022-2039). JP-H1 identifies a stepped housing requirement (minimum) for Oldham of 404 homes a year for the first five years of the plan period (2022-2025); 680 homes a year for years 6-10 (2025-2030); and 772 homes a year for years 11-17 (2030-2039).

The housing requirement of 404 homes per year (as set out in policy JP-H1 of PfE) applies to the monitoring year 2023/24. Looking forward at supply from 2024 onwards, the relevant housing requirement will apply in line with the stepped requirement set out in policy JP-H1.

#### Oldham Position:

Table 1 below shows the number of net completions since the adoption of the Core Strategy in 2011, compared to the housing requirement (the adopted Core Strategy housing requirement, the Government’s Standard Methodology requirement or the PfE housing requirement). Oldham’s adopted Core Strategy (Local Plan) housing requirement of 289 new homes per year applied from 2011/12. In 2018/19 the Government’s Standard Methodology for Calculating Local Housing Need was introduced and applied until the adoption of PfE on 21 March 2024. PfE sets out Oldham’s housing requirement for the plan period of 2022-2039 (as explained above) – this applies to years 2022/23 and 2023/24 in table 1 below. Appendix 3 sets out the full completions data for the period of 2011/12 to 2023/24.

The latest Housing Delivery Test (HDT) results (2022 measurement) were published on 19 December 2023. According to the most recently published measurement, Oldham had delivered 91% of its housing need over the past three years (2019/20 to 2021/22). This is the same as the measurement results for 2021 – 91% (over 2018/19 to 2020/21).

*Table 1 – Housing Completions Compared to Housing Requirement<sup>6</sup>*

<sup>6</sup> DLUCH housing data can differ slightly due to data recording methods



Year	Completed (Net)	Housing Requirement	Variance (against housing requirement)
2011/12	11	289	-278
2012/13	257	289	-32
2013/14	363	289	74
2014/15	594	289	305
2015/16	296	289	7
2016/17	374	289	85
2017/18	345	289	56
2018/19	410 <sup>7</sup>	692	-282
2019/20	728	692	36
2020/21	373	693	-320
2021/22	506	683	-177
2022/23	403	404	-1
2023/24	420	404	16

The number of net completions has fluctuated over the last ten years. After falling in 2015/16, completions increased again from 2016/17 as several larger sites began construction. Prior to this there were high levels of clearance that took place due to regeneration activity during 2003/04 to 2012/13, along with the changing economic conditions witnessed since 2008/09 that may have had an effect. Completions for 2020/21 were significantly lower than the previous year 2019/20 and the following year of 2021/22. It is likely that the impact of Covid-19 and wider socio-economic issues may have contributed to the lower completions for 2020/21. However, on average over the last ten years (2014/15 to 2023/24), completions have improved, with an average of 445 dwellings being completed annually.

The number of completions, net of clearance, for 2023/24 was 420 dwellings. This brings the total number of completions for 2011/12 to 2023/24 to 5,080 dwellings.

#### *Total Housing Land Supply*

The housing trajectory (Figure 1) shows the position regarding the borough's future housing land supply and is made up of six elements:

- 1 Completions that have taken place during 2011/12 to 2023/24;
- 2 Future housing land supply from 2023/24 to 2038/39 (up to the end of the PfE plan period). Future housing land supply is shown as net additional dwellings and takes into account clearance allowance (5 dwellings per annum) and small sites allowance (small sites allowance is only applied from year 5 onwards). Future housing land supply has been

<sup>7</sup> This is the actual completion figure for 2018/19. Official DLUHC housing returns show a higher figure of 502 for 2018/19. Previous revisions are explained within the 2018/19 monitoring report.

identified through a full review of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) as at 1 April 2024. See SHLAA for further details;

- 3 The annualised net supply which shows the housing land supply spread out evenly across the period;
- 4 The stepped housing requirement for Oldham, as set out in Places for Everyone (PfE)<sup>8</sup>. (See Indicator 12 for further information on the PfE housing requirement).

The housing trajectory shows that there is a potential housing land supply identified to deliver 13,475 dwellings (taking into account a small site allowance, minus projected clearances - see SHLAA for details). This is based on the update of the SHLAA for 2024. The SHLAA can be viewed on the council's website<sup>9</sup>.

**Action needed:**

Continue to update the borough's five-year housing land supply annually and update the council's SHLAA. The council's Housing Delivery Test Action Plan has been published to try and improve the delivery rate of housing in the borough.

Aside from an annual small sites allowance, the council does not set out a specific windfall allowance in the Joint DPD. Consideration will be given to the need to make an allowance for larger windfall sites as part of future reviews of the council's SHLAA and five-year housing land supply in line with national planning guidance.

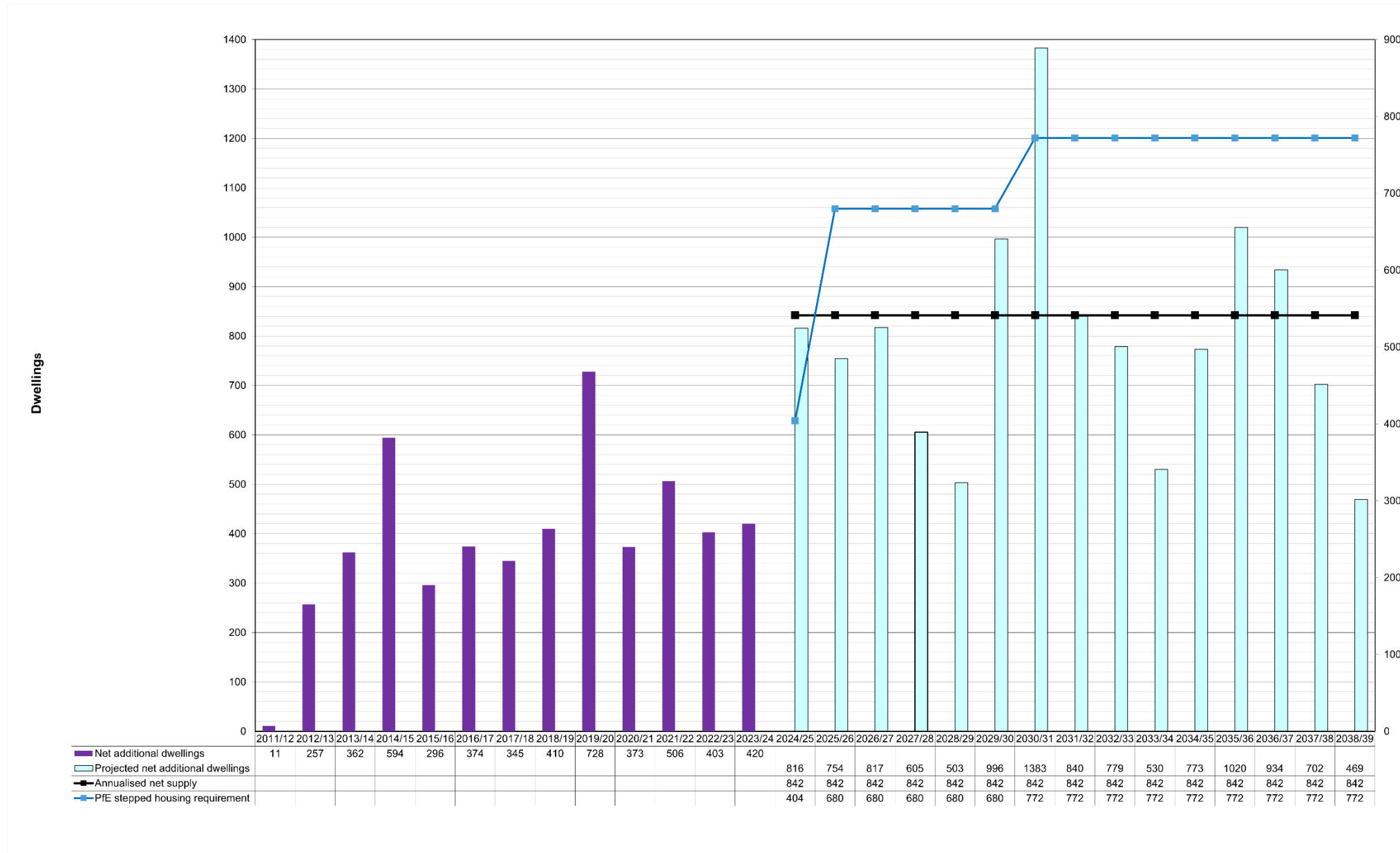
Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3, 11

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

<sup>8</sup> Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document: <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/9578/places-for-everyone-joint-development-plan-document.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> [Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment \(SHLAA\)](#)

Figure 1 – Housing Trajectory



## Housing

### Supply of ready to develop housing sites (Joint DPD Indicator 12)

Provide sufficient housing to meet the needs and demands of the borough's urban and rural communities, including affordable, low cost and high value market housing (SO2(b)); and Focus new homes on regeneration areas (including Oldham Town Centre and the former HMR area), also areas within and accessible to the borough's other centres (of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill), and rural settlements (such as the Saddleworth villages (SO2(e)); and Ensure over the lifetime of the Local Plan up to 2026 that approximately 60% of new homes are built in East and West Oldham, with approximately 10% of new homes built in Chadderton, and in Failsworth and Hollinwood, and in Royton, Shaw and Crompton, and in Saddleworth and Lees (SO2(f)). Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3.

Target: Five-year supply can accommodate the borough's housing requirement - as set out in policy JP-H1 of PfE<sup>10</sup>. For five-year supply the housing requirement is calculated as an average of one year of 404 homes per year (which applies to 2024-2025) and four years of 680 homes per year (which applies to 2025-2029). This equates to an average annual requirement of 624.8 homes per year for the five-year period of 2024-2029.

#### Oldham Position:

As HMR areas no longer exist this indicator is not monitored against SO2(e). In addition, given the need to deliver housing borough-wide to meet the housing requirement, it is not possible to ensure the delivery of housing as per SO2(f). As such this element of the indicator is also not monitored.

This indicator therefore considers SO2(b) only.

PfE is less than five years old (being adopted on 21 March 2024) and identified a five-year supply of specific deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded. As per paragraph 76 of NPPF, LPAs are not required to identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing for decision making purposes if: (a) their adopted plan is less than five years old; and (b) that adopted plan identified at least a five year supply of specific, deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded.

Action needed: Maintain a supply of deliverable five-year housing land supply, which can meet Oldham's requirement as set out in Places for Everyone (of 404 homes a year (2022-2025); 680 homes a year (2025-2030); and 772 homes a year (2030-2039)).

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

<sup>10</sup> Policy JP-H1 of PfE identifies a stepped housing requirement for Oldham of 404 homes per year for 2022-2025, increasing to 680 homes per year for 2025-2030 and 772 homes per year for 2030-2039.

## Housing

### New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land (Joint DPD Indicator 13)

Joint DPD Objective: Ensure over the lifetime of the Local Plan up to 2026 that at least 80% of new homes are built on previously developed land across the borough as a whole (SO2(g)). Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3, 11.

Target: The Joint DPD sets out a requirement for at least 80% of new dwellings in the borough to be built on previously developed land.

Oldham Position: In 2023/24, 55% (231) of new and converted dwellings were completed on previously developed land (PDL) in Oldham. This is lower than 2022/23 (64%) and is below the target of 80%. However, it should be noted that there were another 103 dwellings completed in 2023/24 on mixed sites which contain both PDL and greenfield land. These are not included in the PDL figure. Therefore 80% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on PDL or mixed sites. The number of dwellings completed on previously developed land is lower than the target and greenfield sites accounted for 24% (16 sites) of all sites (66 sites) with plot completions during 2023/24, which is higher than the previous year (9% - 9 sites). Despite this, brownfield and mixed sites still make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply.

The previously developed land trajectory (figure 2) shows:

- 77% of all completions during 2011/12 to 2023/24 were on PDL;
- Overall, an average of 66% of all dwellings identified as part of the borough's future housing land supply are on PDL.

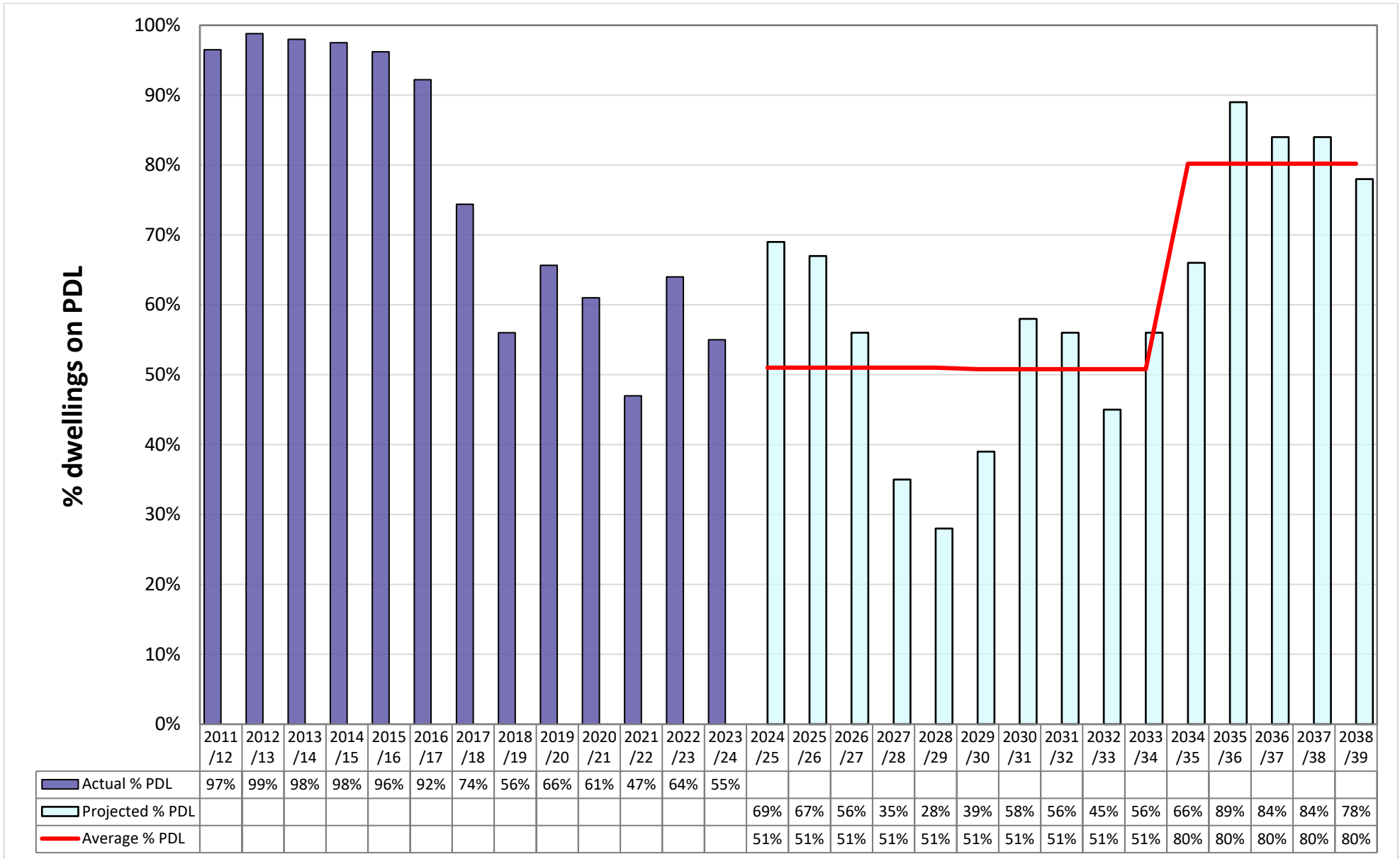
The projections included in the trajectory do not include dwellings to be delivered on sites where there is a mix of greenfield and previously developed land.

Action Needed: Continue to encourage new residential development on previously developed land in line with the Joint DPD and specifically consider actions to increase the delivery of housing on PDL (through the Housing Delivery Action Plan)

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3,11

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

Figure 2 – Previously Developed Land Trajectory



## Housing

### Development density in schemes of 5 dwellings or more (Joint DPD Indicator 14)

Joint DPD Objective: Provide sufficient housing to meet the needs and demands of the borough's urban and rural communities, including affordable, low cost and high-value market housing (SO2(b)); and

Make the best use of, and continuing to raise the quality of, our new and existing housing stock (SO2(d)).

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3, 11.

Target: N/A

Oldham Position: Out of 420 dwellings completed, there were 362 dwellings on sites with a capacity of 5 dwellings or more, representing 86% of the total completions.

Densities achieved on these sites were as follows:

- Less than 30 dwellings per hectare = 54% (227 dwellings out of 420)
- 30 to 50 dwellings per hectare = 17% (72 dwellings out of 420)
- Over 50 dwellings per hectare = 29% (121 dwellings out of 420)

#### **Previous year's position:**

In 2022/23 out of 403 dwellings completed, there were 359 dwellings on sites with a capacity of 5 dwellings or more, representing 89% of the total completions. Out of these completions there were: 59 dwellings or 15% completed on sites with a density of less than 30 dwellings per hectare; 151 dwellings or 37% completed on sites with a density of between 30-50 dwellings per hectare; and 149 dwellings or 37% completed on sites with a density of 50 dwellings per hectare and above.

These figures show that land is continuing to be used efficiently in Oldham.

Action Needed: None

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3,11

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

## Housing

### Gross Affordable Housing Completions (Joint DPD Indicator 15.i)

Joint DPD Objective: Provide sufficient housing to meet the needs and demands of the borough's urban and rural communities, including affordable, low cost and high-value market housing (SO2(b)); and

Achieve the right quantity of affordable housing to meet local needs and demands (SO2(c)).

Target: 7.5% of the total development sales value to go towards the delivery of affordable housing where viable in line with Policy 10 of the Joint DPD.

Oldham Position:

In 2023/24, 121 new affordable homes were completed (new build only). There have been 1,768 affordable homes delivered (via new build) since 2011/12 - the table below shows the trends:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of affordable homes delivered (new build only)</b>
2011/12	112
2012/13	198
2013/14	202
2014/15	280
2015/16	20
2016/17	60
2017/18	42
2018/19	90
2019/20	176
2020/21	129
2021/22	173
2022/23	165
2023/24	121
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,768</b>

Affordable housing delivery was much higher during the years when there was significant activity in the Housing Market Renewal areas but, as these sites have been completed,



## Housing

### Gross Affordable Housing Completions (Joint DPD Indicator 15.i)

the number of new affordable homes being built reduced between 2015 and 2019. However, the number of affordable homes being built increased again from 2019 onwards.

The PfE Monitoring Report measures affordable housing delivery using an alternative source of data – ‘Affordable housing supply in England’<sup>11</sup> – which includes new build affordable housing and acquisitions (a private sector property that has been purchased for use as an affordable home). Using that source of data, Oldham has delivered 209 affordable homes during 2023/24.

As such affordable housing completions data set out within this Monitoring Report is not comparable to the PfE report. This will be reviewed for consistency in future Monitoring Reports.

Action Needed: To support the delivery of the council’s Housing Strategy, supporting action plan and the affordable homes delivery programme.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3,10

Source: Oldham Council Housing Strategy Delivery Team

## Housing

### Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) (Joint DPD Indicator 16)

Joint DPD Objective: To provide sufficient housing to meet the needs and demands of the borough’s urban and rural communities, including affordable, low cost and high-value market housing (SO2 (b)). Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3, 12.

Target: N/A

Oldham Position: The number of net additional pitches for 2023/24 is zero, as no pitches were constructed or lost.

Action Needed: The Local Plan review will identify a pitch requirement and sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople provision as appropriate if there is a clear and demonstrable need based on up-to-date evidence. In the meantime, relevant development proposals will continue to be considered in line with the Joint DPD Policy 12.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3,12

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

<sup>11</sup> ‘Affordable housing supply in England: 2023 to 2024’: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/affordable-housing-supply>

## Housing

### Housing completions by size and type (Local Indicator)

Joint DPD Objective: Provide sufficient housing to meet the needs and demands of the borough's urban and rural communities, including affordable, low cost and high-value market housing (SO2(b)). Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3, 11.

Target: N/A

Oldham Position:

The breakdown of dwellings completed in 2023/24 by house type is shown below:

- Detached - 113 (27%)
- Semi-detached - 142 (34%)
- Bungalow – 1 (0.2%)
- Terraced – 97 (23%)
- Flats - 60 (14%)
- HMO – 7 (1.7%)

The breakdown of dwellings completed in 2023/24 by size is shown below:

- 1 bedroom - 45 (11%)
- 2 bedrooms - 78 (18%)
- 3 bedrooms - 181 (43%)
- 4 or more bedrooms - 116 (28%)

This shows that 61% of dwellings completed are detached or semi-detached and 71% have 3 or more bedrooms.

Action Needed: Continue to encourage the provision of larger family (three/four plus bed) accommodation as part of the mix of new residential developments. Utilise local evidence, including the Greater Manchester Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Oldham's Local Housing Needs Assessment and Oldham's Housing Strategy, to ensure that housing delivered meets the needs of the local community.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3,11

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

## Housing

### Dwellings cleared (Joint DPD Indicator 17)

Joint DPD Objective: Integrate the Oldham Rochdale Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder's and the council's housing objectives, policies, programmes, masterplans and initiatives (SO2(a)). Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3, 11.

Target: N/A

Oldham Position:

During 2023/24 two dwellings were lost through change of use to non-residential uses and one dwelling was lost to conversion (2 dwellings into 1 dwelling).

Since 2011/12 there have been 329 dwellings demolished/ lost. This is an average of around 25 dwellings per annum.

Clearance levels have been high in previous years, reaching their highest in 2010/11 due to the regeneration activity that has taken place within the borough. Previous clearance levels are set out in the 'Net housebuilding table' in Appendix 3.

The clearance allowance from 1 April 2024 is calculated at 5 dwellings per year based on past levels of clearance. The clearance allowance is fully set out within the SHLAA as at 1 April 2024.

In general, levels of clearance will be kept under review although it is expected that these will continue at a marginal rate over the remaining plan period.

Action Needed: Continue to review the five-year supply to ensure there is adequate supply to accommodate expected clearance for 2024/25 to 2028/29.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3,11

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

## Housing

### Reduction in the vacancy rate (Joint DPD Indicator 18)

Joint DPD Objective: Make the best use of, and continuing to raise the quality of, our new and existing housing stock (SO2(d)). Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 3.

Target: Below a 3% vacancy rate.

#### Oldham Position:

This indicator is monitored annually from 1st October to 30th September, to align vacancy rate monitoring with other departments in the council. The latest figures are:

Year	Total stock	Total vacant	Vacant stock as a percentage of total
1 October 2024	98,912	1,726	1.74%
1 October 2023	98,567	1,944	1.97%
1 October 2022	98,074	1,969	2.01%

There has been a decrease in the percentage of vacant stock from 2023 to 2024.

Action Needed: None

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1,3

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information Section

### Housing Key Issues

- 3.8** A total of 420 dwellings (net) were completed over the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. During 2023/24 three dwellings were lost – two to change of use (to non-residential uses) and one to residential conversion.
- 3.9** Oldham’s housing requirement is set out within policy JP-H1 of PfE for the plan period (2022-2039). JP-H1 identifies a stepped housing requirement (minimum) for Oldham of 404 homes a year for the first five years of the plan period (2022-2025); 680 homes a year for years 6-10 (2025-2030); and 772 homes a year for years 11-17 (2030-2039).
- 3.10** For the purposes of this monitoring report, the housing requirement of 404 homes per year applies to the monitoring years of 2022/23 and 2023/24, as 2022/23 is the start of the PfE plan period to which the PfE stepped requirement (set out in JP-H1 of PfE) applies. Looking forward at supply from 2024 onwards, the relevant housing requirement will apply in line with the stepped requirement set out in policy JP-H1.
- 3.11** PfE is less than five years old (being adopted on 21 March 2024) and identified a five-year supply of specific deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded. Further information on the PfE housing requirement is set out with JP-H1 of PfE. As per paragraph 76 of the current NPPF, local planning authorities are not required to identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years’ worth of housing for decision making purposes if: (a) their adopted plan is less than five years old; and (b) that adopted plan identified at least a five year supply of specific, deliverable sites at the time that its examination concluded.

