

# Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025**



## OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, for the following purposes:

Item No

- 1 To receive apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)  
  
To order that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 and of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025, be signed by the Mayor as correct records.
- 3 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 4 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 5 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 6 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council  
  
*(time limit 20 minutes)*  
There are no Petitions for this Council meeting to consider.
- 7 Youth Council  
  
*(time limit 20 minutes)*  
There is no Youth Council business for this Council meeting to consider.
- 8 Public Questions  
  
*(time limit 15 Minutes)*
- 9 Questions to Leader and Cabinet (Pages 13 - 78)  
  
*(time limit 90 minutes)*
  - a. Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth – including the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025; the minutes of meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority held 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025; and the minutes of the meetings of the AGMA Executive Board held 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

- b. Statutory Deputy Leader and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder
- c. Deputy Leader and Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability Portfolio Holder
- d. Children and Young People's Portfolio Holder
- e. Adults, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder
- f. Education and Skills Portfolio Holder
- g. Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder
- h. Enterprise Portfolio Holder
- i. Transport and Highways Portfolio Holder

10 Notice of Administration Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

(Motion 1 is being hosted by the Administration)

**Motion 1: Article 4(1) direction on small HMOs**

To be Moved by: Councillor Hince

to be Seconded by: Councillor Hindle

Residents are rightly concerned with the number of Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO's) which are currently being introduced across the borough.

We have always believed HMOs are a symptom of the housing crisis and not a solution. In some cases, exploiting some of the most vulnerable people within our community through substandard and unsafe accommodation.

Whilst it is not possible to prevent full planning applications from being submitted, we can act to close the loophole that allows for permitted development rights for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) where between three and six unrelated people share basic amenities, such as a kitchen or bathroom.

Oldham Council currently permits, without the need for planning permission under 'permitted development rights', the change of use of a typical dwelling house occupied by a single household in use class C3, to a property used as a 'small' HMO that is shared by between three and six unrelated people in use class C4.

The Council can, however, adopt an Article 4 Direction to remove these permitted development rights. This will require a planning application to be submitted for change of use from class C3 to C4. This means due process will be applied giving residents a say in what happens in their communities.

We had hoped the government would introduce new legislation to make HMO developers more accountable and give residents a greater say by making it mandatory for small HMO developers to be licensed with the local authority.

In addition, the government has stated it is committed to removing all asylum applicants (approximately thirty thousand) from temporary hotel accommodation. We believe this action will inevitably mean further demand for HMOs.

We acknowledge and accept that the implementation of Article 4 borough wide

will have a significant impact on available resources particularly the Planning Department. Therefore, to enable the council to gear up to meet requirements, the Civil Parish of Shaw & Crompton and Failsworth are to be prioritised with the implementation of Article 4. With Article 4 being extended to the rest of the borough no later than twelve months thereafter.

This Council resolves to:

1. As soon as possible, Cabinet to consider and make a direction pursuant to Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 on a borough wide basis prioritising the Civil Parish of Shaw & Crompton and Failsworth. Withdrawing the permitted development rights to convert a dwellinghouse (C3) to a House in Multiple Occupation (C4) is appropriate, and justified, to prevent harm to local amenity and promote the wellbeing of the aforementioned areas.
2. To delegate authority to OMBC Planning Department to carry out all necessary consultation and to notify the Secretary of State in accordance with statutory requirements.
3. That, the Shaw & Crompton Civil Parish and Failsworth wide Article 4(1) Direction will come into effect once made.
4. To implement Article 4(1) Direction borough wide, no later than twelve months after coming into effect in the aforementioned priority areas.

Oldham Council cannot rely on or hide behind government legislation on this issue. An Article 4(1) Direction can be used to manage HMO concentration and prevent the formation of imbalanced communities and negative impact on local amenity.

If the Council values resident's opinions and puts communities at the forefront of decision making, it must give residents a voice and a transparent process to ensure that their views are heard.

The adoption of this motion demonstrates to the people of the borough that the council is prepared to act in their interests.