- 3.12** Over the last twelve years (since the adoption of the Local Plan) housing completions have been variable (as set out in Appendix 3). Over this time the housing completions have exceeded the housing requirement (as applied to that year) six times:
- five of which the Local Plan requirement of 289 new homes applied;
  - once in 2019/20 when the standard methodology housing requirement (of 692 homes for that year) applied; and
  - most recently in 2023/24, against the PfE housing requirement (404 homes per year for 2022-2025). In 2022/23 housing completions (403 homes) almost met the housing requirement (404 homes per year).
- 3.13** It should be noted that high levels of clearance took place during the early years of the Local Plan period, and it is likely that Covid-19 and Brexit may have impacted housing completions during 2020/21 (373 homes completed) and 2021/22 (506 homes completed).
- 3.14** To help drive and deliver growth in housing delivery across the borough the council has prepared a Housing Delivery Action Plan to ensure the right homes are delivered in the right places to meet local housing needs. This is available to view at: [Oldham Housing Delivery Action Plan<sup>12</sup>](#) and includes such measures as:
- Improving capacity and processes;
  - Increasing the delivery of sites within our housing land supply, in particular on previously developed land (brownfield); and
  - Delivery of the council's ambitions to improve and increase the housing offer within Oldham.
- 3.15** The latest Action Plan was published in August 2024 and will be updated as appropriate.
- 3.16** 55% of all completions during 2023/24 for new residential development were on previously developed land. This is lower than the previous year (64%), however additional dwellings were also delivered on mixed sites (containing both brownfield and greenfield land) - therefore 80% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on previously developed land or mixed sites. Greenfield sites accounted for 24% (16 sites) of all sites (66 sites) with plot completions during 2023/24. Despite this, brownfield and mixed sites still make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply.
- 3.17** The focus for new residential development continues to be on previously developed land and the council will ensure that actions to increase the delivery of housing on previously developed land are implemented, in line with the Housing Delivery Action Plan.
- 3.18** The proportion of detached and semi-detached properties being built is slightly lower than last year (61% of all completions were detached or semi-detached in 2023/24, compared to 55% in 2022/23). In 2023/24 7 HMOs were completed (or delivered) through the planning process (note - not all HMOs require planning permission and can be developed under permitted development rights - these are not included in the above). This is lower than the previous year with 8 HMOs completed through the planning process in 2022/23. HMO development continues to be monitored.

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<sup>12</sup> This document can be viewed online at [https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/2135/housing\\_delivery\\_action\\_plan](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/2135/housing_delivery_action_plan)

**3.19** The proportion of three and four bedroomed plus properties completed is higher this year at 71% of all housing completions, compared to 51% of all housing completions in 2022/23. The need for larger family accommodation continues, along with the need to encourage the development of higher value aspirational housing that will provide opportunities for existing residents and attract new residents to the borough. The supply and delivery of new houses and apartments in the borough will continue to be monitored.

***Future Action:***

**3.20** Continue to regularly update the council's SHLAA to inform the housing land supply position and the Local Plan review.

**3.21** Whilst each application will be treated on its planning merits, proposals for residential development on greenfield sites will (whether new proposals or where the renewal of planning permission is sought) continue to be resisted unless there are other relevant material considerations.

**3.22** The focus for new residential development will remain on previously developed land and the council will seek to implement actions to increase the delivery of housing on such land as set out in the Housing Delivery Action Plan.

**3.23** Planning applications for the conversion and change of use of agricultural buildings to residential use and which are technically classified as greenfield developments (because agricultural buildings are not regarded as "previously developed land") continue to be treated on their planning merits.

**3.24** The Local Plan review will identify, if required, a pitch requirement and sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople provision as appropriate where there is a clear and demonstrable need based on up-to-date evidence. In the meantime, relevant development proposals will continue to be considered in line with the Joint DPD Policy 12.

**3.25** Encourage the provision of larger family (three/four plus bed) accommodation as part of the mix of new residential developments.

**3.26** Utilise local evidence, including the Greater Manchester Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Oldham's Local Housing Needs Assessment and the Housing Strategy, to ensure that housing being delivered meets the needs of the local community.

**3.27** In past years key actions have been that 'Saved' UDP Phase 2 Housing Allocations are not brought forward and released for development and that preparation of the SPD on the "Release of UDP Phase 2 Housing Allocations" will be rolled forward twelve months (with its preparation subject to the conclusions of the next Monitoring Report). These actions have, however, been superseded now that work is progressing on the emerging Local Plan. The phasing arrangements set out in the UDP no longer apply and the site allocations will be reviewed as part of the emerging Local Plan.

## TRANSPORT

### Indicators

Transport
<b>Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission (Joint DPD Indicator 26).</b>
Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by reducing the need to travel and encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport (SO1e).
Target: N/A.
Oldham Position: Six travel plans were secured as a condition of planning permissions granted in 2023/24. The number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permissions in previous years were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2022/23: 4</li><li>• 2021/22: 3</li><li>• 2020/21: 6</li><li>• 2019/20: 10</li><li>• 2018/19: 9</li><li>• 2017/18: 8</li><li>• 2016/17: 7</li><li>• 2015/16: 8</li><li>• 2014/15: 8</li><li>• 2013/14: 11</li><li>• 2012/13: 6</li></ul>
Action needed: None.
Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 5, 17.
Sources: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

### Key Issues

- 3.16** There are currently no issues linked to this indicator. Although the figure has dropped, this is primarily linked to the number of large-scale major applications that are required to provide travel plans, of which there has been a fall in the number of.

## Access to services

i) Number of minor <sup>(6)</sup> residential developments with access to at least 2 key services (Joint DPD Indicator 23i)

ii) Number of major <sup>(7)</sup> residential developments with access to at least 3 key services (Joint DPD Indicator 23ii).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by guiding development to the most accessible and sustainable locations (SO1d).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position:

74.5% of minor residential developments in 2023/24 had access to at least two key services.

84.2% of major residential developments in 2023/24 had access to at least three key services.

Previous years:

- 2022/23: 93.5% minor and 63% major
- 2021/22: 93.75% minor and 80% major
- 2020/21: 71% minor and 79% major
- 2019/20: 65% minor and 52% major
- 2018/19: 68% minor and 71% major
- 2016/17: 66% minor and 80% major
- 2015/16: 72% minor and 95% major
- 2014/15: 66% minor and 98% major
- 2013/14: 69% minor and 78% major
- 2012/13: 90% minor and 91% major

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 5, 16, 17.

Sources: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Key Issues

**3.17** The percentage of major residential developments with access to three or more key services has varied since 2012/13. There is a need to continue to ensure that new residential developments have access to key services.

## Future Action

**3.18** The council will continue to raise awareness of the importance of accessibility to key services for new residential developments.

**3.19** The policies within the Joint DPD aim to ensure that new developments are in the most accessible locations with good transport links and make use of travel plans in major new developments.



## LOCAL SERVICES

### Indicators

Local Services – Town Centre Uses
<b>Total amount of floorspace for 'town centre uses' (Joint DPD Indicator 10)</b>
Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by facilitating appropriate developments in Oldham Town Centre, the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill, and along transport corridors (SO3e).
Target: N/A.
Oldham Position:  In 2018/19 a new system was implemented to monitor 'town centre' uses. A database has been compiled of approved applications for 'town centre' uses since 2018/19 of over 500sqm.  In December 2023 a new Aldi store with a gross internal area of 1,804 sqm opened on Lydia Becker Way in Chadderton.  It is also worth noting the comprehensive redevelopment Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre in Oldham Town Centre is still underway and over 7,000 sqm of new council offices opened on the upper floor in March 2024. Further phases of the Spindles redevelopment include the construction of a new market hall and event space and progress on these phases will be reported in next year's monitoring report.
Action needed: Processes to be put in place to ensure future monitoring of indicator.
Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 4, 15.
Sources: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

### Key Issues

**3.20** There is a continued need to locate 'town centre' uses' in or near to centres.

### Future Action

**3.21** Processes are to be put in place to ensure future monitoring of the indicator improves as appropriate.

## MINERALS

### Indicators

#### Minerals – Primary Land Won Aggregates

##### Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority (Joint DPD Indicator 32 and Joint Minerals DPD Indicator M1).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting the sustainable management of minerals through the prudent use, recycling, conservation and safeguarding of mineral resources. Developments will have regard to the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals DPD (SO1j).

Target: N/A

Oldham Position: At the time of writing no update has been received for this indicator for the 2023/24 monitoring year. The latest information received is available in the 2019/20 Monitoring Report, which can be found on the council's website.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 8.

Source: GMCA

#### Minerals – Secondary/Recycled Aggregates

##### Production of secondary and recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority (Joint DPD Indicator 33 and Joint Minerals DPD Indicator M2).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting the sustainable management of minerals through the prudent use, recycling, conservation and safeguarding of mineral resources. Developments will have regard to the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals DPD (SO1j).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: At the time of writing no update had been received for this indicator for the 2023/24 monitoring year. The latest information received is available in the 2019/20 Monitoring Report, which can be found on the council's website.

Action needed: none

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 8.

Source: GMCA

## Key Issues

**3.22** Oldham is dependent on the GMCA and the Regional Aggregate Working Party's annual monitoring and MHCLG for aggregate figures and to monitor the indicators within the Joint Minerals DPD. Once the information is made available, Oldham Council will publish it in an Addendum to this Monitoring Report.

## WASTE

### Indicators

#### Waste

##### Capacity of new waste management facilities by waste planning authority (Joint DPD Indicator 35).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy. Developments will have regard to the Greater Manchester Joint Waste DPD (SO1k).

Target: N/A

Oldham Position: During 2023/24 there were no planning permissions granted for new waste management facilities.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 7.

Sources: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

#### Waste

##### Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority (Joint DPD Indicator 34).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy. Developments will have regard to the Greater Manchester Joint Waste DPD (SO1k).

Target: 33% of household waste is managed by recycling and composting.

Oldham Position: All figures reported are for Household Waste only. All figures come from Waste Data Flow which is verified by the Environment Agency and DEFRA.

Total Amount of Household Waste Arisings 2023/24: 71,053 tonnes.

Of the total household waste, 32,678 tonnes were managed by recycling and composting.

Total amount of household managed by incineration was 38,376 tonnes.

The overall recycling rate for household waste in Oldham for 2023/24 was 45.99%.

In previous years the recycling rate was:

## Waste

### Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority (Joint DPD Indicator 34).

- 2022/23: 46.35%
- 2021/22: 47.68%
- 2020/21: 42.2%
- 2019/20: 44%
- 2018/19: 44.65%
- 2017/18: 44.69%
- 2016/17: 42.53%
- 2015/16: 39%
- 2014/15: 38%
- 2013/14: 37%
- 2012/13: 36.76%

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 7.

Sources: Oldham Council.

## Key Issues

**3.23** There are currently no issues linked with this indicator. The Joint Waste DPD was adopted 1 April 2012. The Joint Waste DPD contains additional indicators to monitor the effectiveness of the plan policies. Oldham is dependent on the GMCA to monitor those indicators. Once that information is made available, Oldham Council will publish it in an Addendum to this Monitoring Report.

## Future Action

**3.24** The policies within the Joint DPD and the Joint Waste DPD continue to recognise the importance of sustainable waste management.

## FLOOD PROTECTION AND WATER QUALITY

### Indicators

#### Flood Protection and Water Quality

Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds (Joint DPD Indicator 28i).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by avoiding development within areas of flood risk and where necessary controlling and mitigating the impact and residual risks. Developments will have regard to the findings of the Oldham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SO1h).

Target: To not approve applications contrary to EA advice.

Oldham Position: In 2023/24 there were two Environment Agency objections based on water quality. One was for glamping pods in an agricultural field, including a septic tank. This application was refused on several grounds including risk to water quality. The other application was also for a glamping site. This was approved and the officers report explained that the EA note that the improvements to the access track will be acceptable provided development stays within the footprint of the pre-existing track. Any fencing or other associated development will need to be set back from the River Beal by a minimum of 8metres. Therefore, a condition was attached.

Since 2012/13 this is the first year there have been objections on water quality grounds from the Environment Agency (EA).

In 2023/24 there were three planning applications which received EA objections based on flood risk. One of the applications was refused, for reasons other than flood risk. One application for four kiosks at Saddleworth Sewerage Works was approved and the EA objection was revised to say no objections. The third application was also approved for housing and the EA objections were removed following the submission of additional information subject to imposition of conditions.

Since 2012/13 there have been EA objections on flood risk grounds each year.

Action needed: Continue to ensure that the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) advice is addressed, and national planning guidance is followed.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 19.

Source: Environment Agency and Oldham Council Planning.

**3.25** This year's monitoring indicates that EA advice is being followed with regards to flood risk and water quality.

## Flood Protection and Water Quality

### Number of new developments where agreed with the council incorporated Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) (Joint DPD Indicator 28ii).

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by avoiding development within areas of flood risk and where necessary controlling and mitigating the impact and residual risks. Developments will have regard to the findings of the Oldham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SO1h).

Target: 100% of developments (where agreed with the council)

#### Oldham Position:

At the time of writing no update had been received for this indicator for the 2023/24 monitoring year. The latest information received is available in the 2022/23 Monitoring Report, which can be found on the council's website.

SUDs consents approved in previous years are as follows:

- 2022/23: 91 applications checked for SUDS. 76 used SUDS in the development scheme.
- 2021/22: 121 applications checked for SUDS. 91 used SUDS in the development scheme.
- 2020/21: 96 applications checked for SUDS. 34 used SUDS in their development
- 2019/20: 85 applications checked for SUDS. 21 used SUDS in their development.
- 2018/19: four developments used SUDS in their schemes.
- 2017/18: 41 applications checked for SUDS. 15 of these used SUDS in their development scheme.
- 2016/17: 33 applications checked for SUDS. Five of these used SUDS in their development scheme.
- 2015/16: 31 applications checked for SUDS. Six of these used SUDS in their development schemes.
- 2014/15: 32 applications checked for SUDS. Six of these used SUDS in their development schemes.
- 2013/14: 33 applications checked for SUDS. 16 of these used SUDS in their development schemes.
- 2012/13: Three developments used SUDS in their schemes.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 19.

Source: Oldham Council, Highway Assets and Network

#### Future Action

- 3.26** The Lead Local Flood Authority is now a statutory consultee on major planning applications and will address water flood risk and SUDS.

## BIODIVERSITY

### Indicators

#### Biodiversity

- i) Change in areas of biodiversity importance (Joint DPD Indicator 38i);and
- ii) Improved local biodiversity (Joint DPD Indicator 38ii).

Joint DPD Objective: To improve and value the borough's environment by protecting, conserving and enhancing the character and quality of the borough's landscapes and townscapes, its natural assets and heritage, green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity, and its built heritage and historic environment, including their wider settings (SO4b).

Target: N/A

Oldham Position: An update to the borough's Sites of Biological Importance was received in October 2023 and was approved in February 2024. This includes amendments to boundaries at Hull Brook (loss) and Ponds at Cowlshaw (gain) resulting in a net loss of -0.5 hectares of SBIs.

Previous years:

- 2022/23: no updates
- 2021/22: extent of SBI's increased by 4 hectares, including through a new SBI at Grasscroft Pasture and a deleted SBI at Lord's Brook.
- 2020/21: no updates
- 2019/20: extent of SBIs increased by 2.6 hectares 2018/19: extent of SBIs increased by 2.4 hectares.
- 2017/18: one SBI deleted at Royton Moss resulting in 2.3 hectares loss. Plus, designation of a Regionally Important Geodiversity Site (RIGS) at Glodwick Brickpit.
- 2016/17: no changes reported.
- 2015/16: extent of SBIs increased by 2.3 hectares. 2014/15: extent of SBIs increased by 3.6 hectares. 2013/14: extent of SBIs decreased by 0.1 hectares. 2012/13: extent of SBIs increased by 43.2 hectares.

Defra publishes data on the 'Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being, or has been, implemented. The latest figures for Oldham in 2024 show that 100% of local sites (41) are under positive conservation management. Positive management includes wetland creation and management, leaking dams, woodland creation and management, pollinators, non-intervention and invasive weed control. Habitat piles, standing and fallen deadwood. Wildlife reporting, tackling ASB, species protection and monitoring.

Previous years: Since 2012 (apart from 2013/14 no data was available) 100% of sites have been under positive conservation management.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 6, 21.

Source: Defra, Oldham Council

## **Key Issues**

- 3.27** Biodiversity and habitat management runs through everything we do across our countryside estate, and so from none / limited intervention to major schemes and projects all sites are positively managed in relation to conservation and biodiversity.
- 3.28** Since 2012/13 there has been a significant increase in the extent of Sites of Biological Importance, the borough has gained two Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites and had ancient woodland designated.

## **Future Action**

- 3.29** Ensure that biodiversity is enhanced through statutory biodiversity net gain and biodiversity duties.



## RENEWABLE ENERGY

### Renewable Energy

#### Renewable energy generation installed (Joint DPD Indicator 31)

Local Indicator: Percentage of large developments incorporating low carbon generation.

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by supporting carbon-neutral developments by following the principles of the zero-carbon hierarchy (SO1a).

Target: N/A.

Oldham position: Joint DPD Policy 18 requires major developments to meet energy targets over and above Part L Building Regulations. In 2023/24, 12 out of 13 relevant major applications were granted permission which sought to meet Policy 18 (92%). Nine of these had a condition attached requiring applicants to meet Policy 18 and three of the applications included energy statements or plans as part of the approved application. This does not include change of use applications.

In addition, a further four major applications had conditions attached requesting that applicants must submit details to show compliance with PfE policy JP-S.

Previous years:

- 2022/23: 71%
- 2021/22: 65%
- 2020/21: 67%
- 2019/20: 25%
- 2018/19: 29%
- 2017/18: 27%
- 2016/17: 65%
- 2015/16: 60%
- 2014/15: 81%
- 2013/14: 86%
- 2012/13: 71%

Developments completed with energy compliance stated in writing include:

- Land To The West Of Broadway And Milton Drive – 47 homes – fabric first and some houses in scheme will include photovoltaics panels.
- Former Bowling Green, Shaw – 10 homes - A mixture of sustainable building-design, a fabric first approach and renewable/low carbon energy systems.
- Land At The Junction Of Oldham Road And Hardman Street – 14 homes - Each dwelling will incorporate an energy efficient design, adopting a fabric first approach, with the incorporation of Solar Photovoltaics
- Former Fytton Arms – 16 homes - A mixture of sustainable building-design, a fabric first approach and renewable/low carbon energy systems.
- Milton Street Royton – 7 homes – sustainable building design / fabric first approach.
- Land to the South of Denbigh Drive – 20 homes – Fabric First and photovoltaics.
- Land at Cardwell Street – 6 homes - fabric-first and energy efficient services design approach along with a PV system.

## Renewable Energy

### Renewable energy generation installed (Joint DPD Indicator 31)

- Land off Radcliffe St – 35 houses complete - fabric first approach.
- Lancaster Club – 29 homes - fabric first approach
- Cowlshaw – 24 homes – fabric first and can use air source heat pumps or solar pv.
- Land at Wellyhole Street – 37 houses completed – to be completed in accordance with Energy Council Energy Statement Z4751.2
- Land off Rosary Road and Hill Farm Close – 1 home – Fabric First approach.
- Spindles Shopping Centre – redevelopment - Fabric first and photovoltaics.
- Cobalt Way, Foxdenton Lane - - warehouse units – fabric first.
- Plot 3000 Lydia Becker Way, Broadway Green – commercial units - Fabric first and Air Source Heat Pumps in the office areas and PV installation on units 1 and 5.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 18.

Source: Oldham Council, Strategic Planning.

### Key Issues

- 3.30** The percentage of applications with a condition attached or an energy statement / plans already submitted requiring development to meet Policy 18 is 92%. This is a significant increase on previous years.

### Future Action

- 3.31** Care should be taken to continue to ensure that conditions are being attached regardless of whether energy statements have been submitted or not, including proposals for employment.

## GREEN BELT AND OPEN LAND

### Indicators

#### Green Belt

#### Number and type of developments in the Green Belt (Joint DPD Indicator 36)

Joint DPD Objectives: To improve and value the borough's environment by ensuring appropriate land management in the open countryside and Green Belt that has regard to the needs of the rural economy (SO4d); and

To improve and value the borough's environment by maintaining Green Belt boundaries and permitting only appropriate developments (SO4e).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: There were 108 applications approved in the Green Belt during 2023/24.

These included:

- Householder developments: 43
- Minor other: 13
- Minor dwellings: 11
- Change of use: 2
- Listed building consent: 4
- Prior approval: 2
- Variation of conditions: 9
- Non-Material amendments: 9
- Minor Material Amendment: 2
- Agricultural Notification: 1
- Certificate of Lawfulness: 9
- Discharge Condition: 3

In addition, 13 applications for telecommunications were noted during the monitoring period in the Green Belt.

Previous years (number of applications approved in the Green Belt):

- 2022/23: 91
- 2021/22: 126
- 2020/21: 51
- 2019/20: 96
- 2018/19: 100
- 2017/18: 84
- 2016/17: 79
- 2015/16: 97
- 2014/15: 105
- 2013/14: 84
- 2012/13: 105.

Action needed: None

Relevant Joint DPD Policy: 1, 22.

## Green Belt

### Number and type of developments in the Green Belt (Joint DPD Indicator 36)

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

#### Key Issues

**3.32** The number of applications granted is slightly higher in the monitoring period. There were slightly more minor dwellings and minor other applications approved than the previous year.

**3.33** Generally, applications approved in the Green Belt are minor in nature, with the majority being householder applications.

#### Future Action

**3.34** The council should continue to protect the newly adopted PfE Green Belt for Oldham in line with policies of the NPPF, PfE and the saved policies in the Local Plan.

## Other Protected Open Land

### Number and type of developments in Other Protected Open Land (Joint DPD Indicator 39i)

Joint DPD Objective: To improve and value the borough's environment by identifying 'Other Protected Open Land' and 'Land Reserved for Future Development' (SO4f).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: A search for applications within Other Protected Open Land (OPOL) in 2023/24 highlighted that the following three applications were granted planning permission:

Two Householder applications – one for a single storey rear extension and one for replacement enclosure. Both were deemed small scale development that met the OPOL policy.

One Telecommunications application for prior approval which was granted.

Number of planning applications granted on OPOL in previous years:

- 2022/23: 8
- 2021/22: 2
- 2020/21: 1
- 2019/20: 2
- 2018/19: 5
- 2017/18: 3
- 2016/17: 3
- 2015/16: 5
- 2014/13: 8
- 2013/14: 6
- 2012/13: 3

Action needed: None.

## Other Protected Open Land

### Number and type of developments in Other Protected Open Land (Joint DPD Indicator 39i)

Relevant Joint DPD Policy: 1, 22.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Key Issues

**3.35** The number of planning applications granted on OPOL is low and those permitted were deemed acceptable in line with the policy.

## Future Action

**3.26** Since the Interim Planning Position Paper was prepared the adopted PfE has allocated sites for development which has meant that OPOL at Bullcote Lane (OPOL 9), Shawside (OPOL 10) and Cowlshaw (OPOL22) have been de-designated.

**3.27** The council should protect remaining designated OPOL from development unless the proposed development is appropriate, small-scale or ancillary development close to existing buildings within the OPOL, which does not affect openness, local distinctiveness or visual amenity in line with the saved Local Plan policy.

**3.28** An Other Protected Open Land Interim Planning Position Paper was adopted September 2021 that sets out how the council will consider Other Protected Open Land (OPOL) when assessing planning applications for development that may impact on the OPOL and is available on the Oldham Council website.

## Land Reserved for Future Development

### Number and type of developments in Land Reserved for Future Development (Joint DPD Indicator 39ii)

Joint DPD Objective: To improve and value the borough's environment by identifying 'Other Protected Open Land' and 'Land Reserved for Future Development' (SO4f).

Target: N/A.

Oldham Position: There were no applications granted within Land Reserved for Future Development (LRFD) in 2023/24.

An application was granted within the LRFD in May 2020 for 77 dwellings (land to the east of Hebron Street (PA/343341/19)) which has meant that the majority of the designation has now been developed. The remaining area of LRFD forms part of JP Allocation 12 Broadbent Moss in PfE.

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 22.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Key Issues

**3.29** There are no issues linked with this indicator.

## Future Action

**3.30** This part of Policy 22 on LRFD has now been superseded by JP Allocation 12 Broadbent Moss. The indicator is no longer required to be monitored in future AMRs.

## Landscape Character

### Number of planning applications refused on landscape character grounds (Joint DPD Indicator 27)

Joint DPD Objective: To improve and value the borough's environment by protecting, conserving and enhancing the character and quality of the borough's landscapes and townscapes, its natural assets and heritage, green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity, and its built heritage and historic environment, including their wider settings (SO4b).

Target: 100% of planning applications that do not protect and/or enhance landscape character, where appropriate, should be refused.

Oldham Position:

During 2023/24 there were no applications refused on landscape grounds.

Previous years:

- 2019 - 2023 - 0
- 2018/19: 1
- 2017/18: 0
- 2016/17: 4
- 2015/16: 6
- 2014/15: 4
- 2013/14: 5
- 2012/13: 2
- 2011/12: 2

Action needed: None.

Relevant Joint DPD Policy: 21

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Key Issues

**3.31** No key issues. Generally, relevant applications are refused on matters relating to amenity, highways and Green Belt.

## Future Action

**3.32** The Joint DPD aims to ensure that the borough's landscape is conserved and enhanced when assessing relevant planning applications.

## CONSERVATION

### Indicators

#### Conservation

i) Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on the English Heritage 'Heritage at Risk Register' (Joint DPD 22i)

ii) Number/extent of Conservation Areas (Joint DPD 22ii)

iii) Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals (Joint DPD Indicator 22iii).

Joint DPD Objective: To improve and value the borough's environment by protecting, conserving and enhancing the character and quality of the borough's landscapes and townscapes, its natural assets and heritage, green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity, and its built heritage and historic environment, including their wider settings (SO4b).

Target: No loss

Oldham Position in 2023/24:

i) There are nine entries in the borough on the Historic England at Risk Register and this does not include any Scheduled Monuments. This represents 1.6% of all assets in the borough (555).

In previous years the number of entries on the heritage at risk register has been:

- 2019 - 2023: 9
- 2017 - 19: 10
- 2016/17: 9
- 2015/16: 10
- 2014/15: 7
- 2012 - 2014: 6

ii) There are 36 conservation areas covering 250.79 ha. This has remained the same since the Joint DPD was adopted. However, 'Oldham Town Centre' Conservation Area is on the 'Heritage at Risk' list.

An updated Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Oldham Town Centre has been carried out and adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in August 2019. This has included four extensions to the conservation area totalling 4.04 hectares. This variation has been designated under Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. However, until the reviewed Local Plan is adopted these extensions cannot be shown on the Local Plan Proposals Map and will be treated as a material planning consideration. It is hoped that the Management Plan will help to remove Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area from the 'Heritage at Risk' register.

iii) An assessment of the planning applications approved for 2023/24 shows the following in relation to loss of listed buildings:

There were zero applications for loss of listed buildings as a whole. There was one application granted for the dismantling of a chimney. The conservation officer agreed it was a later addition and the flue could be erected which allows the majority of the stone detailing to be repaired and seen.



## Conservation

i) Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on the English Heritage 'Heritage at Risk Register' (Joint DPD 22i)

ii) Number/extent of Conservation Areas (Joint DPD 22ii)

iii) Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals (Joint DPD Indicator 22iii).

There was one application including the demolition of structures within a conservation area. This was for demolition of a conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension. It was considered that the proposed extension would have negligible implications.

Previous years (for both part demolitions of listed buildings and/or their settings and demolition in conservation areas):

- 2022/23: Listed buildings – zero (but one rebuild); conservation areas – eight applications
- 2021/22: Listed buildings – one application for alternation; conservation areas – nine applications
- 2020/21: Listed buildings – four applications for alterations; conservation areas – one application.
- 2019/20: Listed buildings - one application for loss of link bridge connected to a listed building; conservation area - one application.
- 2018/19: Listed Building - one application for the whole of a listed building and six relating to alterations to listed buildings.
- 2017/18: Listed buildings - three applications; conservation areas - zero applications.
- 2016/17: Listed buildings- four applications; conservation areas - two applications;
- 2015/16: Listed buildings - two applications; conservation areas - one application;
- 2014/15: Listed buildings - six applications; conservation areas - three applications; and
- 2013/14: Listed buildings - two applications; conservation areas - eight applications.

Action needed: None. Policy 24 of the Joint DPD states that the council will protect, conserve and enhance heritage assets and their settings.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 24.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

## Key Issues

**3.33** The number of buildings on the "Heritage At Risk" Register has remained the same since last year. A positive strategy is needed to promote the use of heritage assets and to support their repair, restoration and enhancement. The Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan SPD has been adopted which should help to remove the Town Centre from the at-risk register.

**3.34** The number of applications granted for demolitions relating to listed buildings has remained low and there were fewer consents granted for the demolition to buildings/structures within conservation areas. The proposals were found to be acceptable in heritage terms.

## **Future Action**

- 3.35** Continue to ensure that the policies within PfE and the Joint DPD protect, conserve and enhance the borough's heritage assets.

## HEALTH, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES

### Indicators

Health
<b>Number of health and well-being centres started and/or completed (Joint DPD Indicator 40).</b>
Joint DPD Objective: To create safer and stronger inclusive communities by improving the health and well-being of the borough's population by facilitating programmes such as the new health and well-being centres and facilities in accessible locations (SO5h).
Target: N/A
Oldham Position:  There was one health or well-being centre which had started, or completed, during the 2023/24 monitoring period and this was the completion of Shaw Crompton Medical Centre, which opened on 19 July 2024.
Action needed: None.
Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 2.
Source: Oldham Council.

Health
<b>i) Adult participation in sport (Joint DPD Indicator 41i).</b>
<b>ii) Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport (Joint DPD Indicator 41ii).</b>
Joint DPD Objective: To create safer and stronger inclusive communities by improving the health and well-being of the borough's population through the provision of quality and accessible open spaces, sport and recreation facilities (SO5g).
Target: i) The council target for this indicator is 20%. ii) N/A

## Health

### i) Adult participation in sport (Joint DPD Indicator 41i).

### ii) Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport (Joint DPD Indicator 41ii).

Oldham Position: At the time of completing the AMR for 2023/24, Sport England had not released an updated Active Lives Survey for 2023/24. Therefore, the data below, is the latest data we have available.

i) Information on Sport and Physical Activity levels for Oldham's population (Adults 16+) are now available through Sport England's Active Lives Survey. The latest results (2022/23) are as follows:

- 35% of Oldham's population do less than 30 minutes of physical activity per week - classed as 'inactive'. A rise of 6.5% since last year.
- 10.5% of Oldham's population do 30-149 minutes of physical activity per week - classed as 'fairly active'. A small decrease since last year.
- 54.5% of Oldham's population do 150+ minutes of physical activity per week - classed as 'active'. A decrease of more than 5% since last year.

Source: *Sport England's Active Lives Survey (Data update: Table 3 Sport and Physical Activity Levels (Adults) by Local Authority*

Previous years:

- 2022/23: Less than 30 minutes – 28.5%, 30 -149 minutes – 11.8% and 150+ minutes – 59.7%.
- 2021/22: Less than 30 minutes – 33.4%, 30 -149 minutes – 12.7% and 150+ minutes – 53.4%.

ii) There is no information regarding children and young people's participation in high quality PE and sport for the year 2023/24.

Action needed: N/A

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 2, 6, 23.

Source: Sport England. Oldham Council.

## Key Issues

**3.36** Given the lack of an updated Sport England Active Lives Survey for 2023/24, data is taken from the previous year. The percentage of Oldham's adults (aged 16+) doing more than 150 minutes of activity per week and classed as 'active' is the second lowest in Greater Manchester. At 54.5% it is also below the Greater Manchester average of 60.8%. Comparable data is only available from the last years AMR as the way the data is collected has changed, however it is clear that the minutes of physical exercise can vary year on year.

**3.37** The children and young people element of this indicator is no longer available because the method of gathering data related to this indicator ceased.

## Future Action

**3.38** The council should continue to apply Local Plan policies 1, 2, 6 and 23 to protect existing indoor and outdoor sports provision and to support the development of new sports provision as appropriate. The council should also look at increasing accessibility for people of all ability to areas of greenspaces.

<b>Education</b>
<b>Number of education related developments started and/or completed (Joint DPD Indicator 43).</b>
Joint DPD Objective: To promote economic diversification, growth and prosperity and the sustainable economic regeneration of the borough by supporting the borough's transforming education agenda to improve education and skills: by i) facilitating improvements to the borough's schools through programmes such as the Primary Capital Programme. ii) facilitating higher and further education proposals such as those of the University Campus Oldham, the Oldham College and the Oldham Sixth Form College including the development of the Regional Science Centre Oldham in Oldham Town Centre (SO3g).
Target: N/A
The following education related developments were completed in the monitoring year 2023/24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New school - Brian Clarke Academy (Bluecoat II)</li><li>• Crompton House C Of E High School - Installation of two storey block of 4no. temporary classrooms, 2no. lobby areas, external staircase to the first floor, and access ramp/steps to ground floor</li><li>• SEE Oldham - Change of use from industrial to provision of education</li><li>• St Margarets C Of E Primary School - Single storey extension and conversion of an existing covered play area to provide additional classroom spaces</li></ul> The following education related developments were under construction in the monitoring year 2023/24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• St Thomas C Of E Primary School - Single storey pitched roof classroom extension to facilitate implementation of SEN provision</li><li>• Saint Theresa's RC Primary School - Provision of new playing field and associated works</li></ul>
Action needed: N/A
Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 2.
Source: Oldham Council.

## Key Issues

**3.39** There are no key issues related to this indicator.

## Future Action

**3.40** The council should support proposals for education related development in line with Policy 2 and other relevant policies in the Joint DPD.

## Communities

### Number of people who are engaged in the Local Plan consultation process (Joint DPD Indicator 1).

Joint DPD Objective: To create safer and stronger inclusive communities by promoting community cohesion (SO5a).

Target: To engage as many people and organisations in the Local Plan consultation process in line with the council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

Oldham Position: There are 521 people, agencies and organisations on the Local Plan mailing list and therefore engaged in the Local Plan consultation process.

- 2022/23: 541
- 2021/22: 561
- 2020/21: 561
- 2019/20: 392
- 2018/19: 459
- 2017/18: 1,609
- 2016/17: 1,609
- 2015/16: 1,578
- 2014/15: 1,545
- 2013/14: 1,299
- 2012/13: 1,218

Action needed: Council to continue to encourage people, agencies and organisations to subscribe to the Local Plan mailing list.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: All policies.

Source: Oldham Council Strategic Planning and Information section.

### Key Issues

**3.41** There was a significant drop in the number of people registered on the mailing list between 2017/18 and 2018/19 and therefore engaged in the Local Plan consultation process. This is primarily down to the introduction of the GDPR legislation which led to the removal of the majority of addresses registered. There has been a further small drop this year.

### Future Action

**3.42** The council will continue to encourage people, agencies, and organisations to subscribe to the Local Plan mailing list.

## AIR QUALITY AND DEVELOPMENT

### Indicators

#### Air Quality and Development

#### Number of days of Air Pollution (Joint DPD Indicator 30)

#### Annual Average Nitrogen Dioxide

Joint DPD Objective: SO1 To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by minimising the impact of motorised traffic on the global climate and on local air quality (SO1g); and

To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting the prudent use, appropriate reclamation where necessary and sustainable management of natural resources (land, soil, air and water) and man-made resources (SO1I).

Target: Annual mean nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) target = 40 microgrammes per cubic metre (ugm<sup>3</sup>).

Oldham Position:

Air Quality Band	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Low	347	348	359	353	342	344	353	355	349
Moderate	18	17	6	13	22	20	10	11	14
High	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Very High	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
<b>Total number of days where pollution was moderate or higher</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>

**Number of Days in Greater Manchester where pollution was moderate or higher<sup>13</sup>**

The overall air pollution index is determined by the highest concentration of 5 pollutants in the area. These are nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, ozone, particles <2.5 ug in diameter, and particles <10 ug. The above figures are based on actual monitoring data from the Greater Manchester area, including the monitoring station in Oldham at Crompton Way, Shaw. Health advice is given for people who are at risk from elevated levels of air pollution, for example, adults and children with lung or heart problems. Defra produces daily air pollution forecast tweets from @DefraUKAir so that people who may be affected by poor air quality can take relevant action. More information on pollution bands is available on the Defra website [www.uk-air.defra.gov.uk/air-pollution/daqj](http://www.uk-air.defra.gov.uk/air-pollution/daqj).

The Air Quality monitoring station on Crompton Way, Shaw in 2023 captured 93% of the available data on Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and measured an annual average of 21 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, i.e.,

<sup>13</sup> For data on years prior to 2015 please see previous versions of the Monitoring Report.

## Air Quality and Development

### Number of days of Air Pollution (Joint DPD Indicator 30)

#### Annual Average Nitrogen Dioxide

well below the National objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. This is significantly less the previous year's level of 24µg/m<sup>3</sup>. There were also no exceedances of the hourly average objective (i.e., 200µg/m<sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year) at the site in 2023, in fact again, as in 2022, there were no incidences when the hourly mean was greater than 200µg/m<sup>3</sup> in 2023 at all.

The Air Quality monitoring station on Crompton Way, Shaw in 2023 captured 96% of the available data on PM10. The annual mean for PM10 (particle matter) at the monitoring station in 2023 was 15µg/m<sup>3</sup> i.e., well below the objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. This is below the level of 18µg/m<sup>3</sup> measured at the site in 2022. In addition, the objective for the 24-hour mean of 50µg/m<sup>3</sup> not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year was not exceeded at this site.

Diffusion Tubes - In 2023 there were two sites that that exceeded the annual air quality objective of 40µg/m<sup>3</sup> when distance corrected for the nearest exposure (where necessary). These were:

1. Tube OL25 - Outside 21 Shaw Road in Royton recorded a distance corrected result of 43.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. This tube is sited in an Air Quality Management Area. The road the tube is situated next to is often used by Heavy Goods vehicles as they visit the industrial areas off Salmon Fields and Higginshaw Lane in Royton. There is also often standing traffic at lights in the area. The result is very similar to last year's reading of 42.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

2. Tube OL28 - outside 12 Oldham Road, Royton recorded an annual average of 42 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The tube is sited in an Air Quality Management Area. This road is the main road that links Rochdale to Oldham. It is extremely busy and there is often standing traffic due to the lights at the junction with Middleton Road. This year's level is significantly down on last year's result of 47 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Previous year's annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide levels were (µg/m<sup>3</sup>):

- 2022: 24
- 2021: 25
- 2020: 23
- 2019: 30
- 2018: 30
- 2017: 36
- 2016: 29.0
- 2015: 34.6
- 2014: 32.4
- 2013: 30.07
- 2012: 31.8
- 2011: 32.3

Action: None

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 9.

Source: Oldham Council Environmental Health.

## Key Issues



**3.43** The level of Nitrogen Dioxide and Particle Matter is slightly lower than last year and well below the target.

**3.44** The number of days where pollution was moderate or higher is slightly higher than last year.

### Future Action

**3.45** Ensure that new development minimises the need to travel and promotes active travel and the use of public transport, as well promoting electric vehicle charging points. New developments should also be energy efficient. The policies within PfE and the Joint DPD aim to protect and improve local environmental quality.

## Air Quality and Development

### Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors (previously NI186) (Joint DPD Indicator 44)

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by supporting carbon neutral developments by following the principles of the zero-carbon hierarchy (SO1a);

To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by minimising the impact of motorised traffic on the global climate and on local air quality (SO1g); and

To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting the prudent use, appropriate reclamation where necessary and sustainable management of natural resources (land, soil, air and water) and man-made resources (SO1i).

Target: 48% reduction in emissions on the 1990 baseline (750.36kt CO<sub>2</sub>)

Oldham Position: The latest information is for 2022 when there were 3.2 tonnes of per capita emissions.

The sources of this were:

- Industrial – 102.1 kt
- Commercial – 86.5 kt
- Public Sector – 43.5 kt
- Domestic – 274.1 kt
- Transport – 234.8 kt
- Total – 780.2 kt

Previous years (tonnes per capita):

- 2021: 3.5 tonnes
- 2020: 3.0 tonnes
- 2019: 3.3 tonnes
- 2018: 3.4 tonnes
- 2017: 3.4 tonnes
- 2016: 3.5 tonnes
- 2015: 3.7 tonnes
- 2014: 3.9 tonnes
- 2013: 4.4 tonnes

## Air Quality and Development

### Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors (previously NI186) (Joint DPD Indicator 44)

- 2012: 4.6 tonnes
- 2011: 4.2 tonnes

Action needed: None

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 9, 18.

Source: Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

### Key Issues

**3.46** The figures for 2022 are a decrease compared to 2021 and the lowest since the plan period (except for 2020 which is likely to be due to covid).

### Future Action

**3.47** The policies within the Joint DPD help to guide development to accessible locations, and promote and encourage the use of public transport, walking and cycling and low carbon energy. There is the need to continue to reduce emissions and to ensure that the Local Plan review helps to deliver the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan and Transport strategies.

## CONTAMINATED LAND

### Indicators

Contaminated Land
<b>Number of sites remediated as a result of planning permission (Joint DPD Indicator 29)</b>
Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote sustainable development in the borough by promoting the prudent use, appropriate reclamation where necessary and sustainable management of natural resources (land, soil, air and water) and man-made resources (SO1i).
Target: N/A.
<p>Oldham Position:</p> <p>This indicator is no longer monitored, and the council will need to review how contaminated land is monitored in the future.</p> <p>In the meantime, 355 planning applications were reviewed by Environmental Health between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024. Of these planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 47 were requested to have Landfill Gas Investigation</li><li>• 19 were requested to have Contaminated Land Investigation</li><li>• 47 were requested to have a watching brief for contaminated land</li><li>• 7 were requested to have a Gas Membrane condition</li></ul> <p>Previous year's show the following number of applications for contaminated land investigation, landfill gas and gas membrane conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2023: 39; 44; and 9 applications respectively.</li><li>• 2022: 78; 80; and 20 applications respectively.</li><li>• 2021: 81; 54 and 10 applications respectively.</li></ul>
Action needed: None.
Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 9.
Source: Oldham Council Environmental Health section.

### Key Issues

- 3.48** The council no longer monitors the original indicator. Alternative information has been provided.

### Future Action

- 3.49** The policies within the Joint DPD will help protect and improve local environmental quality.

## DESIGN

### Urban Design

#### Number and percentage of major planning applications refused on poor design grounds. (Joint DPD Indicator 21)

Joint DPD Objective: To mitigate and adapt to climate change and to promote sustainable development in the borough by ensuring the sustainable and high quality design and construction of all new developments (SO1b).

Target: 100% of applications with poor design quality should be refused.

Oldham Position: There were no major planning applications refused on design grounds in the monitoring year 2023/24.

Number of applications refused on design grounds in previous years:

- 2022/23: 0
- 2021/22: 0
- 2020/21: 0
- 2019/20: 0
- 2018/19: 1
- 2017/18: 2
- 2016/17: 2
- 2015/16: 3
- 2014/15: 1
- 2013/14: 0
- 2012/13: 1

Action needed: Continue to encourage high-quality design in developments.

Relevant Joint DPD Policies: 1, 20.

Source: Oldham Council.

### Key Issues

**3.50** The number of major planning applications refused on design grounds has remained zero for several years, indicating that most major planning applications are achieving acceptable design.

### Future Actions

**3.51** The council will look at ways to improve the effective monitoring of this indicator.

### Indicators that are no longer monitored

**3.52** The Joint DPD was adopted in November 2011. The Monitoring Report monitors indicators from the Joint DPD, Joint Waste DPD and the Joint Minerals DPD only. For information, the indicators that are no longer able to be monitored are:

- Number of sites remediated as a result of planning permission;
- Windfall completions (housing);

- Public transport accessibility of new residential development to key services (Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, GPs, hospitals, employment areas and major retail centres);
- Amount of eligible open spaces managed to Green Flag award standard;
- Net change in the extent of protected open space;
- Number of Air Quality Management Areas;
- Number of quality bus corridors;
- Number of potentially contaminated sites in the borough;
- Number of applications relating to contaminated sites;
- Extent of derelict and underused land;
- Number of Local Nature Reserves and Country Parks;
- Number of domestic burglaries per 1,000 households;
- Percentage of vehicle crimes per 1,000 population;
- Number of cyclists involved in road accidents;
- Number of pedestrians involved in road accidents;
- Extent of cycleway and footpath provision;
- Number of wind turbine applications granted and refused planning permission;
- Previously developed land that has been vacant or derelict for more than 5 years (Joint DPD Indicator 2);
- Healthy life expectancy at 65;
- Number of properties added to stock which have 3+bedrooms in HMR area; and
- Supply of ready to develop housing sites (SO2(e)) and (SO2(f))

**3.63** In addition, this year the following indicators have not been possible to monitor due to the necessary information not being available, lack of resources and changes in monitoring processes:

- Amount of completed non-residential development within Use Classes A, B and D complying with car parking standards set out in the local plan. (Joint DPD Indicator 25);
- Building for Life Assessments (Joint DPD Indicator 20);
- Local Services - Open Space: i) Extent of protected (Joint DPD Indicator 37i); and ii) Percentage of quality and accessible open spaces meeting local standards (Joint DPD Indicator 37ii);
- Improved street and environmental cleanliness (Joint DPD Indicator 45); and
- Indicators in relation to the Joint Minerals and Joint Waste DPD's.

**3.64** These indicators will be re-visited each year in case circumstances change and an update provided in future Monitoring Reports as appropriate.

**3.65** Finally, Joint DPD Indicator 24 'Extension of Greater Manchester's light rail network, 'Metrolink', to the borough', has been removed as the Metrolink extension was completed in 2014.

## 4 Implementation of the Statement of Community Involvement

### Analysis of responses to Local Plan consultations

- 4.1** The latest Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted in July 2021. The SCI sets out how the council will involve the community and stakeholders in the preparation of the Local Plan, neighbourhood plans and the consideration of planning applications.
- 4.2** Section 10 of the SCI (Review and Monitoring) explains that the council will monitor the SCI to see how effective it is in terms of involving the community in the preparation of the Local Plan. The table below looks at the Local Plan consultations undertaken during the monitoring period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.
- 4.3** The table below sets out the consultation techniques used for each document, the number of people and organisations consulted, the response rate and an analysis of the equalities monitoring. (Note: The number of people consulted can vary for each consultation - this is because the Local Plan Mailing List is an evolving list with new people added and others removed throughout the year at consultee requests). It identifies any problems or issues and sets out any further actions required to improve our engagement and consultation with the community and stakeholders.

*Table 4 – Local Plan Document Consultation*

Local Plan Document / Consultation Dates	Consultation Techniques Used	Number of people / organisations consulted	Response Rate	Effective problems identified / any changes required
The Draft Local Plan consultation was held from 10 January –to25 February 2024.	<p>A public notice was published in the Oldham Evening Chronicle, made available on the council's website and at the borough's public libraries and the council's planning reception.</p> <p>A press release was prepared.</p> <p>Posters advertising the consultation were sent to via council networks to leisure centres, community groups and town centre locations to be displayed.</p> <p>A letter or email was sent to those individuals</p>	There were 539 people, agencies and organisations on the Local Plan Mailing list who were directly contacted.	Around 77 people responded.	Comments made to feed into the next stage of Local Plan preparation.

Local Plan Document / Consultation Dates	Consultation Techniques Used	Number of people / organisations consulted	Response Rate	Effective problems identified / any changes required
	<p>and organisations on the mailing list regarding the consultation. As well as to Councillors and relevant internal officers.</p> <p>The consultation was available to view and comment on via our Consultation Portal (<a href="https://bigoldhamconvo.oldham.gov.uk/hub-page/the-local-plan">https://bigoldhamconvo.oldham.gov.uk/hub-page/the-local-plan</a>)</p> <p>Social media posts on the council's Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages were published throughout the consultation period.</p> <p>A number of drop-in sessions were held in different locations in the borough for members of the public to attend and learn more about the Draft Local Plan.</p>			

## 5 Key findings and actions

### Implementation of Policies

- 5.1** This section of the Monitoring Report analyses how Oldham's planning policies are being implemented. Where they are not, or are being implemented effectively, the reasons are examined and what, if any, actions may be needed.
- 5.2** From analysing the indicators within Section 3, 'The effects of the Local Plan', it is possible to highlight policies that may not be being effectively implemented or interpreted correctly and/or are not hitting their targets. Below is a list of indicators that may need to be further examined for their effectiveness or how they are being implemented:
- New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land (Joint DPD Indicator 13) - at least 80% of new dwellings in the borough to be built on PDL: In 2023/24, 55% (231) of new and converted dwellings were completed on previously developed land (PDL) in Oldham. This is lower than 2022/23 (64%) and is below the target of 80%. However, it should be noted that there were another 103 dwellings completed in 2023/24 on mixed sites which contain both PDL and greenfield land. These are not included in the PDL figure. Therefore 80% of all dwellings completed in 2023/24 were on PDL or mixed sites. Whilst the number of dwellings completed on previously developed land is lower than the target, greenfield sites only accounted for 24% (16 sites) of all sites (66 sites) with plot completions during 2023/24, compared to 9% of all sites in 2022/23. Despite this, brownfield and mixed sites still make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply. **Action:** continue to encourage new residential development on previously developed land and specifically consider actions to increase the delivery of housing on PDL (through the Housing Delivery Action Plan).
  - Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding and water quality grounds - In contrast to previous monitoring years this year there were two Environment Agency objections relating to water quality. However, one application was refused due to water quality and the other application was resolved and approved. Both applications were for glamping pods. **Action:** These indicators will be kept under review and appropriate steps taken, where necessary, to improve their performance.