### **Motion 2: Fair Funding Review**

To be Moved by: Councillor Jabbar

To be Seconded by: Councillor Shah

This Council notes the devastating impact of Conservative/Liberal Democrat Coalition and Conservative Government austerity on Oldham Council and more widely on the people of Oldham. Due to austerity, Oldham Council had to make cuts of over £240m, leading to constant service reorganisation, loss of one third of Council staff and cuts in services for local residents. More widely, lack of investment in social and affordable housing contributed to rising homelessness; Oldham's Magistrate Court closed in 2016, County Court in 2017 followed by the Tax Office and the Department for Work and Pensions Office at Phoenix House in 2022.

**This Council welcomes**

1. the steps taken by the Labour Government in the 2025 Spending Review to repair the damage inflicted on the public services we all depend on by delivering Labour's Plan for Change: building strong foundations, kick-starting economic growth, cutting hospital waiting lists, giving children the best start in life, securing control of the country's borders, putting police back on the beat, building 1.5 million new homes, and securing home-grown energy.
2. The consultation on the Fair Funding Review 2.0 which seeks to simplify and reform central government funding for local councils, recognising the higher demands on local government services in areas like Oldham with high levels of deprivation and where a higher proportion of properties are in lower Council Tax Bands. The Review also proposes a new formula to address councils like Oldham's low Business Rate base and a three-year settlement which will enable stability in finances and proper planning as opposed to the past 6 years of annual settlements under the Conservative Government.
3. The recognition of the efforts made by Oldham Council to improve service delivery, despite the very real budgetary constraints arising from 14 years of central government funding cuts to 2024, being named the Most Improved Council at the Local Government Chronicle Awards 2025, a prestigious national award that recognises transformation and progress.

**This Council resolves to respond to the Fair Funding Review consultation supporting:**

1. The proposed changes to improve funding for councils like Oldham who have a lower tax base, a lower Business Rates base and a higher level of demand for their services.
2. A three-year funding settlement that will support long term planning
3. A level of funding that will ensure Oldham Council can provide the level of essential services needed by Oldham residents.

11 Notice of Opposition Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

**Motion 1: Adult Neurodevelopmental Assessment and Support**

To be Moved by: Councillor Bishop

To be Seconded by: Councillor Harkness

**The council notes that:**

There is currently no NHS provision for adults in Oldham who have a neurological condition such as Autism, ADHD or Dyspraxia, to access diagnostic or appropriate therapeutic support. There has been no statutory support offer for neurodivergent adults in Oldham for years, and the result has had severe repercussions for our mental health services, who see many presentations from people who fall into this category and have not been able to cope with their condition without therapeutic support and intervention. It has also meant additional pressure for their carers, parents or families who are left to pick up the pieces and try to manage as best they can, often with no training or support themselves.

Currently, Northern Care Alliance's (NCA) Paediatric Services provide assessment and diagnosis for children aged 0-18 years, diagnosing and planning the care management for children with neuro-developmental concerns, neuro-disabilities or complex health needs. Once diagnosed, children and young people with neurodevelopmental conditions have historically had an annual appointment with a consultant paediatrician, who assesses their ongoing needs and in turn signposts them to additional therapeutic services where appropriate. However, once they turn 18, they are discharged and there is no transitional support nor an adult equivalent service and those adults who are undiagnosed have no access to an assessment pathway at all.

On the NHS own website, it states, 'We know that with earlier, well-targeted community support, many admissions and long stays in mental health inpatient units could potentially be avoided.' So, this situation is not just an ethical one, it is also a pragmatic and a fiscally prudent one. With recognition and support, we could reduce the costs associated with mental health burnout, breakdowns and crisis presentations, as well as the number of people experiencing extreme distress.

Autism and other neurodevelopmental conditions are not something which only affect children. In fact, recent research has suggested that as many as 90% of adults who have Autism are undiagnosed. Additionally, according to a study by Willis Towers Watson (WTW), nearly three-quarters (70 per cent) of neurodivergent employees experience mental health issues. Therefore, there is a real impact upon productivity, absence rates and wellbeing in the workforce and avoiding addressing it is only compounding the problem.

Currently, if an adult visits their GP to request an assessment, they are directed towards the Right to Choose option, which invites them to access private provision. The problem with this is that it provides barriers to accessing future NHS support and medication if necessary. In other words, it is not a choice, and many vulnerable people are being failed, and our mental health services and economy are suffering the consequences, as well as those individuals experiencing distress.

**The council further notes that:**

- There is currently no diagnostic or therapeutic support pathway for adults with a neurodevelopmental condition in Oldham.
- The lack of such a service for adults with a neurodevelopmental condition is having a detrimental effect on the individuals themselves, their carers/families, mental health services and the local economy.
- A significant percentage of those people presenting at A&E in mental health crisis are neurodivergent and it is important for many reasons to take proactive steps to reduce this.

**The council resolves to:**

1. Work closely with the local health care authorities to support the expedition of the commissioning of a suitable assessment and therapeutic

- provision for neurodivergent adults in Oldham.
2. Work closely with local health care authorities to provide a timeframe for actioning the commissioning of this service and to provide a suitable strategy for dealing with the backlog that many years with a lack of this service has resulted in.
  3. Commission a report for scrutiny on supporting adults with neurological developmental conditions within the community in the borough of Oldham, with suggested approaches to for further ways to achieve this.

## **Motion 2: Investing in Coldhurst: Resurfacing West End Street Pitch and Reclaiming Merton Fields for Open Community Use**

To be Moved by Councillor Abdul Wahid

To be seconded by Councillor Montaz Ali Azad

### **Council Notes:**

1. **Historic and Ongoing Underinvestment in Coldhurst Community Facilities.** Coldhurst has experienced long-standing neglect in relation to youth and community sports infrastructure. Notably, the closure of Robin Hill Youth Centre — followed by the sale of the site to a private developer — resulted in the permanent loss of a vital youth provision hub. The play space adjoining the site has since deteriorated and is now deemed unplayable.
2. **Condition of West End Street Weather Pitch.** The pitch at West End Street, once a popular and well-used grassroots football and recreation space, has fallen into disrepair. The surface is cracked, drainage is poor, and markings are faded — making it unsafe and unfit for its intended use.
3. **Community Effort and Engagement.** In 2024–25, local volunteers, youth groups, and councillors began efforts to clean and reclaim the West End pitch. These community-led actions show a strong appetite for investment and governance of grassroots sports infrastructure.
4. **Council’s SportsTown Investment and Community Commitments.** The Council has committed £6 million as part of the first phase of a £70 million “SportsTown” regeneration programme, which includes:
  - £5 million from the Community Regeneration Fund to develop a new 3G pitch at Little Wembley, a new stand at Boundary Park, and supporting facilities.
  - £1 million from Oldham Council for a new stitched pitch at Boundary Park and to secure a permanent base for Oldham Rugby League Football Club.
  - Public commitments that SportsTown will benefit community access borough-wide, including increased opportunities for education, health, and sport.
5. **Merton Fields – A Missed Opportunity.** Another key green space in Coldhurst, Merton Fields, has been leased to Hulme Grammar School. However, the land remains undeveloped and unused. In light of recent financial pressures facing private schools — including VAT changes on tuition fees — Hulme Grammar appears to be selling off assets rather than investing in facilities. This includes no plans for Merton Fields, which has significant potential to be developed as an open-access, community



field.