### Action needed to address gaps in information

- 5.3** The key actions under this heading are:
- To continue working with the council's Development Management section to ensure that relevant data is entered into the planning applications management system to facilitate the closer monitoring of the use of policies in decision-making.
  - To further develop monitoring systems for relevant indicators as appropriate, including the loss of employment land, vacant previously developed land and open space.
  - To look at how the council can effectively monitor the Contaminated Land indicator in future years.

### Action needed to respond to indicators

- 5.4** The key housing related actions under this heading are:
- Continue to review of the council's SHLAA annually to inform the housing land supply position and the emerging Local Plan review;
  - Whilst each application will be treated on its planning merits, proposals for residential development on greenfield sites will (whether new proposals or where the renewal of



planning permission is sought) continue to be resisted unless there are other relevant material considerations;

- Planning applications for the conversion and change of use of agricultural buildings to residential use and which are technically classified as greenfield developments (because agricultural buildings are not regarded as “previously developed land”) continue to be treated on their planning merits;
- The Local Plan will identify sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, as appropriate, if there is a clear and demonstrable need based on up-to-date evidence in line with the Joint DPD Policy 12;
- Encourage the provision of larger family (three/four plus bed) accommodation, higher value, aspirational, housing and housing for older people, as identified within the Local Housing Needs Assessment (2019) as part of the mix of new residential developments; and
- Utilise local evidence, including both the Greater Manchester and Oldham’s Strategic Housing Market Assessments and the Council’s Housing Strategy and Local Housing Needs Assessment, to ensure that housing delivered meets the needs of the local community.

**5.5** In terms of flood risk, the LLFA is now a statutory consultee on major planning applications and will address surface water flood risk and SUDS.

**5.6** The key action associated with biodiversity is to ensure that biodiversity is enhanced through statutory biodiversity net gain and wider biodiversity duties.

**5.7** The key action associated with OPOL is to continue to protect designated OPOL in line with the Local Plan policy unless material considerations suggest otherwise.

**5.8** The key action associated with landscape character is to ensure that the borough’s landscape is conserved and enhanced when assessing relevant planning applications.

**5.9** The key actions associated with health are:

- The council should continue to apply Local Plan policies 1, 2, 6 and 23 to protect existing indoor and outdoor sports provision and to support the development of new sports provision as appropriate; and
- There is the need to ensure that developments are located close to key services, with good public transport networks and access to open space, sport and recreation provision to encourage people to use active modes of travel and to reduce air pollution.

**5.10** The key action associated with education is to ensure that the council continues to support proposals for education-related development.

**5.11** The key actions associated with air quality and development are:

- Ensure that new development minimise the need to travel and promote active travel and the use of public transport, as well providing as electric vehicle charging points. New developments should also be energy efficient. The policies within the Joint DPD aim to protect and improve local environmental quality.

**Action needed to update timetables in the Local Development Scheme**

**5.12** The Local Development Scheme (LDS) in place at the start of the monitoring period was that approved in October 2022. During the monitoring period an update was published which took effect on the 22 December 2023. The revised LDS reflected the latest Places for Everyone Joint DPD and revised Local Plan timetables. The Local Plan timetable is now under review to consider the implications of the proposed reforms to the NPPF. A revised LDS will be published in due course.

### **Action needed to respond to new policy/prepare new development plan documents**

**5.13** The key actions under this heading are:

- To continue working with GMCA partners on the implementation and monitoring of PfE;
- To continue working on the preparation of the Local Plan review; and
- Review existing indicators and monitoring processes as part of the Local Plan review as appropriate.

### **Action needed to respond to master planning activity**

**5.14** As part of the council's plans for regeneration, there has been and will continue to be, a considerable amount of master planning activity taking place in the borough, such as the Oldham Town Centre Framework.

**5.15** At present, it is not proposed that any of these masterplans will be progressed as Area Action Plans or SPDs. They will however be reflected through implementing the Core Strategy and PfE plans where appropriate and will be considered when preparing the emerging Local Plan Review.

## 6 Other Monitoring Matters

### Neighbourhood Development Order and Neighbourhood Development Plans

- 6.1** In November 2016 Saddleworth Neighbourhood Area was designated. Informal consultation and information gathering on a neighbourhood plan for the area has been on-going since then. During 2019/20 a survey was distributed to residents and businesses.
- 6.2** Though it falls out of this year's monitoring period it is worth noting that Saddleworth Parish Council consulted on a draft Saddleworth Neighborhood Plan from 2<sup>nd</sup> April to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. They are now considering responses and preparing for pre-submission stage.
- 6.3** Chadderton Neighbourhood Area and The New Chadderton Partnership was designated on 28 February 2022 following consultation on the revised forum and area applications between 29 November 2021 and 10 January 2022.

### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 6.4** The council has determined not to proceed with a CIL schedule at this time and therefore no monitoring has or will take place in this regard.

### Duty to Co-operate

- 6.5** All consultations that have been undertaken in the monitoring period have been carried out in accordance with the adopted SCI, with the relevant Statutory Consultees contacted for comments as appropriate. The table below outlines formal Duty to Co-operate meetings regarding the progress of local plan documents held during the monitoring period. In addition to these meetings there are on-going meetings with various key stakeholders as and when necessary.

*Table 5 Formal Duty to Co-operate meetings held during 2023 - 2024*

Organisation / Local Authority	Strategic Issues Considered	Who the issue was discussed with	Date	Outcome of discussion
Electricity North-West (ENW)	Process to facilitate Local Area Energy Plans / Local Plans	ENW, Greater Manchester Authorities	26/04/2023, 08/06/2023, 21/09/2023, 11/01/2024	To discuss Local Area Energy Plans / Local Plans and ENW investment plans.
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross boundary issues	Calderdale Council	08/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross boundary issues	Peak District National Park	09/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross	Rochdale Council	13/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues

Organisation / Local Authority	Strategic Issues Considered	Who the issue was discussed with	Date	Outcome of discussion
	boundary issues			
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross boundary issues	Manchester City Council	14/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross boundary issues	Tameside Council	21/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross boundary issues	Peak District National Park Authority	09/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues
Oldham Council	Oldham Draft Local Plan and cross boundary issues	High Peak Borough Council and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	29/02/2024	To continue liaising on Local Plan and any cross-boundary issues
Oldham Council	Meeting to discuss transport evidence needed to progress the plan to Publication Stage.	National Highways and TfGM	14/03/2024	To continue liaising as the Local Plan progresses.

## Appendix 1 Joint DPD Policies Replaced by Places for Everyone

The following policies from Oldham's Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (2011) (Joint DPD) have been wholly or partially replaced by policies within Places for Everyone (PfE). Any part of the policy which is not replaced has been retained and will remain part of the statutory development plan until it is replaced by the relevant part of the Local Plan.

**Table 11 Joint DPD Policies Replaced by Places for Everyone**

Joint DPD Policy	Replaced by PfE policy / policies	Section of policy to be superseded
3 An Address of Choice (Partially)	JP-H1	Section of policy on Distribution of Housing (including Table 5 - Current distribution of housing within District Partnership areas (based on the 2009 SHLAA)). Paragraphs 5.41 to 5.45 Table 6 – Current distribution of housing land types within District Partnership areas (based on the 2009 SHLAA findings)
4 Promoting Sustainable Regeneration and Prosperity (Partially)	JP-J3 and JP-J4	Second and third paragraph of policy wording. Paragraphs 5.51 and 5.52 of the reasoned justification
5 Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Modes (Partially)	JP-C3, JP-C5, JP-C6 and JP-C8	Policy requirements b) to j) Paragraphs 5.59 and 5.60 of the reasoned justification
18 Energy (Partially)	JP-S2	Section of policy on Carbon Dioxide Reduction Targets (including Table 8 – Energy Infrastructure Framework) Paragraphs 6.93 to 6.105 of the reasoned justification
19 Flooding (Partially)	JP-S4, JP-G3, JP-D1	Policy requirements a), b), c) and e) are superseded and replaced by policy JP-S4 Policy requirement d) is superseded by Policy JP-G3 Policy requirement f) is superseded by Policy JP-D1 Paragraphs 6.113 to 6.116 of the reasoned justification
20 Design	JP-P1	The entirety of policy 20 is superseded by Policy JP-P1
22 Protecting Open Land (Partially)	JPA13 Chew Brook Vale	Policy wording 'The 2006 UDP Policy OE1.8 'Major Developed Site in Green

	<p>JPA10 Beal Valley  JPA12 Broadbent Moss  JPA14 Cowlishaw</p> <p>JPA12 Broadbent Moss</p> <p>JP-G9</p>	<p>Belt 'will be saved and will be assessed in the Site Allocations DPD' and paragraph 6.140 from the reasoned justification.</p> <p>The following areas of Other Protected Open Land (OPOL) will be de-designated (and their reference removed from paragraph 6.141 of the reasoned justification) as they are included in the boundary of strategic allocations:</p> <p>OPOL 9 – Bullcote Lane, Royton</p> <p>OPOL 10 – Shawside, Shaw (Moss Hey)</p> <p>OPOL 22 – Cowlishaw, Shaw</p> <p>Policy wording 'Development on LRFD will only be granted where it would be acceptable in the Green Belt and which would not prejudice the later development of LRFD beyond the life of the LDF' and paragraph 6.143 from the reasoned justification</p>
25 Developer Contributions	JP-D2	The entirety of policy 25 is superseded by policy JP-D2

## **Appendix 2 Places for Everyone Annual Monitoring Report**

# Places for Everyone

# Annual Monitoring Report

December 2024



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# 1. Introduction

## Context

- 1.1 The Places for Everyone (PfE) Joint Development Plan 2022 - 2039 is the strategic spatial plan for nine Greater Manchester local authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), and as such sets out a collective planning policy framework across the nine PfE local authorities. The PfE was adopted with effect from 21 March 2024.
- 1.2 The PfE Plan<sup>1</sup> forms the Part 1 Plan of the Development Plan for each of the nine PfE local authorities and is used to assess individual planning applications. Local plans need to be consistent with the PfE and neighbourhood plans need to be in general conformity with the plan's strategic policies. The PfE Plan provides an appropriate strategic policy framework for local plans to be produced in the nine PfE local authorities.

## Purpose of this report

- 1.3 Monitoring is a key component of any development plan document and therefore is key to the success of the PfE. As such, to be effective, plans need to be kept up-to-date and monitored. This report is therefore part of this process in regularly monitoring performance to assess whether the strategic objectives and policies in the PfE are being achieved and remain relevant, or whether they need to be updated.

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<sup>1</sup> [greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/9578/places-for-everyone-joint-development-plan-document.pdf](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/9578/places-for-everyone-joint-development-plan-document.pdf)

1.4 The monitoring framework for the PfE is set out in Tables 12.1 to 12.7 of the PfE. This report assesses the performance of the PfE against the indicators and policy outcomes in the monitoring framework. A copy of the PfE Monitoring Framework is in Appendix A.

## **Report format**

1.5 The monitoring report follows the structure of the PfE Monitoring Framework, as such the policy outcomes and indicators for each chapter of the PfE are reported on in turn:

- Sustainable and Resilient Places
- Places for Jobs
- Places for Homes
- Greener Places
- Places for People
- Connected Places
- Delivering the Plan

## **Strategic Environmental Assessment**

1.6 This report also monitors significant environment effects of implementing the PfE, as required by the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations. The purpose of this is to identify any unforeseen adverse environmental effects at an early stage so that appropriate remedial action can be taken. The significant environmental effects of the PfE are embedded into the policy outcomes and objectives of the PfE monitoring framework. The PfE Integrated Assessment Adoption Statement, available

on the GMCA website<sup>2</sup>, illustrates that the PfE Integrated Assessment Framework objectives, which incorporate the significant environmental effects of the PfE, link across to and are covered by the PfE monitoring framework.

## Geographical area

1.7 The PfE indicators are monitored across four geographic areas: the full PfE area; at the district level; at the PfE strategy area level; and PfE allocation level. The PfE Monitoring Framework indicates the level the indicators are monitored at with many being reported across multiple levels. The PfE strategy areas are the Core Growth Area (JP-Strat1), the Inner Areas (JP-Strat5), the Northern Areas (JP-Strat6) and the Southern areas (JP-Strat9). Until such time that the detailed boundaries of these spatial strategy areas are established in district local plans, the monitoring report illustrates the geographical boundaries to which the data refers<sup>3</sup>. The allocations will be monitored by PfE districts but where a PfE indicator forms part of this monitoring it is noted in the 'Allocation' column of monitoring framework.

## Further monitoring

1.8 Whilst this report looks in detail at specific indicators in the PfE monitoring framework, it should be noted that the GMCA also carries out extensive further research and monitoring in a number of related areas. This includes the GMCA Research dashboards including the Housing Market Monitor dashboard and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment. This all sits

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<sup>2</sup> [Adoption - Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

<sup>3</sup> These spatial areas are in line with those agreed in Salford City Council's Draft Local Plan: Core Strategy and Allocations 2024

under the umbrella of the Greater Manchester Strategy for which there is also extensive evidence and monitoring<sup>4</sup>.

- 1.9 For reference, whilst not directly related to a PfE monitoring indicator the 2024 Land Supply tables are provided in Appendix B

## **Timescales**

- 1.10 This is the first Monitoring Report of the PfE. It establishes the baseline at the point of adoption of the PfE in March 2024. Nevertheless, where possible, indicators have been reported on from the start of the PfE plan period in 2022.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/research>

## 2. Summary of key findings

- 2.1 This section summarises some of the key messages from this monitoring report

### **Brownfield Land**

- 2.2 In 2023-24, 8,421 new residential units were built on brownfield land in the PfE area, 83% of all completions during this financial year. The percentage split by Spatial Strategy Areas was at least 90% in both the Inner (90%) and Core (96%) Areas.
- 2.3 253,401 sqm of employment floorspace was built on brownfield land in the PfE area, 82% of all employment floorspace delivered in 2023-24.
- 2.4 At least 88% of new employment sites were built on brownfield land in each Spatial Strategy Area in 2023-24. This rose to 100% of sites in both the Inner and Core Growth Areas. The percentage of gross employment floorspace delivered in each Spatial Strategy Area in 2023-24 was at least 99% in all areas apart from the Northern Area, where just over half of new employment floorspace was delivered on brownfield land.

### **Housing completions**

- 2.5 There were 10,050 net housing completions in the PfE area in 2023/24, which is 987 net completions higher than the 2022-2025 PfE phased delivery of 9,063.
- 2.6 2,414 new build affordable housing completions were delivered across the PfE area in 2023-24. 603 of which were in Manchester and 424 in Wigan.
- 2.7 The majority of housing completions in 2023/24 were built in the Northern Spatial Strategy Area (39%), closely followed by the Core Growth Area (38%).

## Office completions

2.8 In 2023-24, over 129,800 sqm of office floorspace was delivered in the PfE area. The majority of this floorspace was delivered in the Core Growth Spatial Strategy Area (106,913 sqm)

## Industry and warehousing completions

2.9 Over 178,900 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace was delivered in the PfE area in 2023-24. The majority of this floorspace was delivered in the Northern Spatial Strategy Area (96,786 sqm)

## Greener Places

2.10 As of June 2024, there was almost 13,900 hectares of accessible Green Infrastructure in the PfE Area. Most of this was located in the Northern Spatial Strategy Area (11,889 ha) and the least in the Core Growth Spatial Strategy Area (68 ha).

## Flood Risk

2.11 In 2022/23, 38 developments were referred to the Environment Agency (EA) after flood risk objections and 2 sites had permission granted against EA advice. The following year (2023/24) 30 sites across the PfE area were referred for the EA for advice and no sites went granted permission against this advice.

## Town centres

2.12 In 2023-24, 8.9% (401) of housing completions were delivered in main town centres across the PfE area. 36% of Rochdale's completions were in their main town centre, this was 24% for Bury's main town centre.

## **Accessibility**

- 2.13 77% (7,792) of all housing completions were delivered within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the PfE area in 2023/24
- 2.14 In terms of the Spatial Strategy Areas, 100% (3,878 units) of housing completions were within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the Core Growth Area and 47% in the Northern Area.
- 2.15 In 2023-24, 72% of all new employment floorspace was delivered within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the PfE area. 100% (158,675 sqm) of new employment floorspace was within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the Core Growth Area.



# 3. Sustainable and Resilient Places

## Policy Outcome:

### Reduced Carbon emissions from new development

#### Indicator: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B

- 3.1 Without any mitigation, new development is estimated to result in around a 3% increase in energy demand. Clean growth is essential to meet future emission targets and to avoid costly retrofit programmes at a later date.
- 3.2 The Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating system measures a property's energy efficiency from A to G, with A being the most efficient and G being the least.
- 3.3 In 2022 there were 9,396 EPC certificates lodged for net additional residential development and 6,940 of these were completed with an EPC rating of A and B in the Places for Everyone area, representing 74% of all new developments that were given an EPC certificate.
- 3.4 In 2023 there were 9,639 EPC certificates lodged for net additional residential development and 6,940 of these were completed with an EPC rating of A and B in the Places for Everyone area, representing 83% of all new developments that were given an EPC certificate.
- 3.5 Taking the totals for both 2022 and 2023, over three quarters (78.5%) of new build homes in the Places for Everyone area were completed with an EPC rating of A and B.

**Table 3.1: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B (2022 – 2023)**

Area	Total Certificates EPC A-G		No. of EPC A and B Certificates		% of EPC A and B Certificates	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Bolton	827	664	598	561	72.3	84.5
Bury	288	238	220	188	76.4	79.0
Manchester	1,888	2,448	1,266	1,980	67.1	80.9
Oldham	432	379	347	342	80.3	90.2
Rochdale	580	863	527	768	90.9	89.0
Salford	2,494	2,195	1,685	1,856	67.6	84.6
Tameside	631	593	490	501	77.7	84.5
Trafford	876	1,119	514	814	58.7	72.7
Wigan	1,380	1,140	1,293	983	93.7	86.2
PfE Area	9,396	9,639	6,940	7,993	73.9	82.9
England and Wales	261,337	238,929	221,949	202,268	84.9	84.7

Source: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Departments for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities [Live tables on Energy Performance of Buildings Certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/live-tables-on-energy-performance-of-buildings-certificates)

## Policy Outcome: Maximise the use of suitable previously developed (brownfield) land for development

### Indicator: % of residential development on brownfield land

- 3.6 Any new residential development should be prioritised in areas that maximise the use of brownfield (previously developed) land.
- 3.7 In 2023-24, 8,421 new residential units were built on brownfield land in the Places for Everyone area, signifying around 83% of all new residential development during that period. In terms of the number of residential sites delivered on brownfield land during this time (420), this percentage was to 76% in the Places for Everyone area.
- 3.8 In the Core Growth, Inner, Northern and Southern Spatial Strategy Areas, at least 70% of new residential sites in each area was built on brownfield land in 2023-24. This percentage was at least 90% in both the Inner (90.0%) and Core Areas (96.4%). The percentages of the number of residential units delivered on brownfield land in the Spatial Strategy Areas during this time ranged from 60% in the Southern Area and up to 99% in the Core Growth Area.

**Table 3.2: % of Residential Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Number of Residential Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 - Units		Number of Residential Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 - Sites	
	Number	%	Number	%
Bolton	310	52.6	41	77.4
Bury	237	93.4	43	87.5
Manchester	2,908	96.7	84	88.4
Oldham	232	55.2	44	66.7

Rochdale	524	76.8	15	62.5
Salford	2,436	92.3	50	84.7
Tameside	533	83.7	43	74.1
Trafford	670	82.5	44	75.9
Wigan	571	49.8	56	60.9
PfE area	8,421	82.7	420	75.8

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

**Table 3.3: % of Residential Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Number of Residential Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 - Units		Number of Residential Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 - Sites	
	Number	%	Number	%
Core Growth	3,854	99.4	27	96.4
Inner	1,804	97.7	72	90.0
Northern	2,468	62.1	265	70.7
Southern	295	59.6	59	77.6

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

### **Indicator: % of gross employment development on brownfield land**

3.9 Any new employment development should be prioritised in areas that maximise the use of brownfield (previously developed) land.

3.10 In 2023-24, 253,401 sqm of employment floorspace was built on brownfield land in the Places for Everyone area, representing around 82% of all employment floorspace delivered in that period. In terms of the number of

employment sites delivered on brownfield land (100), this percentage increased to 93% in the Places for Everyone area.

- 3.11 In the Core Growth, Inner, Northern and Southern Spatial Strategy Areas, at least 88% of new employment sites in each area was built on brownfield land in 2023-24. This rose to 100% of sites in both the Inner and Core Growth Areas.
- 3.12 The percentage of gross employment floorspace delivered in each Spatial Strategy Area in 2023-24 was at least 99% in all Areas apart from the Northern Area, where 51% of new employment floorspace was delivered on brownfield land.

**Table 3.4: % of Employment Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Amount of Employment Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 - Sites		Amount of Employment Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 – Floorspace (sqm)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Bolton	15	100.0	15,956	100.0
Bury	4	100.0	380	100.0
Manchester	23	95.8	67,488	99.5
Oldham	6	66.7	8,528	30.6
Rochdale	2	50.0	281	0.9
Salford	7	100.0	59,115	100.0
Tameside	7	100.0	1,224	100.0
Trafford	21	100.0	86,627	100.0
Wigan	15	88.2	13,802	79.9
PfE area	100	92.6	253,401	82.1

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

**Table 3.5: % of Employment Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24:  
selected areas**

Area	Amount of Employment Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 - Sites		Amount of Employment Development on Brownfield Land 2023/24 – Floorspace (sqm)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Core Growth	22	100.0	158,675	100.0
Inner	5	100.0	1,503	100.0
Northern	52	88.1	56,284	50.6
Southern	21	95.5	36,939	99.0

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

## Policy Outcome: No new homes and employment premises at risk of flooding

### Indicator: No. of planning permissions approved against EA advice

3.13 The data below shows flood risk objections to planning applications for development that were referred to the Environment Agency (EA) in 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24. In the PfE area in 2021/22, 24 developments (residential/employment and mixed) were referred to the EA, but no permissions were granted which went against their advice.

3.14 In 2022/23, 38 developments were referred to the EA and 2 sites had permission granted against EA advice. One in Bolton (a mixed-use site) and one in Trafford (categorised as Other). The following year (2023/24) 30 sites across the PfE area were referred for the EA for advice and no sites went against this advice.

**Table 3.6: No. of planning permissions approved against Environment Agency (EA) advice**

Local Authority	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
	EA advice followed	Permission granted against EA advice	EA advice followed	Permission granted against EA advice	E A advice followed	Permission granted against EA advice
Bolton	2	0	7	1	8	0
Bury	4	0	3	0	3	0
Manchester	1	0	11	0	9	0
Oldham	1	0	2	0	2	0

Rochdale	4	0	4	0	0	0
Salford	6	0	3	0	0	0
Tameside	2	0	0	0	0	0
Trafford	0	0	4	1	0	0
Wigan	4	0	4	0	8	0
PfE Total	24	0	38	2	30	0

Source: Environment Agency

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-agency-objections-to-planning-on-the-basis-of-flood-risk>



## Policy Outcome: Improve air quality

### Indicator: Exceedance of the legal level of NO<sub>2</sub> (as an Annual Mean) in local AQMA and Clean Air Plan Monitoring

3.15 Monitoring NO<sub>2</sub> for the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan (GM CAP)<sup>5</sup> uses diffusion tubes at sites where “target determination”<sup>6</sup> modelling predicted illegally high levels of NO<sub>2</sub> for 2022. Three new continuous automatic air quality monitoring stations were installed in 2022 at the last key points of exceedance in Greater Manchester. The GM CAP monitoring campaign was expanded further in 2022 to cover all modelled road links in exceedance, aiming to site three monitoring sites along each road link. Results that can be compared with the annual average standard, following a review of data capture and siting criteria, at 385 locations in the PfE area as below.

**Table 3.7: Number of PfE CAP Monitoring Sites**

Local Authority	Number of Monitoring Sites				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bolton	5	14	14	14	32
Bury	5	16	16	16	36
Manchester	20	91	91	91	160

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<sup>5</sup>[Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan | Clean Air Greater Manchester \(cleanairgm.com\)](https://www.greatermanchester.gov.uk/clean-air-greater-manchester)

<sup>6</sup> The government’s Joint Air Quality Unit undertook a process called ‘target determination’, which involves comparing the outputs of the local and national modelling, verifying the local modelling methodology and then agreeing the forecast concentration assessment to be compared to the limit value for each exceedance. The outcome of this is an agreement of the NO<sub>2</sub> problem Greater Manchester must resolve (“target determination”) and the basis for the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan.

Oldham	0	9	9	9	19
Rochdale	0	12	12	12	15
Salford	5	27	27	27	60
Tameside	5	14	14	14	32
Trafford	5	14	14	14	18
Wigan	0	6	6	6	13
PfE Total	45	203	203	203	385

Source: [2022 Air Quality Annual Status Report \(GMCA\)](#)

3.16 Of these locations CAP air quality monitoring data showed 87 locations where exceedances of the nitrogen dioxide annual mean limit value, with a further 98 locations considered to be at risk of exceeding the limit.

**Table 3.8: Number of PfE CAP Exceedances**

Local Authority	Number of Exceedances (>40.4µg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bolton	1	4	1	2	4
Bury	2	10	0	2	6
Manchester	14	65	8	25	49
Oldham	0	5	0	1	5
Rochdale	0	4	1	1	1
Salford	1	16	0	7	13
Tameside	4	6	4	4	8

Trafford	1	3	0	0	0
Wigan	0	1	0	0	1
PfE Total	29	114	14	42	87

Source: [2022 Air Quality Annual Status Report \(GMCA\)](#)

**Table 3.9: Number of CAP sites at Risk of Exceedance**

Local Authority	Number of sites at Risk of Exceedances (>35 < 40.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bolton	3	2	3	3	4
Bury	3	2	3	4	10
Manchester	1	6	22	18	49
Oldham	0	1	4	4	5
Rochdale	0	3	0	2	4
Salford	0	0	6	7	15
Tameside	1	3	1	1	8
Trafford	3	7	1	1	1
Wigan	0	1	0	0	2
PfE Total	11	25	40	40	98

Source: [2022 Air Quality Annual Status Report \(GMCA\)](#)

3.17 Most exceedances and risk of exceedance are in Manchester and Salford. The CAP monitoring data indicates that air pollution has increased compared with 2021 but is below levels recorded pre-pandemic in 2019.

Analysis of the factors influencing pollution emissions and air quality indicate that the concentrations have been affected by:

- An increase in car traffic compared with 2021, and associated congestion although traffic is still below 2019
- Weather conditions have been less favourable in 2022 compared with 2021, reducing dispersion of pollutants
- Bus fleet emissions of retrofitted vehicles may not be performing as well as expected

3.18 It should also be noted that lockdown restrictions during 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic led to reduced vehicle traffic and associated emissions, and lower concentrations of air pollution.

## 4. Places for Jobs

### Policy Outcome: Improve productivity

#### Indicator: % increase in GVA per job

- 4.1 Increasing productivity will contribute to a thriving, inclusive and productive economy in the Places for Everyone area. Gross Value Added (GVA) per job can be used as a measure of productivity, calculated by taking the value of goods and services produced in an area, minus the cost of the inputs used to produce them. This can indicate how well an area uses its resources to generate economic growth.
- 4.2 The total GVA per job increased by 3.4% in the Places for Everyone area from 2020 - 2021, with three of the four PfE Spatial Strategy Areas experiencing a percentage increase in GVA per jobs during this time. For example, Core Growth saw the largest increase of 8.5% between 2020 - 2021. The Southern Area saw a decrease of -8.1% in GVA per full job during this time, the only area to experience a decrease.

**Table 4.1: % increase in GVA per job full, 2020 – 2021 in PfE Area**

<i>Spatial Strategy Areas</i>	<i>Total GVA (£) Thousand per job, 2020</i>	<i>Total GVA (£) Thousand per job, 2021</i>	<i>GVA per job % Change 2020 to 2021</i>
Core	63,586	68,970	8.5
Inner	54,450	58,740	7.9
Northern	49,144	50,571	2.9
Southern	60,970	56,010	-8.1
PfE Area	54,721	56,554	3.4

Source: Authors calculations using Table 1: Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOA, England and Wales) Total GVA, pounds million and the Business Register and Employment Survey

<i>Area</i>	<i>Total GVA (£) Thousand per job, 2020</i>	<i>Total GVA (£) Thousand per job, 2021</i>	<i>GVA per job % Change 2020 to 2021</i>
Bolton	50,059	51,949	3.8
Bury	49,801	50,844	2.1
Manchester	58,738	62,735	6.8
Oldham	48,098	47,918	-0.4
Rochdale	47,869	50,407	5.3
Salford	59,810	59,840	0.0
Tameside	47,830	48,263	0.9
Trafford	58,974	57,784	-2.0
Wigan	48,881	51,544	5.4
PfE Area	54,721	56,554	3.4

Source: Authors calculations using Table 1: Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOA, England and Wales) Total GVA, pounds million and the Business Register and Employment Survey

## Policy Outcome: Increased number of jobs

### Proportion of our residents (working age) in employment

- 4.3 Increasing the number of jobs in the Plan area can also help contribute towards a thriving economy.
- 4.4 The percentage of working age residents remained at just over 71% between 2021 to 2023 in the PfE area.
- 4.5 The proportion of working age residents in employment decreased by 0.2% between 2022 to 2023 in the PfE area. However, 5 of the 9 districts in the PfE area saw an increase in the proportion of working age residents in employment during this period.

**Table 4.2: Proportion of our residents (working age) in employment**

Area	2021		2022		2023	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Bolton	120,400	68.5	122,000	69.3	116,300	65.6
Bury	86,600	75	91,800	79.3	84,600	73.2
Manchester	270,300	69.1	267,000	67.8	281,400	71.4
Oldham	92,600	64.7	107,200	73.7	111,900	76.4
Rochdale	87,000	65.7	89,900	67.2	93,600	69.9
Salford	120,100	72.4	117,100	69.7	119,700	71.3
Tameside	104,700	74.5	104,800	75.6	102,200	73.2
Trafford	111,400	76.1	107,800	73.7	111,500	75
Wigan	155,600	77.1	151,800	76	140,400	70
PfE Area	1,148,600	71.2	1,159,400	71.7	1,161,600	71.5

Source: GMCA via the Business Register and Employment Survey via Nomis

## Policy Outcome: Improve access to jobs

### Indicator: Number of local labour agreements

4.6 The data this indicator was optional for districts to collect to report into this year's monitoring report, nevertheless it will be required for next year's monitoring report for 2024/25.

## Policy Outcome: Increase office floorspace by 2 million sqm by 2039

### Indicator: Increase in office floorspace (gross)

- 4.7 Development of office floorspace will work towards increasing office floorspace by 2 million sqm by 2039 in the PfE area.
- 4.8 In 2023-24, over 129,800 sqm of office floorspace was delivered in the PfE area. The majority of this floorspace was delivered in the Core Growth Spatial Strategy Area (106,913 sqm), the least was delivered in the Inner Spatial Strategy Area (60 sqm).

**Table 4.3: Gross Office Floorspace 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Gross Office Floorspace 2023/24 Sqm
Bolton	402
Bury	214
Manchester	64,277
Oldham	12,205
Rochdale	0
Salford	43,105
Tameside	275



Trafford	8,309
Wigan	1,050
PfE area	129,837

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

**Table 4.4: Gross Office Floorspace 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Gross Office Floorspace 2023/24
	Sqm
Core Growth	106,913
Inner	60
Northern	14,483
Southern	8,382

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

## Policy Outcome: Increase in industry and warehousing floorspace by 3.5 million sqm by 2039 (gross)

### Indicator: Increase in industry and warehousing floorspace (gross)

- 4.9 Delivering industrial and warehousing floorspace will work towards increasing this floorspace by 3.5 million sqm by 2039.
- 4.10 In 2023-24, over 178,900 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace was delivered in the PfE area. The majority of this floorspace was delivered in the Northern Spatial Strategy Area (96,786 sqm), the least was delivered in the Inner Spatial Strategy Area (1,443 sqm).

**Table 4.5: Gross Industry and Warehousing Floorspace 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Gross Industry and Warehousing Floorspace 2023/24 Sqm
Bolton	15,554
Bury	166
Manchester	3,584
Oldham	15,642
Rochdale	32,466
Salford	16,010
Tameside	949
Trafford	78,318
Wigan	16,233
PfE area	178,921

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

**Table 4.6: Gross Industry and Warehousing Floorspace 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	Gross Industry and Warehousing Floorspace 2023/24 Sqm
Core Growth	51,763
Inner	1,443
Northern	96,786
Southern	28,930

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

## Policy Outcome: Secure main town centres as local economic drivers

### Indicator: No. of residential units (net) delivered in main town centres

- 4.11 Delivering residential units in main town centres will increase the potential of securing main town centres as local economic drivers.
- 4.12 In 2023-24, 8.9% (401) of all net\* housing completions were delivered in a main town centre in the PfE area. Rochdale's main town centre saw 242 housing completions during this period, representing over 36% of all residential completions. Bury's main town centre had 58 residential completions in 2023-24, 24% of all housing completions in this Local Authority.

**Table 4.7: Residential Units Delivered in Main Town Centres**

Town Centre	District	*Net Housing Completions 2023/24 in Main Town Centres Number	Net Housing Completions 2023/24 in Main Town Centres %
Altrincham	Trafford	8	1.0
Ashton-under-Lyne	Tameside	26	4.1
Bolton	Bolton	46	7.8
Bury	Bury	58	23.8
Oldham	Oldham	9	2.1
Rochdale	Rochdale	242	35.5
Wigan	Wigan	12	1.0
Main Town Centres in PfE Total		401	8.9

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas. \* Some figures include Gross rather than Net housing completions. This table also includes communal establishments in line with the Housing Delivery Test calculation.

### Indicator: GVA in and within 800m of the main town centres

- 4.13 Main town centres play a key role as local economic drivers, providing the primary focus for office, retail, leisure and cultural activity for their surrounding areas. Securing increased GVA in and within the main town centres is one way to achieve this. Anecdotally the data may have been lower in 2020 than in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- 4.14 Between 2020 and 2021, the total GVA increased in and within 800m of all main town centres in the PfE area: in total, GVA increased by just over 9% during this time, going from £7.07 million in 2020 to £7.72 million in 2021.
- 4.15 For example, Altrincham’s Town Centre’s GVA increased by 11.6% between 2020-2021 and Rochdale’s rose by 11.3% during the same period.
- 4.16 Please note, there are no main town centres situated in Manchester or Salford as these are classed as City Centres, hence no data is listed for these areas in the table below.

**Table 4.8: GVA in and within 800m of the main town centres**

<i>Town Centre</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Total GVA (£) million 2020</i>	<i>Total GVA (£) million 2021</i>	<i>GVA % Change 2020 to 2021</i>
Altrincham	Trafford	1.22	1.36	11.6
Ashton-under-Lyme	Tameside	0.85	0.88	4.0
Bolton	Bolton	1.42	1.57	10.3
Bury	Bury	0.90	0.97	8.5
Oldham	Oldham	0.95	1.03	7.8
Rochdale	Rochdale	0.91	1.01	11.3

Wigan	Wigan	0.83	0.91	9.1
Total		7.07	7.72	9.2

Source: Authors calculations using [Table 1: Lower-layer Super Output Areas \(LSOA, England and Wales\) Total GVA, pounds million](#)

## 5. Places for Homes

### Policy Outcome: Deliver net increase in new homes

**Indicators: Deliver approximately 9,063 homes annually by 2025, 10,305 annually by 2030 and 10,719 annually by 2039**

- 5.1 To deliver a net increase in the number of new homes across the plan period, there should be a phased delivery of approximately 9,063 homes annually by 2025, 10,305 annually by 2030 and 10,719 annually by 2039.
- 5.2 Net housing completions for the PfE area was 10,050 over the financial year 2023/24, which is 987 net completions higher than the 2022-2025 PfE phased delivery of 9,063.

**Table 5.1: Net Housing Completions 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	*Net Completions 2023/24 Number	2022-2025 PfE phase Number
Bolton	575	787
Bury	253	246
Manchester	2,962	3,533
Oldham	420	404
Rochdale	681	568
Salford	2,640	1,658
Tameside	632	236
Trafford	741	817
Wigan	1,146	814
<b>PfE area</b>	<b>10,050</b>	<b>9,063</b>

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas. \* This table includes communal establishments in line with the Housing Delivery Test calculation.

5.3 In terms of the percentage split of housing completions in the Spatial Strategy Areas, the majority in 2023/24 were concentrated in the Northern Spatial Strategy Area (39%), closely followed by the Core Growth Area (38%). The Southern Spatial Strategy Area delivered 5% of housing completions during this financial year 2023/24.

**Table 5.2: Net Housing Completions 2023/24: selected areas**

<i>Area</i>	<i>*Net Housing Completions 2023/24 Number</i>	<i>Distribution of all Net Housing Completions 2023/24 %</i>
Core Growth	3,878	38
Inner	1,846	18
Northern	3,966	39
Southern	495	5

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas. \* Some figures include Gross rather than Net housing completions. This table also includes communal establishments in line with the Housing Delivery Test calculation



## Policy Outcome: Maximise delivery of additional affordable homes

### Indicator: No. of new affordable homes completed

5.4 To improve people’s ability to access housing at a price they can afford, more affordable homes must be delivered across the PfE area.

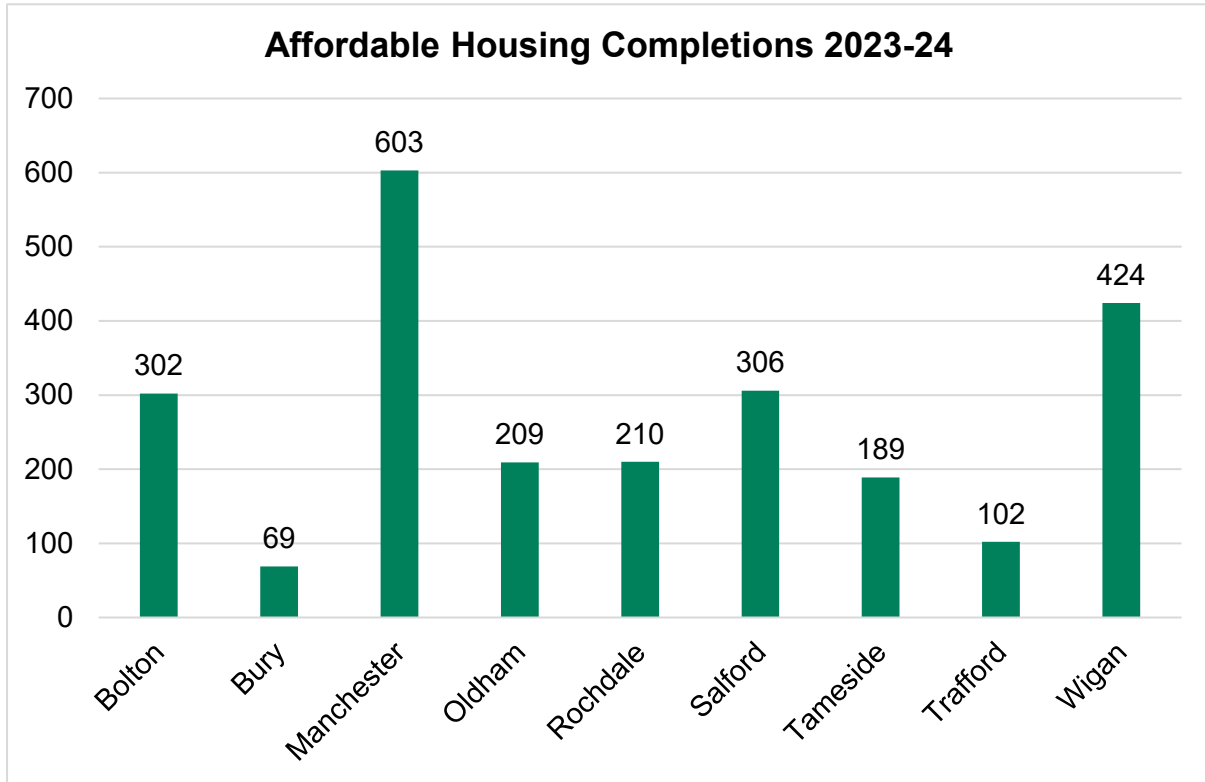
5.5 There were 2,414 new build affordable housing completions across the PfE area in 2023-24. 603 in Manchester and 424 in Wigan.

**Table 5.3: New Affordable Housing Completions 2023/24: selected areas**

Area	<i>New Affordable Housing Completions 2023/24</i>
Bolton	302
Bury	69
Manchester	603
Oldham	209
Rochdale	210
Salford	306
Tameside	189
Trafford	102
Wigan	424
PfE area	2,414

Source: [DLUHC Affordable housing supply open data](#)

**Figure 5.1: Affordable Housing Completions 2023-24**



Source: [DLUHC Affordable housing supply open data](#)

**Policy Outcome: Increase the number of homes meeting National Described Space Standard (NDSS)**

**Indicator: % new homes meeting Nationally Described Space Standards (NDSS)**

5.6 Indicator to be reported on in next year's monitoring report for 2024/25.

**Policy Outcome: Increase the number of new homes meeting A&A standard**

**Indicator: % new homes meeting Accessible & Adaptable (A&A) standard**

5.7 Indicator to be reported on in next year's monitoring report for 2024/25.

## 6. Greener Places

### **Policy Outcome: Enhance the green infrastructure network**

#### **Indicator: Gross area of new habitat created from the application of biodiversity net gain**

- 6.1 Data for this indicator will start to be collected by the Greater Manchester Ecological Unit (GMEU) in 2025 and will be reported in next year's PfE Monitoring Report.

#### **Indicator: Number, area and condition of sites of biological importance (SBI's)**

- 6.2 Enhancing the green infrastructure network in the PfE area can be done by maintaining the sites of biological importance (SBI's) within them.
- 6.3 SBIs are selected mainly based on their ecological value (for example, if they represent a particularly good example of a habitat type or contain a large number of species or particularly rare species). The appeal of sites to people and the extent to which they enable people to learn about and appreciate nature can also contribute to sites being selected as sites of biological importance.
- 6.4 Depending on their condition and relative importance in their local context, SBIs are given one of three grades:
- Grade A (county importance)
  - Grade B (district importance)
  - Grade C (more than local importance)
- 6.5 As can be seen in the table below for the PfE area almost 7,500 hectares (74%) of SBIs are of county importance and a total of just over 10,000 hectares over 466 sites are in the PfE area as a whole.

**Table 6.1: Number, area and condition of SBIs**

Area	Grade A		Grade B		Grade C		Total Area of SBIs (ha)	Total Number of SBIs
	Area of SBIs (ha)	Number of SBIs	Area of SBIs (ha)	Number of SBIs	Area of SBIs (ha)	Number of SBIs		
Bolton	810.69	19	355.09	29	94.87	20	1,260.65	68
Bury	782.92	20	105.62	18	31.54	12	920.08	50
Manchester	83.40	7	131.13	14	69.87	16	284.40	37
Oldham	891.71	9	138.30	16	42.21	13	1,072.22	38
Rochdale	2,262.56	15	157.42	14	80.76	15	2,500.74	44
Salford	258.45	6	194.27	13	69.77	13	522.49	32
Tameside	1,053.04	20	324.91	20	72.60	16	1,450.55	56
Trafford	203.10	11	125.87	14	109.72	23	438.69	48
Wigan	1,106.80	36	350.70	32	128.61	25	1,586.11	93
<b>PfE</b>	<b>7,452.67</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1,883.31</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>699.95</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>10,035.93</b>	<b>466</b>

Source: Greater Manchester Ecology Unit via [gov.uk](http://gov.uk)

## Policy Outcome: Increase tree planting

**Indicator: Number of trees planted annually (metric to be determined with respect to tree planting programmes and on site delivery as a result of planning decisions where available)**

6.5 Tree planting in the PfE area will help achieve the aims and objectives of the Greater Manchester Tree and Woodland Strategy.

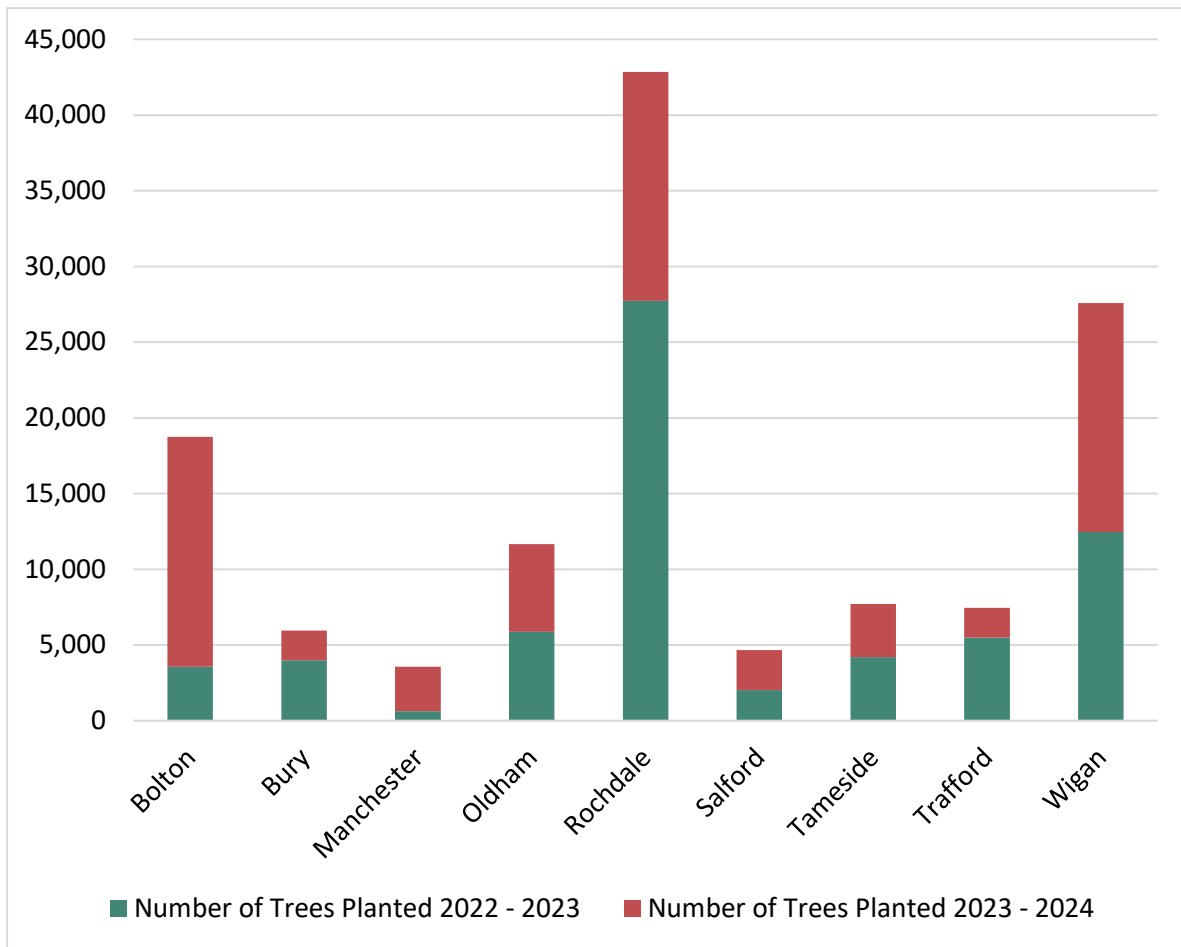
6.6 In 2022-23 there were nearly 66,000 trees planted in the PfE area in 2023-24, 64,000 trees which is total over the two years of over 130,000.