Council Believes:

- That open-access, local sports facilities such as West End Street pitch and Merton Fields should be fully explored as part of Oldham's wider ambitions for health, youth development, and community regeneration.
- That the borough's regeneration strategies must include local, ward-level opportunities for inclusive sport and recreation.
- That it is in the public interest for the Council to review existing leases, funding options, and strategic opportunities for both sites in consultation with community stakeholders

Council Resolves to:

1. Request that officers prepare a report for Cabinet and/or the Communities & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee within **six months**, which will:
  - a. Assess the **current physical condition, legal arrangements, and ownership or lease status** of:
  - b. Explore opportunities to:
  - c. Consider how existing and future **government regeneration funding** streams might be aligned with the improvement of community sports assets at ward level.
  - d. Consult relevant community organisations, residents, and funding bodies in developing options.
    - West End Street pitch (Coldhurst)
    - Merton Fields (Hollinwood)
    - **Secure investment** or external funding to improve access and quality of both sites
    - **Review or renegotiate lease arrangements** if aligned with community benefit
    - **Develop open-access use models** that prioritise youth, health, and local sport
2. Ensure that any resulting recommendations are **inclusive, transparent**, and aimed at increasing the quality and accessibility of recreational spaces in Coldhurst and Hollinwood.

**Motion 3: A revision of the 'Don't Trash Oldham' Policy with regards to Gully Clearing**

To be Moved by Councillor Byrne

To be seconded by Councillor Lancaster

This Motion asks for a revision of the 'Don't Trash Oldham' Policy with regards to Gully Clearing.

This Policy sounded wonderful at the outset of DTO – to have a team in your Ward to not only flush out gullies but to remove detritus in those overgrown and those long forgotten and even tarmacked over.

We are now in our 3<sup>rd</sup> fiscal year and last week my Ward of Saddleworth North has just begun. Alexandra Ward who were first must be suffering by now. In the past 18 months there has been some exceptional rainfall in the whole of the

borough and the consequences of not clearing gullies, unless it floods properties, is a false economy.

Water does two things – has a life of its own and flows downhill- so damage can be much lower down than the gully. These gullies that feed into culverts need cleaning annually as it used to be.

There are many culverts which are still old Victorian even Georgian ones and when not running clearly present problems and thus expense. During downpours the culverts overflow and can cause considerable damage – often to private property as well as danger to traffic on the roads it flows into.

During these downpours old hillside water courses spring into life and blocked gullies add to this problem endangering property and making road surfaces unsafe and downright dangerous. Oldham and Saddleworth has few flat bits and more hills and our engineers who know water should be listened to.

This policy while achieving at the beginning has now lost its momentum and the damage from consequential flooding- with its cost is no longer working as was intended.

12 Update on Actions from Council  
*(Report to follow)*

13 Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan: Decision Making Process  
(Pages 79 - 92)

To seek approval from Council to agree to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils.

14 Update on Appointments to Committees (Pages 93 - 96)

Council is asked to consider changes in relation to appointments to Committees for 2025/2026.

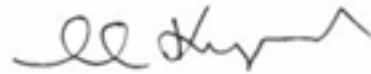
15 Update to pay policy statement and organisational framework (Pages 97 - 100)

Council is asked to consider proposed updates to the pay policy statement and the organisational framework for the authority.

16 Members' Allowances Scheme 2025/2026

Council is asked to consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.  
*(Report to follow)*

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shelley Kipling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent upward stroke at the end.

**Shelley Kipling  
Chief Executive**

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

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE



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



DEBATE ON THE MOTION: Include Timings



MOVER of Motion – Right of Reply



VOTE – For/Against/Abstain



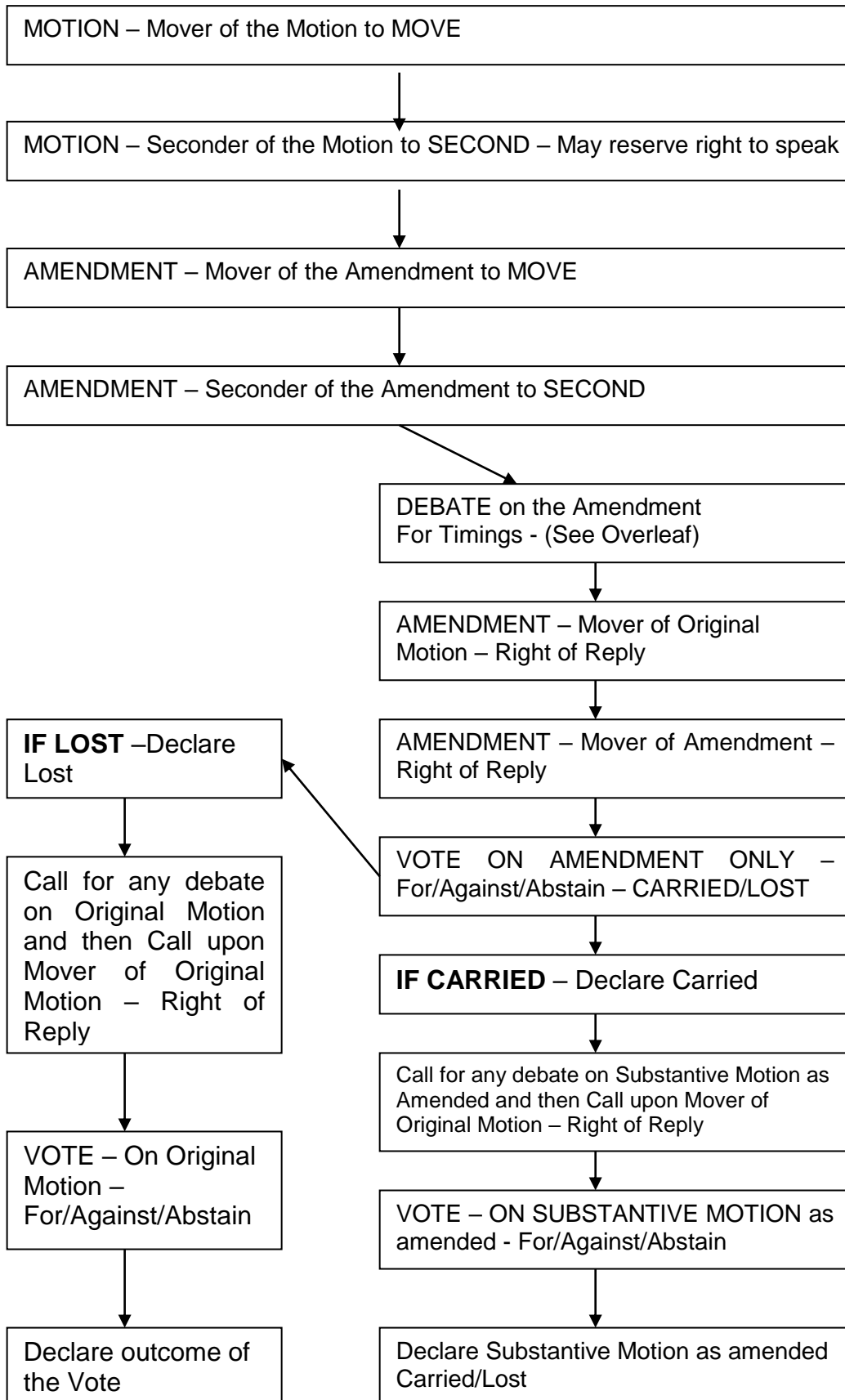
Declare outcome of the VOTE

**RULE ON TIMINGS**

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

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

## WITH AMENDMENT



This page is intentionally left blank

**Present:** The Mayor - Councillor Chauhan (in the Chair)

Councillors Adams, Akhtar, Al-Hamdani, M Ali, Z Ali, Arnott, Aslam, Azad, Ball, Bashforth, Bishop, Brownridge, Byrne, Charters, Chowhan, Cosgrove, Davis, Dean, Ghafoor, Goodwin, Hamblett, Harkness, Harrison, Hince, Hindle, Hobin, Hughes, Hurley, A Hussain, F Hussain, J. Hussain, S. Hussain, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Islam, Jabbar, Kenyon, Kouser, Malik, Marland, McLaren, Moores, Murphy, Mushtaq, Nasheen, Navesey, Quigg, Rustidge, Shah, Sharp, Sheldon, Shuttleworth, Sykes, Taylor, Wahid, Wilkinson, Williamson and Woodvine

1 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lancaster.