**Table 6.2: Number of trees planted annually**

<i>Area</i>	<i>Number of Trees Planted 2022 - 2023</i>	<i>Number of Trees Planted 2023 - 2024</i>	<i>Total Number of Trees Planted 2022 - 2024</i>
Bolton	3,556	15,176	18,732
Bury	3,991	1,958	5,949
Manchester	615	2,942	3,557
Oldham	5,875	5,795	11,670
Rochdale	27,734	15,118	42,852
Salford	2,028	2,629	4,657
Tameside	4,201	3,496	7,697
Trafford	5,490	1,958	7,448
Wigan	12,469	15,118	27,587
PfE Area	65,959	64,190	130,149

Source: City of Trees.

**Figure 6.1: Number of trees planted annually**



Source: City of Trees.

## Policy Outcome: Increase access to green infrastructure

**Indicator: Number of hectares of green infrastructure (metric will consider publicly accessible GI where information is available)**

- 6.7 The amount of publicly accessible green infrastructure in the PfE area will help to increase access to green infrastructure overall.
- 6.8 As of June 2024, there was nearly 13,900 hectares of publicly accessible green infrastructure in the PfE Area. Most of this was found in the Northern Spatial Strategy Area (11,889 ha), the least was in the Core Growth Area (68 ha).

**Table 6.3: Amount of publicly accessible green infrastructure in PfE districts**

<i>Area</i>	<i>Publicly Accessible GI (ha)</i>
Bolton	1,734
Bury	862
Manchester	1,324
Oldham	1,431
Rochdale	3,810
Salford	637
Tameside	1,983
Trafford	406
Wigan	1,701
PfE Area	13,888

Source: Authors calculations using [Natural England, Green and Blue Infrastructure \(England\), June 2024](#)

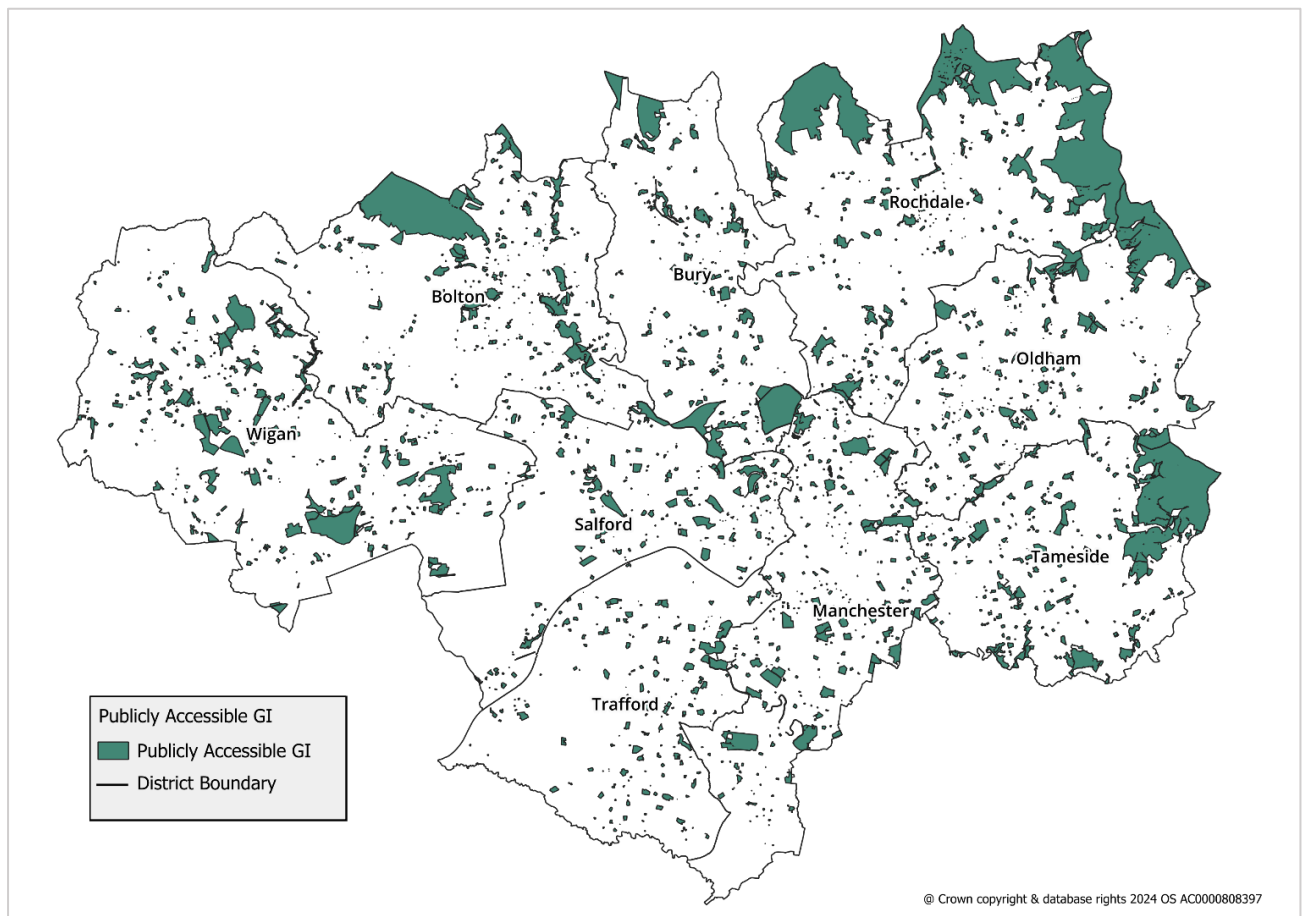


**Table 6.4: Amount of publicly accessible green infrastructure in the PfE strategy areas**

Area	Publicly Accessible GI (ha)
Core	68
Inner	1,165
Northern	11,889
Southern	770

Source: Authors calculations using [Natural England, Green and Blue Infrastructure \(England\)](#)

**Figure 6.2: Map of publicly accessible green infrastructure in the PfE area**



Source: Authors calculations using [Natural England, Green and Blue Infrastructure \(England\)](#)

## 7. Places for People

### **Policy Outcome: Conserve, sustain and enhance our historic environment and heritage assets**

**Indicator: Increase % of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use**

- 7.1 The data this indicator was optional for districts to collect to report into this year’s monitoring report, nevertheless it will be required for next year’s monitoring report for 2024/25.

### **Policy Outcome: Provision of additional school places to support new development**

**Indicator: Numbers of school places (Annual School Capacity survey) \*Consideration of ‘headroom’ statistics where available.**

- 7.2 Infrastructure provision will support the growth and continued capacity of the PfE area, including a proportionate amount of school places.
- 7.3 The percent of unfilled school places in the Places for Everyone area decreased by 0.6% from 2021-22 to 2022-23.
- 7.4 At a district level, all districts experienced a reduction in the percentage of unfilled school places, except for Bury (+0.4%), Oldham (+1.8%) and Trafford (+0.3%).

**Table 7.1: Numbers of school places**

Area	2021-22			2022-23		
	Number of Pupils on Roll	Number of School Places	% of Unfilled Places	Number of Pupils on Roll	Number of School Places	% of Unfilled Places
Bolton	49,363	52,949	6.8	49,823	52,824	5.7
Bury	27,510	29,606	7.1	27,424	29,659	7.5
Manchester	83,667	90,764	7.8	84,885	90,734	6.4
Oldham	42,150	45,270	6.9	42,476	46,505	8.7
Rochdale	35,550	38,205	6.9	35,850	38,404	6.7
Salford	34,610	37,484	7.7	35,194	37,447	6.0
Tameside	35,025	38,226	8.4	35,076	38,226	8.2
Trafford	40,914	42,863	4.5	41,260	43,360	4.8
Wigan	45,591	48,903	6.8	45,884	48,704	5.8
PfE Area	394,380	424,270	7.0	397,872	425,863	6.6

Source: [School Capacity up to 2022-23 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/school-capacity-up-to-2022-23)

## Policy Outcome: Workforce is ready to benefit from new employment opportunities

**Indicator: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub Level 2 qualification**

7.5 Between 2022 and 2023, the proportion of residents with sub-level 2 qualifications decreased from 16.8% to 14.4%, while those with level 4+ increased from 40.0% to 45.3%.

**Table 7.2: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub Level 2 qualification**

Area	2022				2023			
	Count with sub-Level 2	% with sub-Level 2	Count with Level 4+	% with Level 4+	Count with sub-Level 2	% with sub-Level 2	Count with Level 4+	% with Level 4+
Bolton	6,385	20.8	58,000	34.6	7,983	17.7	64,900	37.8
Bury	7,462	13	51,500	46.2	7,690	12.9	53,600	47.1
Manchester	18,565	16.8	197,100	52.5	30,920	11.2	235,200	60.3
Oldham	6,000	18.8	38,400	27.6	9,893	12.2	40,400	29.4
Rochdale	4,813	20.9	36,000	28.3	4,211	23.7	50,200	38.4
Salford	7,929	16.9	74,500	46.2	9,477	14.9	81,500	49.1
Tameside	6,392	17.1	44,100	33.4	7,753	15	47,400	34.7
Trafford	12,087	10.4	81,800	58.3	15,540	8.7	83,000	56
Wigan	10,287	15.7	67,200	35.1	9,387	17.3	65,200	33.2
PfE Area	76,524	16.8	648,700	42.0	94,618	14.4	721,300	45.3

Source: GMCA via Business Register and Employment Survey via Nomis

## 8. Connected Places

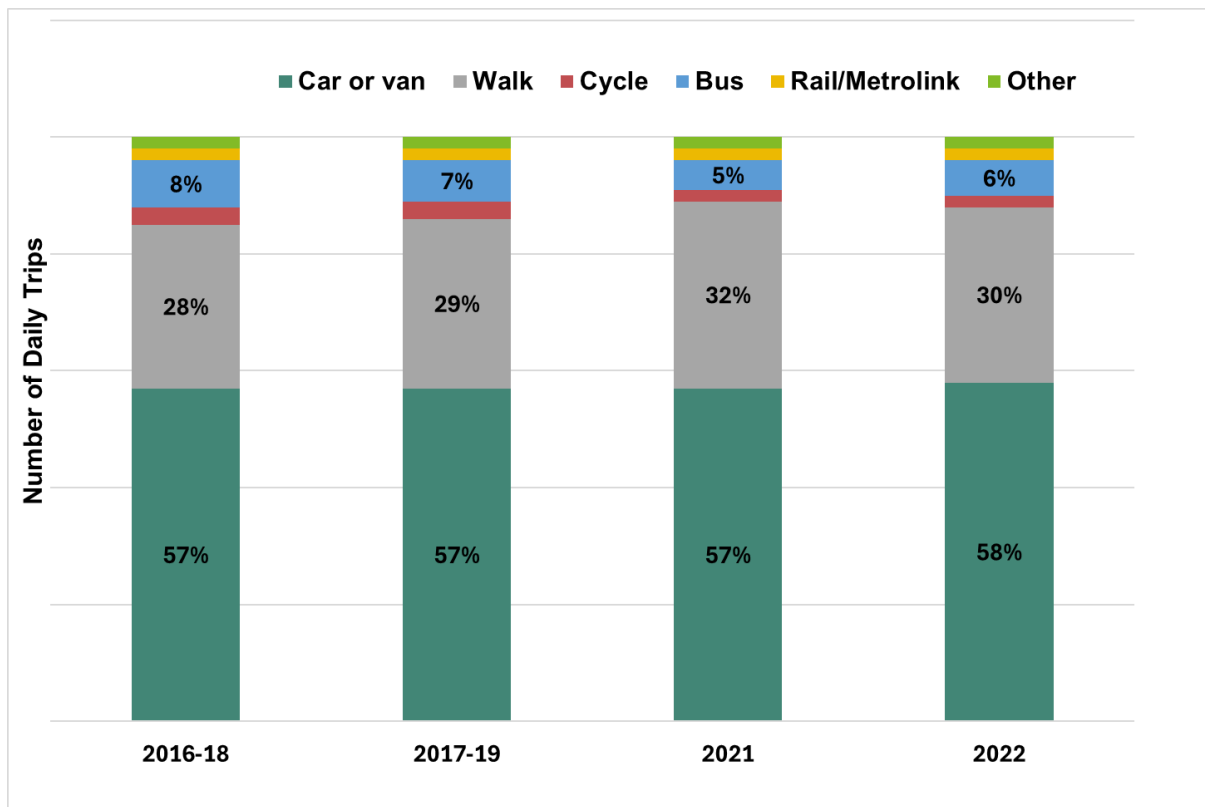
### **Policy Outcome: Increased proportion of daily trips by modes other than the car**

**Indicator: % of daily trips made by active travel, public transport, car & other (monitoring subject to further analysis of data collection methods – TRADS monitor undertaken by TfGM)**

- 8.1 Travel behaviour for the latest data TfGM available in 2022 was still undoubtedly influenced by the pandemic. The year was still atypical, in that residents' travel behaviours changed more significantly over the period due to growing confidence and a return to 'normal' as we moved away from the pandemic. This has led to some irregularities, as TRADS approximates a 'typical day' across the year.
- 8.2 Reference is made here to 'mode shares' - the percentage distribution of trips taken by GM residents using different modes of transport. These mode shares are based on the 'main' mode of travel which is defined as the method of travel used for the stage(s) that covered the longest distance of the trip in question.
- 8.3 On a typical day in 2022 across all modes of transport GM residents travelled 30 million kilometres, which was only 7% below pre-pandemic levels. This indicates that whilst residents made fewer trips in 2022 than pre-pandemic, the trips they did make were longer on average.
- 8.4 In 2022, the most used method of travel was car or van (including passenger) at 58%, making up nearly three-in-five trips by GM residents. Nearly a third of trips were made by active travel (30% walking and 2% cycling), while nearly one-in-ten trips were made by public transport (6% bus and 2% rail/Metro). The remaining 3% of trips were made by taxi, minicab, motorcycle, scooter, moped, or any other type of vehicle.

8.5 The figures in each bar show the percentage of daily trips that were made by each mode since 2016. The mode share has remained relatively stable over time with car trips making up nearly three-in-five trips, active travel making up around a third of trips, and very broadly one in ten trips using public transport.

**Figure 8.1: Daily trip count and mode share by Greater Manchester residents**



Source: GM [TRADS](#) (2016-18,2017-19. 2021 and 2022)

Note: Other = taxi, minicab, scooter, moped or any other Policy Outcome: Increased proportion of new development in an accessible location

**Indicator: % of new housing (net) within 800m of good public transport accessibility and % of new employment floorspace within 800m of good public transport accessibility**

- 8.6 New residential development will have a significant role in delivering a sustainable and integrated transport network to reduce car dependency and increase levels of walking, cycling and public transport.
- 8.7 In 2023-24, 77% (7,792) of all housing completions were delivered within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the PfE area.
- 8.8 In terms of the Spatial Strategy Areas, 100% (3,878 units) of housing completions were within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the Core Growth Area, this was 47% (1,851 units) for the Northern Area.

**Table 8.1: % of New Net Housing 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility: selected areas**

Area	*Net Housing Completions 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility	*Net Housing Completions 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility
	Units	%
Bolton	185	31
Bury	87	36
Manchester	2,968	99
Oldham	120	29
Rochdale	303	44
Salford	2,550	97
Tameside	426	67
Trafford	616	76
Wigan	537	47
PfE area	7,792	77

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas. \*Some data includes Gross rather than Net housing completions. This table also includes communal establishments in line with the Housing Delivery Test calculation

**Table 8.2: % of New Net Housing 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility: selected areas**

Area	*Net Housing Completions 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility Number	*Net Housing Completions 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility %
Core Growth	3,878	100
Inner	1,789	97
Northern	1,851	47
Southern	274	55

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas. \*Some figures include Gross, rather than Net housing completions. This table also includes communal establishments in line with the Housing Delivery Test calculation

- 8.9 New employment development will have a significant role in delivering a sustainable and integrated transport network to reduce car dependency and increase levels of walking, cycling and public transport.
- 8.10 In 2023-24, 72% (223,253 sqm) of all new employment floorspace was delivered within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the PFE area.
- 8.11 In terms of the Spatial Strategy Areas, 100% (158,675 sqm) of new employment floorspace was within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility in the Core Growth Area.



**Table 8.3: % of New Employment Floorspace 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility: selected areas**

Area	New Employment Floorspace 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility Floorspace (sqm)	New Employment Floorspace 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility %
Bolton	8,082	51
Bury	139	37
Manchester	65,597	97
Oldham	7,138	26
Rochdale	32,466	100
Salford	43,179	73
Tameside	330	27
Trafford	59,909	69
Wigan	6,412	37
PfE area	223,253	72

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

**Table 8.4: % of New Employment Floorspace 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility: selected areas**

Area	New Employment Floorspace 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility Number	New Employment Floorspace 2023/24 within 800m of Good Public Transport Accessibility %
Core Growth	158,675	100
Inner	258	17
Northern	54,904	49
Southern	9,416	25

Source: GMCA via Local Authority Schemas

## Policy Outcome: Digital connectivity

### Indicator: Number of premises with full fibre connectivity

- 8.12 In order to achieve its ambition to be the UK's leading digital city and in the top five in Europe<sup>7</sup> it is fundamental for all parts of the city-region to have access to world-class digital connections at an affordable price. The more premises that have full fibre connectivity, the higher the likelihood of achieving this ambition.
- 8.13 The percent of premises with full fibre availability increased in every district in the Places for Everyone area between 2023-2024, and by 18% in the plan area overall. In the PfE area in 2023, nearly 655,500 premises had full fibre availability, 58.3% of all premises. This figure rose to just over 773,400 in 2024, 64% of all premises.

**Table 8.5: Number of premises with full fibre connectivity**

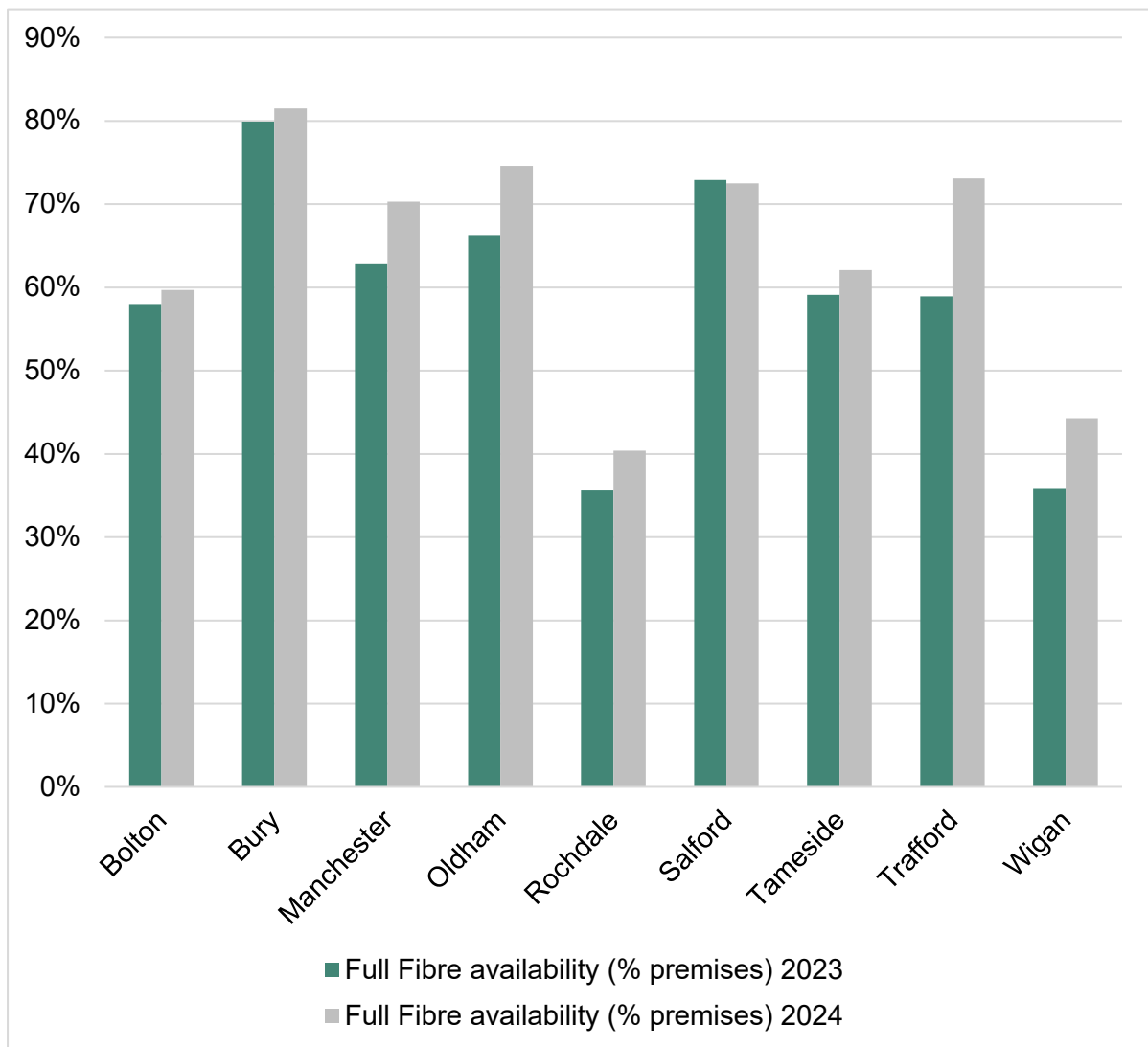
Area	Number of premises with Full Fibre availability		Full Fibre availability (% premises)		2023 to 2024 % difference
	2023	2024	2023	2024	
Bolton	72,950	81,380	58.0%	59.7%	11.6%
Bury	67,404	73,776	79.9%	81.5%	9.5%
Manchester	148,699	180,086	62.8%	70.3%	21.1%
Oldham	62,322	74,462	66.3%	74.6%	19.5%
Rochdale	34,591	41,643	35.6%	40.4%	20.4%
Salford	92,594	98,742	72.9%	72.5%	6.6%
Tameside	62,280	71,923	59.1%	62.1%	15.5%

<sup>7</sup> GMCA (October 2017) Our people our place: The Greater Manchester Strategy, paragraph 7.13

Trafford	60,561	80,835	58.9%	73.1%	33.5%
Wigan	54,063	70,563	35.9%	44.3%	30.5%
PfE Area	655,464	773,410	58.3%	64.0%	18.0%

Source: [Connected Nations and Infrastructure Reports - Ofcom \(ofcom.org.uk\)](https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/connected-nations-and-infrastructure-reports)

**Figure 8.2: Number of premises with full fibre connectivity**



Source: [Connected Nations and Infrastructure Reports - Ofcom \(ofcom.org.uk\)](https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/connected-nations-and-infrastructure-reports)

## Policy Outcome: Increasing EV charging infrastructure

Indicator: Number of EV charging points (% change can be monitored year to year or over longer time series)

8.14 Significantly expanding the existing network of publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure will be important to encourage and expediate the transition from petrol and diesel engine vehicles to EVs.