2 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER TO BE DETERMINED AT THE MEETING**

The Mayor, Councillor Chauhan declared an Other Registerable Interest in agenda item 3, insofar that it related to his proposed appointment as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough. Councillor Chauhan left the room during the consideration and determination of this matter, vacating the Chair in favour of the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Moores.

3 **HONORARY ALDERMEN AND HONORARY FREEMAN**

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director of Governance, which asked the Council to consider the appointment of three former Councillors and Mayors of the Borough: Riaz Ahmad, John Hudson and Bernard Judge as Honorary Aldermen of the Borough of Oldham in recognition of eminent service to the Council and to the Borough.

Nominations for the three positions of Honorary Alderman were received and considered by the Council's Leader and Leaders of the opposition groups.

Full Council may, at a special Council meeting, by formal resolution, bestow the honours of Honorary Alderman and the resolution should be passed by no less than two-thirds of the Members at a special meeting of the Council. Formal presentations were to take place at special ceremonies at a later date.

Councillor Shah **MOVED** and Councillor Sykes **SECONDED** the Motion.

**RESOLVED that** Riaz Ahmad be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of Oldham as, in the opinion of the Council, he had rendered eminent service to the Borough of Oldham.

Councillor Woodvine MOVED and Councillor Shah SECONDED the Motion.

**RESOLVED that** John Hudson be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of Oldham as, in the opinion of the Council, he had rendered eminent service to the Borough of Oldham.

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED the Motion.

**RESOLVED that** Bernard Judge be admitted as an Honorary Alderman of Oldham as, in the opinion of the Council, he had rendered eminent service to the Borough of Oldham.

*The Mayor, declared an Other Registerable Interest in the following matter, insofar as it related to his proposed appointment as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough. The Mayor left the room during the consideration and determination of this matter, vacating the Chair in favour of the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Moores.*

*Councillor Moores, Deputy Mayor, in the Chair.*

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which asked the Council to consider the appointment of Councillor Zahid Chauhan, as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Oldham, in recognition of eminent service to the Council or Borough.

A Nomination for Honorary Freeman had been received and considered by the Council's Leader and Leaders of the opposition groups

Full Council may, at special Council meeting by formal resolution, bestow the honours of Honorary Freeman and the resolution should be passed by no less than two-thirds of the Members at a special meeting of the Council. A formal presentation will take place at a special ceremony at a later date.

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Mushtaq SECONDED the Motion.

**RESOLVED that** Councillor Zahid Chauhan be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of Oldham as, in the opinion of the Council, he had rendered eminent service to the Borough of Oldham.

The meeting started at 11.00am and ended at 11.15am





**Present:** The Mayor – Councillor Chauhan (in the Chair)

Councillors Adams, Akhtar, Al-Hamdani, M Ali, Z Ali, Arnott, Aslam, Azad, Ball, Bashforth, Bishop, Brownridge, Byrne, Charters, Chowhan, Cosgrove, Davis, Dean, Ghafoor, Goodwin, Hamblett, Harkness, Harrison, Hince, Hindle, Hobin, Hughes, Hurley, A Hussain, F Hussain, J. Hussain, S. Hussain, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Islam, Jabbar, Kenyon, Kouser, Malik, Marland, McLaren, Moores, Murphy, Mushtaq, Nasheen, Navesey, Quigg, Rustidge, Shah, Sharp, Sheldon, Shuttleworth, Sykes, Taylor, Wahid, Wilkinson, Williamson and Woodvine

1           **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lancaster.

2           **TO ELECT THE MAYOR FOR THE 2025/26 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

Councillor Shuttleworth MOVED, Councillor McLaren SECONDED and Councillor Mushtaq SUPPORTED the election of Councillor Eddie Moores, as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

On being put to the vote, the nomination was CARRIED.

Councillor Moores signed the declaration required by law, which enabled him to act in the Office of Mayor.

The retiring Mayor (Councillor Zahid Chauhan) invested the newly elected Mayor with the chain of office; the Mayor's Consorts were presented with their chains.

(The Mayor, Councillor Moores, in the Chair).

The Mayor then made a speech of acceptance of office.

**RESOLVED**

1. Councillor Eddie Moores be appointed Mayor of Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council and Chair for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.
2. The sincere thanks and appreciation of the Council be recorded to Councillor Zahid Chauhan for his valuable services during his term of office as Mayor of the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council.

3           **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR**

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Jabbar SECONDED a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor, Councillor Chauhan and his Consorts.

Councillors Ghafoor, Woodvine and Sykes addressed the Council paying tribute to Councillor Chauhan.



The Mayor then invited Councillor Chauhan to address the Council.

4

**TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2025/26**

Councillor Hindle MOVED and Councillor Navesey SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Hobin as Deputy Mayor and Vice Chair of Council for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

**AMENDMENT**

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor Woodvine SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

“That the nomination of Councillor Brian Hobin as Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2025/26 be amended to instead nominate Councillor Alicia Marland, in line with the 50-year custom of this Council which has ensured the political neutrality of the Mayor’s Office.

That Councillor Alicia Marland be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2025/26.”

A recorded vote, in line with Council Procedure Rules was then taken on the AMENDMENT as follows:

<b>COUNCILLOR</b>		<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	
Adams Christine	FOR	Hussain Fida	AGAINST
Akhtar Shoab	FOR	Hussain Junaid	AGAINST
Al-Hamdani Sam	FOR	Hussain Sajed	AGAINST
Ali Mohon	AGAINST	Ibrahim Nyla	FOR
Ali Zaheer	FOR	Iqbal Nadeem	AGAINST
Arnott Dave	FOR	Islam Mohammed Nazrul	AGAINST
Aslam Naseem	AGAINST	Jabbar Abdul	AGAINST
Azad Montaz Ali	FOR	Kenyon Mark	FOR
Ball Sandra	FOR	Kouser Aisha	FOR
Bishop Helen	FOR	Lancaster Luke	APOLOGIES
Bashforth Marie	AGAINST	Malik Abdul	AGAINST
Brownridge Barbara	AGAINST	Marland Alicia	FOR
Byrne Pam	FOR	McLaren Colin	AGAINST
Charters Josh	AGAINST	Murphy Dave	FOR
Cosgrove Angela	AGAINST	Mushtaq Shaid	AGAINST
Chauhan Zahid	AGAINST	Nasheen Umar	AGAINST
Chowhan Naveed	FOR	Navesey Lisa	AGAINST
Davis Peter	AGAINST	Quigg Lewis	FOR

Dean Peter	AGAINST	Rustidge Ken	AGAINST
Ghafoor Kamran	FOR	Shah Arooj	AGAINST
Goodwin Chris	AGAINST	Sharp Beth	FOR
Hamblett Louie	FOR	Sheldon Graham	FOR
Harkness Garth	FOR	Shuttleworth Graham	AGAINST
Harrison Holly	AGAINST	Sykes Howard	FOR
Hince Marc	AGAINST	Taylor Elaine	AGAINST
Hindle Neil	AGAINST	Wahid Abdul	FOR
Hobin Brian	AGAINST	Wilkinson Mark	FOR
Hughes Jade	FOR	Williamson Diane	FOR
Hurley Maggie	FOR	Woodvine Max	FOR
Hussain Aftab	AGAINST	Eddie Moores (MAYOR)	AGAINST

On a recorded VOTE being taken 28 VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT with 31 VOTES cast AGAINST and there were 0 ABSTENTIONS. The AMENDMENT was therefore LOST.