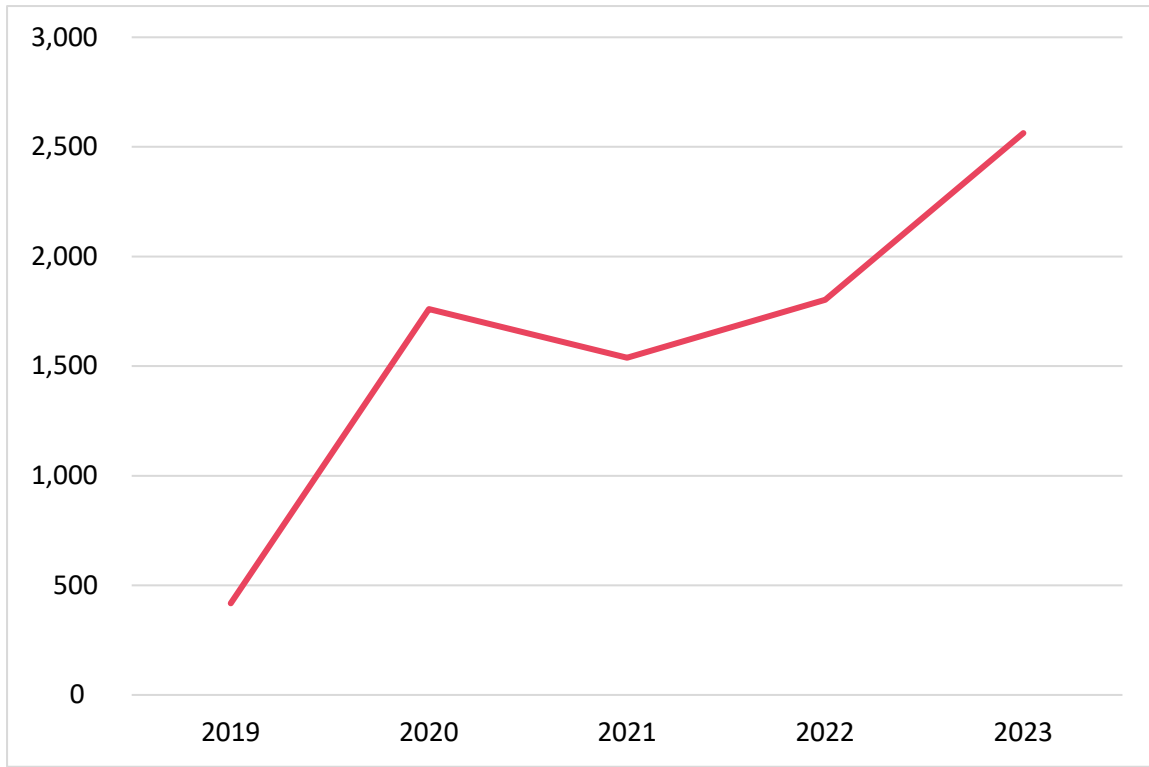
8.15 The number of EV charging points increased from 1,803 to 2,563 between 2022 to 2023 across the Places for Everyone area, a 42% increase.

**Table 8.6: Number of EV charging points**

Area	2022	2023	% change from 2022 to 2023
Bolton	103	146	41.7%
Bury	94	124	31.9%
Manchester	477	681	42.8%
Oldham	157	242	54.1%
Rochdale	132	169	28.0%
Salford	309	433	40.1%
Tameside	103	126	22.3%
Trafford	270	393	45.6%
Wigan	158	249	57.6%
PfE Area	1,803	2,563	42.2%

Source: [Electric vehicle public charging infrastructure statistics – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electric-vehicle-public-charging-infrastructure-statistics)

**Figure 8.3: Number of EV charging points in the PfE area**



Source: [Electric vehicle public charging infrastructure statistics – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/electric-vehicle-public-charging-infrastructure-statistics)

## **Air Quality Monitoring at Holcroft Moss**

- 8.16 Through the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) process in support of the PfE Plan (and also Warrington's Local Plan), the Manchester Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC), and in particular Holcroft Moss, has been identified as being at risk of harm from increased air pollution caused by traffic. To mitigate against this harm, there is a need for the delivery of long-term ecological resilience works, involving hydrological restoration measures to benefit Holcroft Moss.
- 8.17 As set out in Policy JP-C8 of the PfE Plan, qualifying developments, resulting in increased traffic flows on the M62 past Holcroft Moss of more than 100 vehicles per day or 20 Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) per day, will be required to make a proportionate contribution towards restoration measures at Holcroft Moss.
- 8.18 The PfE authorities have produced a draft joint Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which it is hoped will be adopted by the nine authorities in Spring 2025. The SPD establishes the basis to secure contributions to the long-term ecological resilience works. Future reports will provide updates on the progression of the mitigation works.

## 9. Delivering the Plan

**Policy Outcome: Ensuring the right infrastructure is delivered at the right time (broken down by different types of contribution)**

Indicator: Links provided to each District's Infrastructure Funding Statement/ Annual section 106 monitoring report

**Table 9.1: District Infrastructure Funding Statements**

Area	Link to Infrastructure Funding Statements
Bolton	<a href="https://www.bolton.gov.uk/planning-policy-strategy/developer-contributions/1">https://www.bolton.gov.uk/planning-policy-strategy/developer-contributions/1</a>
Bury	<a href="https://www.bury.gov.uk/planning-building-control/policy-and-projects/planning-policy/evidence-and-monitoring/infrastructure-funding-statement">https://www.bury.gov.uk/planning-building-control/policy-and-projects/planning-policy/evidence-and-monitoring/infrastructure-funding-statement</a>
Manchester	<a href="https://democracy.manchester.gov.uk/documents/s47889/Annual%20S106%20Monitoring%20Report.pdf">https://democracy.manchester.gov.uk/documents/s47889/Annual%20S106%20Monitoring%20Report.pdf</a>
Oldham	<a href="https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/3154/infrastructure-funding-statement">https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/3154/infrastructure-funding-statement</a>
Rochdale	<a href="https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/planning-permission/section-106-planning-application-obligations">https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/planning-permission/section-106-planning-application-obligations</a>
Salford	<a href="https://www.salford.gov.uk/planning-building-and-regeneration/planning-applications/planning-obligations-and-community-infrastructure-levy/planning-obligations-infrastructure-funding-statement/">https://www.salford.gov.uk/planning-building-and-regeneration/planning-applications/planning-obligations-and-community-infrastructure-levy/planning-obligations-infrastructure-funding-statement/</a>
Tameside	<a href="https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g10139/Public%20reports%20pack%2021st-Nov-2024%2014.00%20Strategic%20Planning%20and%20Capital%20Monitoring%20Panel.pdf?T=10">https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g10139/Public%20reports%20pack%2021st-Nov-2024%2014.00%20Strategic%20Planning%20and%20Capital%20Monitoring%20Panel.pdf?T=10</a>
Trafford	<a href="https://democratic.trafford.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1182">https://democratic.trafford.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1182</a>



Wigan	<a href="https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/Strategies-Plans-and-Policies/Planning/Local-plan/Background/InfrastructureFundingStatementForSection106.aspx">https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/Strategies-Plans-and-Policies/Planning/Local-plan/Background/InfrastructureFundingStatementForSection106.aspx</a>
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Source: Local Authority web sites

## 10. PfE Polices not being implemented

- 10.1 Regulation 34 (2) of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 requires that where a local planning authority is not implementing a policy specified in a local plan, the authority monitoring report must identify that policy and include a statement of the reasons why the policy is not being implemented and the steps (if any) that the local authority intend to take to implement the policy.
- 10.2 In accordance with Regulation 34 (2), PfE Policy JP-G5 part 7c is currently not being implemented. PfE Policy JP-G5 part 7c relates to a potential recreation impact zone - up to 7km from the South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Within this zone new residential development could result in recreational disturbance impacts on the protected habitats and species of the SAC and SPAs and development may be required to mitigate this impact. Since the production of the Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) for the PfE (which formed the evidence base for the policy), Natural England has now indicated that there is no evidence of credible risk to the habitats and species on the SAC and SPAs from recreation impacts. Consequently, Natural England considers that new development within the PfE area, specifically the three authority areas of Oldham, Tameside and Rochdale, does not need to provide mitigation in accordance with part 7c of JP-G5. If further evidence is prepared on recreational impacts from new development, at a strategic level, i.e. across the whole South Pennine Moors area and not at a local level, such as these three PfE authorities, then Natural England will review its position and the three PfE authorities will consider the implementation of the policy.

# Appendix A

## Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework Tables

**Table 12.1 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Sustainable and Resilient**

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Reduce carbon emissions from new development	2,5,7,8,10	JP-S1, 2, 3 and 6  JP-P1	% of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Maximise the use of suitable previously developed (brownfield) land for development	2,3,5,7,8,9	JP-Strat1 to 6, JP-Strat9, JP Strat12, JP-S1, JP-J2, J3, J4 and JP-H1 and H4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of residential development on brownfield land</li> <li>• % of gross employment development on brownfield land</li> </ul>	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	
No new homes and	2,8	JP-S1, and 4	No. of planning permissions	✓	✓		All allocations with

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
employment premises at risk of flooding		JP-P1	approved against EA advice				employment development
Improve air quality	2,5,7,8,10	JP-S1, S2 and S5	Exceedance of the legal level of NO2 (as an Annual Mean) in local AQMA and Clean Air Plan Monitoring	✓	✓		

**Table 12.2 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Jobs**

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Improve productivity	3,5,10	JP-Strat1 to 12, JP-J1	% increase in GVA per job	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	
Increased number of jobs	3,5,10	JP-Strat1 to 12 JP-J1 and 2	Proportion of our residents (working age) in employment	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Improve access to jobs	4,5	JP-Strat1 to 12 JP-J1	Number of local labour agreements	✓	✓		
Increase overall office floorspace by 2 million sq.m by 2039	3,5	JP-Strat1 to 12 JP-J1 to 3	Increase in office floorspace (gross)	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	All allocations with office development

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Increase overall industry and warehousing floorspace by 3.5 million sq. m by 2039	3,5	JP-Strat1 and 4 to 11, JP-J1, 2 and 4	Increase in industry and warehousing floorspace (gross)	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	All allocations with industry or warehousing development
Secure main town centres as local	1,2,3,5,6,7,9	JP-Strat1, 6, 9 and 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No of residential units (net) delivered in</li> </ul>	✓	✓		



Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
economic drivers		JP-P4	main town centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GVA in and within 800m of the main town centres</li> </ul>				

**Table 12.3 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Homes**

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Deliver net increase in new homes	1,2,3,5,7,10	JP-Strat1 to 3, 5 to 9, 11 and 12. JP-H1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver approx. 9,063 annually by 2025</li> <li>• Deliver approx. 10,305 annually by 2030</li> <li>• Deliver approx. 10,719</li> </ul>	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	All allocations with housing development

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
			annually by 2039				
Maximise delivery of additional affordable homes	1,2,5,10	JP-H1 and H2	No. of new affordable homes completed	✓	✓		All allocations with housing development
Increase the number of homes	1,2,5,10	JP-H3	% new homes meeting Nationally	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
meeting Nationally Described Space Standard (NDSS)			Described Space Standard (NDSS)				
Increase the number of new homes meeting Accessible &	1,2,5,10	JP-H3	% new homes meeting Accessible & Adaptable (A&A) standard	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level:  Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level:  District	Geographic level:  Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level:  Allocations
Adaptable (A&A) standard							

**Table 12.4 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Greener**

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Enhance the green infrastructure network	2,5,7,8,9,10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JP-Strat2, 3, 5, 12 and 13</li> <li>• JP-G1 to 6, 8 and 9</li> <li>• JP-P1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gross area of new habitat created from the application of biodiversity net gain</li> </ul>	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	All allocations

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number, area and condition of sites of biological importance (SBIs)</li> </ul>	✓	✓		
Increase tree planting	2,5,7,8,9,10	JP-G7	Number of trees planted annually (metric to be determined with respect to tree	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
			planting programmes and on site delivery as a result of planning decisions where available)				
Increase access to green infrastructure	2,5,7,8,9,10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JP-Strat 2, 3, 5, 12 and 13</li> <li>• JP-G2 to 6, 8 and 9</li> </ul>	Number of hectares of green infrastructure (metric will consider publicly accessible	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	



Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JP-P6</li> </ul>	GI where information is available)				

**Table 12.5 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – People**

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Conserve , sustain and enhance our historic environment and heritage assets	2,4	JP-Strat1 to 3, 6 and 12, JP-P1, 2 and 3	Increase % of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use	✓	✓		
Provision of additional school places to support	2,9	JP-Strat1, 2 and 9 JP-P1 and 5	Numbers of school places (Annual School Capacity survey).	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
new development			Consideration of 'headroom' statistics where available.				
Workforce is ready to benefit from new employment opportunities	3,5	JP-Strat5, 6, 9, 11 and 12 JP-P5	% of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub Level 2 qualification.	✓	✓	5,6	

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level:  Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level:  District	Geographic level:  Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level:  Allocations

Table 12.6 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Connected

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Increased proportion of daily trips by modes other than the car	2,5,6,7,10	JP-Strat1 to 12 JP-Strat14 JP-C1, 3, 5, 6 and 8	% of daily trips made by active travel, public transport, car & other (monitoring subject to further analysis of data collection methods – TRADS monitor undertaken by TfGM)	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Increased proportion of new development in an accessible location	2,5,6,7,10	JP-Strat14 JP-S1, 2 and 5 JP-C1, 3, 5, 6 and 8	% of new housing (net) within 800m of good public transport accessibility and % of new employment floorspace within 800m of good public transport accessibility	✓	✓	1,5,6,9	

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
			*definition of good public transport accessibility to be agreed with TfGM				
Digital connectivity	2,3,4,5,6	JP-C2	Number of premises with full fibre connectivity	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Increasing EV charging infrastructure	2,6,7	JP-S2 and C8	Number of EV charging points (% change can be monitored year to year or over longer time series)	✓	✓		



**Table 12.7 Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Delivering the Plan**

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Ensuring the right infrastructure is delivered at the right time (broken down by different types of contribution)	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	JP-S1, JP-S2, JP-J1, JP-H2, JP-G2, JP-G3, JP-G4, JP-G5, JP-G6, JP-G7, JP-G8, JP-P1, JP-P2, JP-	Links provided to each District's Infrastructure Funding Statement/ Annual section 106 monitoring report	✓	✓		

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level:  Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level:  District	Geographic level:  Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level:  Allocations
		P3, JP-P5, JP-P6, JP-P7, JP-C1, JP-C2, JP-C3, JP-C5, JP-C6, JP-C7, JP-C8,  Allocations (where mitigation is identified)					

Policy Outcome	Places for Everyone Strategic Objective	Relevant Places for Everyone policy	Indicator (s)	Geographic level: Full area of Places for Everyone	Geographic level: District	Geographic level: Spatial Strategy Areas set out in Policies JP-Strat1, 5, 6 and 9	Geographic level: Allocations
Secure appropriate S106 contributions for affordable housing	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10	JP-H1 and H2 JP-D2	Developer contributions for the delivery of affordable housing	✓	✓		

# Appendix B

## Housing, Industrial & Warehousing and Office Land Supply

**Table B. 1: Housing Land Supply**

Local Authority	Existing 2024-25 to 2038-39	Small sites allowance 2029-30 to 2038-39	Demolitions 2029-30 to 2038-39	Allowances (small sites and demolitions)	Total supply 2024-25 to 2038-39	Supply beyond 2039-40	Total (All future supply)
Bolton	9,783	1,176	-600	576	10,359	0	10,359
Bury	9,325	289	0	289	9,614	1,396	11,010
Manchester	75,644	1,450	-1,737	-287	75,357	7,128	82,485
Oldham	12,154	640	75	565	12,719	756	13,475
Rochdale	11,685	282	-740	-458	11,227	0	11,227
Salford	32,169	1,988	0	1,988	34,157	200	34,357
Tameside*	7,848	451	0	451	8,299	715	9,014
Trafford	21,239	647	-465	182	21,421	7,369	28,790
Wigan	15,472	540	0	540	16,012	895	16,907
PfE Area	195,319	7,463	-3,467	3,846	199,165	18,459	217,624

*\*provisional at time of publication*

Source: Local Authorities

**Table B. 2: Industrial & Warehousing Land Supply**

Local Authority	Total Supply 2024-25 to 2038-39	Supply beyond 2039-40	Total (All future supply)
Bolton	740,340	15,000	755,340
Bury	528,731	365,000	893,731
Manchester	87,965	0	87,965
Oldham	238,727	0	238,727
Rochdale	599,829	0	599,829
Salford	545,437	60,000	605,437
Tameside*	284,324	0	284,324
Trafford	577,558	11,205	588,763
Wigan	443,450	79,730	523,180
PfE Area	4,046,361	530,935	4,577,296

*\*provisional at time of publication*

Source: Local Authorities

**Table B. 3: Office Land Supply**

Local Authority	Total Supply 2024-25 to 2038-39	Supply beyond 2039-40	Total (All future supply)
Bolton	26,467	0	26,467
Bury	1,584	0	1,584
Manchester	1,878,933	317,700	2,196,633
Oldham	66,516	0	66,516
Rochdale	104,184	0	104,184
Salford	294,053	0	294,053
Tameside*	17,817	3,793	21,610
Trafford	177,543	69,068	246,611
Wigan	14,250	0	14,250
PfE area	2,581,347	390,561	2,971,908

*\*provisional at time of publication*

Source: Local Authorities

# Appendix B

## Housing, Industrial & Warehousing and Office Land Supply

**Table B. 1: Housing Land Supply**

Local Authority	Existing 2024-25 to 2038-39	Small sites allowance 2029-30 to 2038-39	Demolitions 2029-30 to 2038-39	Allowances (small sites and demolitions)	Total supply 2024-25 to 2038-39	Supply beyond 2039-40	Total (All future supply)
Bolton	9,783	1,176	-600	576	10,359	0	10,359
Bury	9,325	289	0	289	9,614	1,396	11,010
Manchester	75,644	1,450	-1,737	-287	75,357	7,128	82,485
Oldham	12,154	640	75	565	12,719	756	13,475
Rochdale	11,685	282	-740	-458	11,227	0	11,227
Salford	32,169	1,988	0	1,988	34,157	200	34,357
Tameside*	7,848	451	0	451	8,299	715	9,014
Trafford	21,239	647	-465	182	21,421	7,369	28,790
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Rochdale	599,829	0	599,829
Salford	545,437	60,000	605,437
Tameside*	284,324	0	284,324
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PfE Area	4,046,361	530,935	4,577,296

*\*provisional at time of publication*

Source: Local Authorities



**Table B. 3: Office Land Supply**

Local Authority	Total Supply 2024-25 to 2038-39	Supply beyond 2039-40	Total (All future supply)
Bolton	26,467	0	26,467
Bury	1,584	0	1,584
Manchester	1,878,933	317,700	2,196,633
Oldham	66,516	0	66,516
Rochdale	104,184	0	104,184
Salford	294,053	0	294,053
Tameside*	17,817	3,793	21,610
Trafford	177,543	69,068	246,611
Wigan	14,250	0	14,250
PfE area	2,581,347	390,561	2,971,908

*\*provisional at time of publication*

Source: Local Authorities

## Appendix 3 Local Housing Statistics

Table 6 Net House Building 2003/04 to 2023/24

Year	Completed <sup>14</sup>	Cleared	Completed	Variance from Housing Requirement
2003/04	497	227	270	-19
2004/05	285	150	135	-154
2005/06	386	254	132	-157
2006/07	577	262	315	26
2007/08	599	200	399	110
2008/09	505	102	403	114
2009/10	227	307	-80	-369
2010/11	389	324	65	-224
2011/12	231	220	11	-278
2012/13	334	77	257	-32
2013/14	367	4	363	74
2014/15	596	2	594	305
2015/16	297	1	296	7
2016/17	375	1	374	85
2017/18	348	3	345	56
2018/19	410	9	401	-282
2019/20	728	4	724	36
2020/21	373	3	370	-320
2021/22	506	1	505	-177
2022/23	403	3	400	-2
2023/24	420	3	417	13

<sup>14</sup> Since the publication of the SHLAA as at 1 April 2018, completions have been recorded separately to clearance and accounted for in the clearance allowance - they are only shown against annual completions here for consistency within the monitoring report. Some housing data from DLUCH still continues to take clearance off completions, meaning completion data can differ slightly.

Year	Completed <sup>14</sup>	Cleared	Completed	Variance from Housing Requirement
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,853</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>6,696</b>	<b>-1,488</b>
Average	422	103	319	-71

**Chart A - Dwellings completed and cleared, 2010/11 to 2023/24**



## Appendix 4 Tracking saved UDP Policies

The UDP was adopted in July 2006. The policies were further `saved` by the Secretary of State in May 2009 (for an unspecified period of time) until replaced by the relevant part of the Local Plan.

The table below lists those `saved` UDP policies that have remained following the adoption of the Joint DPD, the Greater Manchester Waste DPD, the Greater Manchester Minerals DPD and most recently Places for Everyone. They will continue to be `saved` until replaced by the relevant part of the Local Plan.

*Table 7 UDP `saved` policies*

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan document which may review the UDP policy
B1	BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL LAND ALLOCATIONS	Local Plan review and/or JWDPD and/or JMDDP
B1.1	Business and Industrial Allocations	This policy remains saved, however part of allocation B1.1.24 Royton Moss, Moss Lane, Royton has been superseded and now forms part of JPA 12 Broadbent Moss in PfE. The remainder of the allocations are saved and may be reviewed as part of Local Plan review and/or JWDPD and/or JMDDP
B1.2	Business and Office Allocations	Local Plan review and/or JWDPD and/or JMDDP
B1.3	Mixed Use Allocations	Local Plan review and/or JWDPD and/or JMDDP
D1.12	Telecommunications	To be determined
H1.1	Housing Land Release – Phase 1	Local Plan review
H1.2	Housing Land Release – Phase 2	This policy remains saved, however allocation H1.2.17 Danisher Lane has been superseded and now forms part of JPA 15 Coal Pit Lane in PfE. The remainder of the allocations are saved and may be reviewed as part of Local Plan review.
OE1.11	Farm Diversification	To be determined
TC1.1	Allocated Site	Local Plan review
TC1.2	Allocated Site	Local Plan review

Now that the Joint DPD, the Greater Manchester Waste DPD, the Greater Manchester Minerals DPD and Places for Everyone, have been adopted several 2006 UDP have been superseded. These are detailed in the table below.

*Table 8 UDP Policies superseded*

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
<b>Policies superseded in November 2011 following the adoption of the Joint DPD</b>			
B1.4	Business, Office and Industrial Development on Unallocated Land	5 9	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices  Local Environment
B1.5	Working from Home	9	Local Environment
B1.6	Freight Generating Developments	9 17 25	Local Environment Gateways and Corridors Developer Contributions
B2	EXISTING BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS	13 14	Employment Areas Supporting Oldham's Economy
B2.1	Primary Employment Zones	13 14 25	Employment Areas Supporting Oldham's Economy Developer Contributions
B2.2	Protection of Existing Employment Sites outside PEZs	14 25	Supporting Oldham's Economy Developer Contributions
C1	CONSERVATION OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT	24	Historic Environment
C1.1	Development Within or Affecting the Setting of Conservation Areas	24	Historic Environment
C1.2	Demolition of Buildings in Conservation Areas	24	Historic Environment
C1.3	Retention of Distinctive Local Features or Structures in Conservation Areas	24	Historic Environment
C1.4	Alterations and Extensions to Buildings in Conservation Areas	24	Historic Environment

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
C1.5	The Preservation of Historic Shop Fronts	24	Historic Environment
C1.6	Advertisements in Conservation Areas and on Listed Buildings	24	Historic Environment
C1.7	The Re-Use of Historic Buildings	24	Historic Environment
C1.8	Alterations, Extensions and Additions to Listed Buildings	24	Historic Environment
C1.9	Development Affecting the Setting of a Listed Building	24	Historic Environment
C1.10	Demolition of a Listed Building or Structure	24	Historic Environment
C1.11	The Preservation of the Sites of Important Archaeological Remains and their Settings	24	Historic Environment
C1.12	Preservation or Recording of Archaeological Remains	24	Historic Environment
C1.13	The Protection of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest	24	Historic Environment
CF1	NEW AND IMPROVED EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES	2 25	Communities Developer Contributions
CF1.1	Education Facilities	2 25	Communities Developer Contributions
CF1.2	New and Improved Community and Education Facilities	2 25	Communities Developer Contributions
CF1.3	Change of Use from Education and/or Community Facility	2	Communities
CF1.4	Dual Use	2	Communities

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
CF1.5	Developer Contributions to New Teaching Facilities	2 25	Communities Developer Contributions
D1	DESIGN OF NEW DEVELOPMENT	20	Design
D1.1	General Design Criteria	20	Design
D1.2	Designing for Energy Efficiency	18	Energy
D1.3	Inclusive Access	9	Local Environment
D1.4	Habitat and Wildlife on Development Sites	20 21	Design Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
D1.6	Landscape Design and Tree Planting	20	Design
D1.7	Designing for Safety and Security	20 9	Design Local Environment
D1.8	Shop Front Design	20	Design
D1.9	Advertisements on Business Premises	20	Design
D1.10	Freestanding Signs and Advertisements	20	Design
D1.11	House Extensions	20 9	Design Local Environment
D1.13	Design of Development Adjoining Main Transport Corridors and at Gateway Locations in Town and District Centres	20	Design
H1	HOUSING LAND REQUIREMENT AND SUPPLY	3	An Address of Choice
H1.3	Assessing Non-Allocated Sites	3	An Address of Choice

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
	and the Renewal of Planning Permissions	11	Housing Density and Mix
H1.4	Housing Density	11	Housing Density and Mix
H1.5	Housing Choice and Diversity	11	Housing Density and Mix
H2	MEETING THE NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING	10	Affordable Housing
H2.1	Providing Affordable Housing	10	Affordable Housing
H2.2	Caravan Sites for Gypsies Or Travelling Showpeople	12	Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
NR1	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	9	Local Environment
NR1.1	Protection of Amenity	9	Local Environment
NR1.2	Air Quality	9	Local Environment
NR1.3	Odour	9	Local Environment
NR1.4	Noise and Vibration	9	Local Environment
NR1.5	Light Pollution	9	Local Environment
NR1.6	Contaminated Land	9	Local Environment
NR1.7	Hazardous Installations	9	Local Environment
NR2	WATER RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	19	Water and Flooding
NR2.1	Water Infrastructure	19	Water and Flooding



UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
NR2.2	Flooding & Flood Protection	19	Water and Flooding
NR2.3	Protection of Open Watercourses	19	Water and Flooding
NR2.4	Surface Water Run-off and Sustainability	19	Water and Flooding
NR3	RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS	18	Energy
NR3.1	Renewable Energy Developments	18	Energy
NR3.2	Wind Developments	18	Energy
NR3.3	Renewable Energy in Major New Developments	18	Energy
OE1	PROTECTING OPEN LAND	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.1	Criteria for Development in the Greenbelt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.2	New Building in Green Belt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.3	Domestic Extensions in the Green Belt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.4	Sub-division of Existing Dwellings in the Green Belt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.5	Garden Extensions in the Green Belt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.6	Replacement Dwellings in the Green Belt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.7	Re-use of Existing Buildings in the Green Belt	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.9	Land Reserved for Future Development	22	Protecting Open Land

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
OE1.10	Other Protected Open Land	22	Protecting Open Land
OE1.12	New Agricultural or Forestry Buildings	22	Protecting Open Land
OE2	NATURE AND LANDSCAPE	6 21	Green Infrastructure Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
OE2.1	Landscape	6 21	Green Infrastructure Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
OE2.2	Green Corridors and Links	6 21	Green Infrastructure Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
OE2.3	Habitat Protection	6 21	Green Infrastructure Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
OE2.4	Species Protection	6 21	Green Infrastructure Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
R1	MAINTAINING SUPPLY THROUGH THE PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES	2 23 6	Communities Open Spaces and Sports Green Infrastructure
R1.1	Maintaining Supply through the Protection and Improvement of Existing Open Space, and Outdoor Sport or Recreation Facilities	23	Open Spaces and Sports
R1.2	Protection of Indoor Sport and Recreation Facilities	2	Communities
R1.3	The Protection of Playing Fields	23	Open Spaces and Sports
R2	THE PROVISION AND IMPROVEMENT OF OPEN SPACES, SPORT	20 23	Design Open Spaces and Sports

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
	AND RECREATION FACILITIES		
R2.1	Requirement for New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities and Residential Developments	23	Open Spaces and Sports
R2.2	General Criteria Relating to New, or Improved Open Space, Outdoor and Indoor Sport and Recreation Facilities	20	Design
S1	TOWN AND DISTRICT CENTRE SHOPPING AND LEISURE FACILITIES	15	Centres
S1.1	Development Within the Central Shopping Core	15	Centres
S1.2	Development Beyond the Central Shopping Core	15	Centres
S1.3	Primary Shopping Frontages	15	Centres
S1.4	Food and Drink Premises	15	Centres
S1.5	Taxi and Vehicle Hire	9	Local Environment
S1.6	Development Within District Centres	15	Centres
S1.7	Developments Outside the Town Centre and at the Edge of or Outside the District Centres	15	Centres
S1.8	Customer Facilities	15	Centres
S2	LOCAL SHOPPING AND LEISURE FACILITIES	16	Local Services and Facilities

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
S2.1	Local Shops	16	Local Services and Facilities
S2.2	Protection of Local Shop Premises	16	Local Services and Facilities
S2.3	Small Shops Outside the Town and District Centres	16	Local Services and Facilities
S2.4	Local Leisure Facilities	16	Local Services and Facilities
T1	THE TRANSPORT NETWORK	5 17	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Gateways and Corridors
T1.1	Transport Infrastructure	17	Gateways and Corridors
T1.2	The Road Network	17	Gateways and Corridors
T1.3	The Network of Routes for Non-Motorised Travel	17	Gateways and Corridors
T1.4	Canal Corridors	21	Protecting Natural Environmental Assets
T1.5	Disused Rail Infrastructure	17 25	Gateways and Corridors Developer Contributions
T2	THE ACCESSIBILITY OF NEW DEVELOPMENT	5 17	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Gateways and Corridors
T2.1	Public Transport Accessibility	5	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices
T3	TRANSPORT AND DEVELOPMENT	5 17	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Gateways and Corridors
T3.1	Access to Development	5 25	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Developer Contributions

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
T3.2	Developments with Significant Transport Implications	5 25	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Developer Contributions
T3.3	Parking	5 25	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Developer Contributions
TC1	THE ROLE OF THE TOWN CENTRE	15	Centres
TC1.3	Town Centre Parking	5 15	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices Centres
TC1.4	Town Centre Parking	5	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices
TC1.5	Pedestrian Permeability and the Public Realm	20	Design
TC1.6	Diversity and Vitality	15	Centres
TC1.7	Residential Development within the Town Centre	15 3	Centres An Address of Choice
<b>Policies superseded 1 April 2012 following the adoption of the Greater Manchester Waste DPD</b>			
W1	WASTE	7	Sustainable Use of Resources - Waste Management and JWDPD
W1.1	Waste Management Options	7	Sustainable Use of Resources - Waste Management and JWDPD
W1.2	Provision of Sites for Waste Management Facilities	7	Sustainable Use of Resources - Waste Management and JWDPD
W1.3	Criteria for Assessing Proposals for Waste	7	Sustainable Use of Resources - Waste

UDP Policy No.	UDP Policy Name	Local Plan Policy Number	Local Plan Policy Name
	Management, Treatment and Disposal Facilities		Management and JWDPD
W1.4	Provision of Civic Amenity and other 'Bring' Recycling Sites	7	Sustainable Use of Resources - Waste Management and JWDPD
<b>Policies superseded 26 April 2013 following the adoption of the Greater Manchester Minerals DPD</b>			
NR4	THE NEED FOR MINERALS	8	Sustainable Use of Resources - Minerals and JMDDPD
NR4.1	Prevention of Mineral Sterilisation	8	Sustainable Use of Resources - Minerals and JMDDPD
NR4.2	Primary, Secondary and Recycled Aggregates	8	Sustainable Use of Resources - Minerals and JMDDPD
NR4.3	Criteria for Assessing Proposals for Mineral Working and Processing	8	Sustainable Use of Resources - Minerals and JMDDPD
<b>Policies superseded 21 March 2024 following the adoption of Places for Everyone</b>			
D1.5	Protection of Trees on Development Sites	JP-G7	Trees and Woodland
OE1.8	Major Developed Site in the Green Belt	JPA 13	Chew Brook Vale (Robert Fletchers)
B1.1 – B1.1.24	Business and Industrial Allocations – Royton Moss, Moss Lane Royton (partial)	JPA 12	Broadbent Moss
H1.2 – H1.2.17	Housing Land Release – Phase 2 – Danisher Lane	JPA 15	Coal Pit Lane

## Appendix 5 UDP Phase 1 Housing Allocations

Table 9 Status of Phase 1 Housing Allocations in the Unitary Development Plan as at 1 April 2024

Reference in UDP	Site	Land Type	Size (hectares)	Indicative Capacity (dwellings)	Current Status of Site
H1.1.2	Land off Fields New Road / Ramsey Street, Chadderton	PDL	3.41	136	Site completed. 133 dwellings provided, including 20 affordable units for discounted sale.
M3	Land at Oldham Road / Hardman Street, Failsworth	PDL	1.56	14	Mixed-use allocation including residential development. Site is council owned in part. Site completed for 14 dwellings (on part of site).
H1.1.6	St Mary's Way, Oldham	PDL	2.56	180	Site completed. 93 dwellings provided. All affordable units with a mix of affordable rent and shared ownership.
H1.1.10	Athens Way, Lees	PDL	0.55	22	Site completed. 24 dwellings provided.
M2	Lumb Mill, Huddersfield Road, Delph, Saddleworth	PDL	1.4	62	Site completed. 46 units provided.
H1.1.15	Bailey Mill, Oldham Road, Saddleworth	PDL	0.86	50	Allocation. Application granted permission for 60 units (FUL/350293/22). Within the housing land supply, identified in the short term.
M1	Frenches Wharf / Wellington Road, Greenfield, Saddleworth	PDL	4.76	99	Phases 1 and 2 now complete with 99 dwellings delivered across both phases.

Reference in UDP	Site	Land Type	Size (hectares)	Indicative Capacity (dwellings)	Current Status of Site
H1.1.19	Andrew Mill, Manchester Road / Chew Valley Road, Greenfield, Saddleworth	PDL	1.34	30	Site completed. 41 dwellings have been provided on site as a whole.
H1.1.20	Rose Mill, Coalshaw Green Road, Chadderton	PDL	1.49	45	Site completed. 124 dwellings provided with 42 units offered for affordable housing, with a mix of affordable rent and shared ownership.
H1.1.21	Springhey Mill, Huddersfield Road, Oldham	PDL	0.39	30	Outline planning permission granted subject to the signing of a S106 agreement however not signed. Status reverted back to housing allocation along with associated density. Identified in the medium-term housing land supply.
H1.1.22	Vulcan Street, Oldham	PDL	1.23	61	Site completed. 73 dwellings provided, including 27 affordable units for a mix of rent and shared ownership.
H1.1.23	Pretoria Road, Oldham	PDL	0.46	14	Allocation. Identified in the medium-term housing land supply.



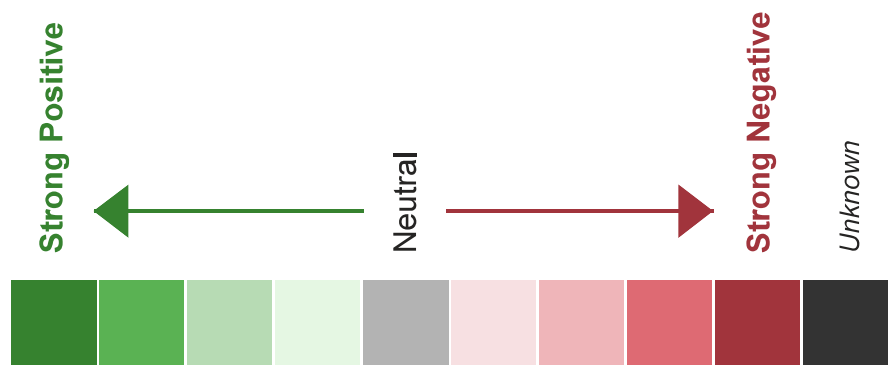
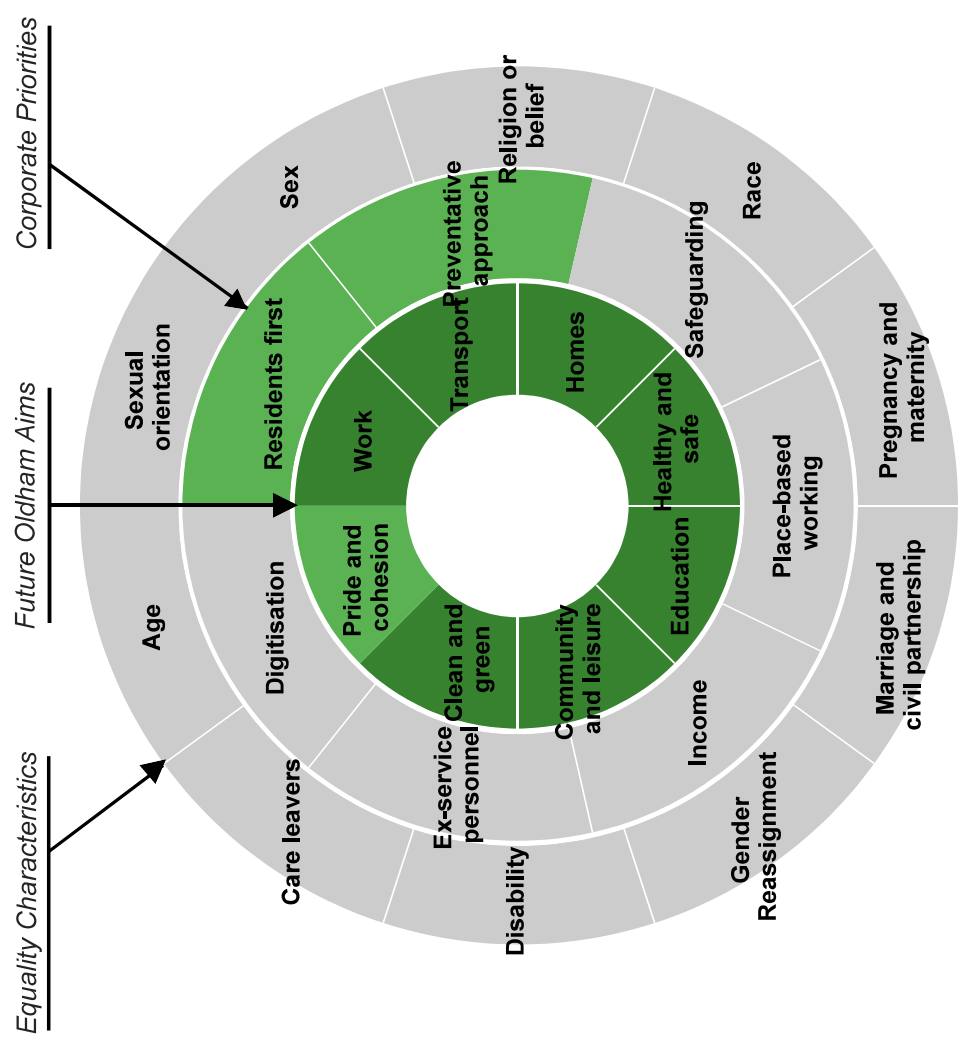
Reference in UDP	Site	Land Type	Size (hectares)	Indicative Capacity (dwellings)	Current Status of Site
H1.1.24	Sandy Mill, Royton	PDL	2.2	90	Majority of site completed. 74 dwellings provided, including 8 affordable units for discounted sale. Two small sections of the allocated site are not covered by the permission. A remaining section of the allocation fronting Rochdale Road is included within the housing land supply, identified in the medium-term for 22 dwellings.
H1.1.25	Jowett Street, Oldham	PDL	0.66	26	Allocation. Identified in the medium-term housing land supply.
M4	Huddersfield Road / Dunkerley Street, Oldham	PDL	2.61	50	Mixed-use allocation including residential development. Identified in the medium-term housing land supply.
H1.1.26	Spencer Street, Oldham	PDL	3	150	Site completed. 112 dwellings provided, including 31 affordable units for social rented accommodation.
H1.1.27	Hartford Mill /Land off Milne Street, Oldham	PDL	2.84	158	Mill was demolished in 2021 and future re-development opportunities are being explored. Previously, outline planning permission was granted for 158 dwellings, which has since expired. Identified in the medium-term housing supply.

Reference in UDP	Site	Land Type	Size (hectares)	Indicative Capacity (dwellings)	Current Status of Site
H1.1.28	Parkside Farm, off Chadderton Park Road, Chadderton	GF	0.94	38	Site completed. 23 units provided.
H1.1.29	Blackshaw Lane, Royton	GF	0.6	15	Outline planning permission granted for 14 dwellings; now expired. Site is council owned and being promoted for development. Partly identified within 5-year supply.
H1.1.30	Greenfield Bowling Club, Greenfield	PDL	0.5	15	Site complete providing 41 dwellings.
H1.1.31	Tamewater Mill, Delph	PDL	0.51	39	Site completed. 44 dwellings provided.

# Oldham Monitoring Report

completed/last updated by Strategic Planning on 23/10/2024

Portfolio	<input type="text" value="Regeneration and Housing"/>
Directorate	<input type="text" value="PEG (Place and Economic Growth)"/>
Service/Team	<input type="text" value="PEG - Economy"/>
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	<input type="checkbox" value="No"/>



## Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Age	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Care leavers	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Disability	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Race	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Religion or belief	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Sex	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	

## Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Digitisation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Income	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Place-based working	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Safeguarding	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Preventative approach	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	By monitoring planning policies we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies can prevent negative impacts from development, for example those on the environments.
Residents first	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	By monitoring planning policies we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.

## Future Oldham Aims

Future Oldham Aims					Comment
Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Pride and cohesion	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on education, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Clean and green	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on green spaces, energy and biodiversity, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Community and leisure	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on community and leisure, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Education	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on education, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Healthy and safe	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on health, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Homes	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on housing, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Transport	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on transport, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.
Work	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	By monitoring planning policies, including policies on employment, we are ensuring their effectiveness for our residents, any that are seen to be under performing or failing will be identified as needing to improve their permeance and appropriate actions taken. Effective planning policies benefit residents.

## Negative Impacts

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	What action can be taken to mitigate the potential negative impacts?	Action(s)	Owner(s)	Timescale(s)	If the negative impacts can't be mitigated, why should the project/decision proceed?
				▲					

## Strong Positive Impacts that are Possible

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?	Action(s)	Owner(s)	Timescale(s)





**Report to CABINET**

## **Demolition of Office Block 1, Southlink**

**Portfolio Holder:**

Cllr E Taylor – Cabinet Member for Housing and Licensing

**Officer Contact:** Emma Barton – Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

**Report Author:** Paul Clifford – Director of Economy

**January 2025**

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### **Reason for Decision**

In February 2020 the Council approved (via a Delegated Decision) the demolition of Office Block 1 at Southlink.

This reports updates on the latest position and seeks re-approval to demolish the vacant building.

Cabinet approved Vistry Partnership to develop land at Southlink following the completion of a competitive land sale process in October 2024. Vistry will deliver 146 affordable homes, including 32 at Social Rent, on the Southlink site which includes this land.

### **Recommendations**

- Approve the demolition of Office Block 1.

---

## Demolition of Office Block 1, Southlink

### 1 **Background**

- 1.1 The building is part of a key residential regeneration site for the Council (appendix A) which incorporates Council owned land shaded green and land shaded purple owned by TfGM.
- 1.2 The wider site was jointly marketed for a mixed tenure residential development of around 150 units including a mix of apartments and high-density houses. Cabinet approved Vistry Partnership to develop land at Southlink following the completion of a competitive land sale process in October 2024. Vistry will deliver 146 affordable homes, including 32 at Social Rent, with all homes constructed to the low carbon 'Future Homes Standard'.
- 1.3 Vistry will commence work on submitting a full detailed planning application and completing the legal agreements. It is envisaged that Planning will be submitted in early 2025 and take over control and ownership of the site in late 2025. As the site is part owned by TfGM, legal agreements will also need to be completed with them.

### 2 **Current Position**

- 2.1 Southlink Building No 1 was developed c 25 years ago with the objective of achieving lettings linked to business growth and provide a financial rental return to the Council. The building comprises 13,150 sq ft arranged over ground, 1st 2nd and 3rd floors.) The building is now fully vacant with the last tenant vacating in September 2024. The lack of demand for the vacant space is attributable to the dated condition of the building and the weak local occupational demand.

### 3 **Options/Alternatives**

Option 1 – Demolish the Building

Option 2 – Re-let/Re-use the Building.

Option 3 - Let Vistry demolish the building when they secure the site.

### 4 **Preferred Option**

- 4.1 Option 1 is the preferred option.

### 5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 Ward Members have been consulted and are supportive of this disposal.

---

6      **Financial Implications**

6.1      Contained within the PART B Report.

7      **Legal Implications**

7.1      Contained within the PART B Report.

8      **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

8.1      No

9      **Key Decision**

9.1      Yes

10      **Key Decision Reference**

11.1      ESR-25-24.

12      **Background Papers**

12.1      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 :

File Ref :

Name of File : [insert]

Records held in [insert] Department, [insert address]

Officer Name : [insert]

Contact No : [insert]

13      **Appendices**

13.2      Appendix A – Plan of Southlink Site



Annex A - South  
Link Site Plan.pdf

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**Report to CABINET**

## **Selection of preferred developer**

**Portfolio Holder:**

Cllr E Taylor – Cabinet Member for Housing and Licensing

**Officer Contact:** Emma Barton – Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

**Report Author:** Paul Clifford – Director of Economy

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

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### **Reason for Decision**

To appoint Rowland Homes to develop land at South Chadderton following the completion of a competitive land sale process. Rowland's will deliver 149 homes, including 60 affordable homes with 15 for Social Rent. All homes constructed to the low carbon 'Future Homes Standard'.

### **Recommendations**

To select Rowland Homes for the purchase for the former South Chadderton School Site, Butterworth Lane.

---

## Selection of Preferred Developer for Southlink

### 1 Background

- 1.1 Following the closure of the former South Chadeerton School in July 2012, Collective Spirit opened in September 2013. In May 2016, the school had its first Ofsted inspection and was deemed to be 'inadequate'. In June 2017, the school announced that it would close – leaving 210 pupils without a school from September 2017.
- 1.2 In 2020 the Council agreed to acquire the Freehold Interest in the former School for the Department for Education and the building was demolished leaving a cleared secured site.
- 1.3 A Housing Delivery Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2022 that set out a series of recommendations for the Council to drive forward a programme of housing development activity and the former south Chadderton school site was identified as suitable to help meet these ambitions.
- 1.4 In March 2024 Cabinet Approved 'A local response to the national housing crises' Report to accelerate the development and delivery of truly affordable homes and set out ambitions towards low/zero carbon.

### 2 Current Position

- 2.1 The disposal was managed by CBRE via a competitive land sale utilising a two-stage formal tender process. First round bids were invited for the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 on a "Subject-to-Planning" basis. To support the disposal a series of technical reports which detailed site-specific constraints and shaped an indicative masterplan. This provided bidders with a degree of certainty on site capacity to reduce the likelihood of caveats being attached to offers.
- 2.2 Sales particulars, which included details of the property, planning and development brief and disposal process were provided. The particulars were circulated amongst CBRE's database of active developers and investors in the Northwest and Nationwide. 10 bids were submitted.
- 2.3 Given the low variance in the financial offers between the top seven bidders, CBRE invited those parties to provide responses to clarifications.
- 2.4 A further bid comparison was undertaken between the top two bids was undertaken to access the risks with each offer:
- 2.5 This demonstrated that Rowland's offer was not only the strongest from a financial standpoint but also provides for a significantly reduced risk of non-delivery or re-negotiation.
- 2.6 All homes will be built to the Government's Future Homes Standard that will ensure:
  - Carbon emissions are reduced by 75-80% compared to current standards, contributing significantly to reaching net-zero goals.
  - Low-carbon heating systems like heat pumps, ensuring homes are both energy-efficient and environmentally friendly are utilised.
  - Focusing on fabric efficiency by improving insulation, minimising heat loss, and creating well-sealed structures.

---

Rowland's proposal provides 149 homes (Scheme Outline can be found at Appendix 1) in the following tenure split:

- Open Market Sale – 89 units
- Social Rent – 15 units
- Affordable Rent – 15 units
- Shared Ownership – 15 units
- First Homes – 15 units

### 3 **Options/Alternatives**

#### Option 1 – Select Rowland Homes

This bid provides the most economically advantageous offer to the Council as well as achieving other objectives around the provision of truly affordable homes and low carbon credentials.

#### Option 2 – Remarket the site.

Given the number and level of bids received on the site, it is unlikely that the current offer would be improved should the site be remarketed.

### 4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 Option 1 is the preferred option.

### 5 **Consultation**

5.1 Ward Members have been consulted.

### 6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 Contained within the Part B Report.

### 7 **Legal Implications**

7.1 Contained within the Part B Report.

### 8 **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

8.1 No

### 9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

### 10 **Key Decision Reference**

10.1 ESR-26-24.

### 11 **Background Papers**

11.1 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 :

File Ref : South Chadderton

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Name of File : Marketing 2023/4  
Records held in Economy Directorate  
Officer Name : Ben Hill  
Contact No : 0161 770 5261

12 **Appendices**

12.1 Rowland's proposed scheme.



Rowland- South  
Chadderton Layout



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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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