A recorded vote, in line with the Regulations was then taken on the MOTION (to appoint Councillor Hobin as Deputy Mayor and Vice Chair of Council for the forthcoming Municipal Year), as follows:

<b>COUNCILLOR</b>		<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	
Adams Christine	AGAINST	Hussain Fida	FOR
Akhtar Shoab	AGAINST	Hussain Junaid	FOR
Al-Hamdani Sam	AGAINST	Hussain Sajed	FOR
Ali Mohon	FOR	Ibrahim Nyla	AGAINST
Ali Zaheer	AGAINST	Iqbal Nadeem	FOR
Arnott Dave	AGAINST	Islam Mohammed Nazrul	FOR
Aslam Naseem	FOR	Jabbar Abdul	FOR
Azad Montaz Ali	AGAINST	Kenyon Mark	AGAINST
Ball Sandra	AGAINST	Kouser Aisha	AGAINST
Bishop Helen	AGAINST	Lancaster Luke	APOLOGIES
Bashforth Marie	FOR	Malik Abdul	FOR
Brownridge Barbara	FOR	Marland Alicia	AGAINST
Byrne Pam	AGAINST	McLaren Colin	FOR
Charters Josh	FOR	Murphy Dave	AGAINST
Cosgrove Angela	FOR	Mushtaq Shaid	FOR
Chauhan Zahid	FOR	Nasheen Umar	FOR
Chowhan Naveed	FOR	Navesey Lisa	FOR

Davis Peter	FOR	Quigg Lewis	AGAINST
Dean Peter	FOR	Rustidge Ken	FOR
Ghafoor Kamran	AGAINST	Shah Arooj	FOR
Goodwin Chris	FOR	Sharp Beth	AGAINST
Hamblett Louie	AGAINST	Sheldon Graham	AGAINST
Harkness Garth	AGAINST	Shuttleworth Graham	FOR
Harrison Holly	FOR	Sykes Howard	AGAINST
Hince Marc	FOR	Taylor Elaine	FOR
Hindle Neil	FOR	Wahid Abdul	AGAINST
Hobin Brian	FOR	Wilkinson Mark	AGAINST
Hughes Jade	AGAINST	Williamson Diane	AGAINST
Hurley Maggie	AGAINST	Woodvine Max	AGAINST
Hussain Aftab	FOR	Eddie Moores (MAYOR)	FOR

On a recorded VOTE being taken 31 VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the MOTION with 28 VOTES cast AGAINST and there were 0 ABSTENTIONS. The MOTION was therefore CARRIED.

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Hobin be appointed Deputy Mayor for Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council and Vice Chair for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

5 **TO ORDER THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9TH APRIL 2025 BE SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD**

**RESOLVED:**

That subject to an amendment to Minute 10 (Questions to Leader and Cabinet), to reflect that Oldham Rugby League Club had reached the semi-final of the 1895 Cup and not the Challenge Cup, as stated, the Minutes of the meeting of the Council, held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025, be approved and signed by the Mayor, as a correct record.

6 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER TO BE DETERMINED AT THE MEETING**

There were no declarations of interests.

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

There were no matters of urgent business to report.

8 **TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

There were no communications relating to the business of the Council to report.

9 **LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Councillor Taylor MOVED and Councillor Jabbar SECONDED a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which reminded

Members that under the Leader and Cabinet model of governance, Councillor Shah had been elected as Leader of the Council on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for a period that would end on the day when the Council holds its first annual meeting after the Leader's normal day of retirement, as a Councillor unless: she resigned from the office; was no longer a Councillor; or she would be removed from office by a resolution of the Council.

#### AMENDMENT

Councillor Ghafoor **MOVED** and Councillor Wahid **SECONDED** the following **AMENDMENT**.

'That Council note the election of Councillor Arooj Shah as the Leader of the Council from 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and ending on the day when the Council holds its first annual meeting of the Leader's normal day of retirement as Councillor as outlined at paragraph 1.2 of the report.

It is noted that the report references the appointment of the Leader of the Council, Cllr Arooj Shah, made at the Council meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023. However, a Leader may be removed from office by resolution of the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council (the Council).

This amendment seeks to **REMOVE** Cllr Arooj Shah as the Leader of the Council with immediate effect, and that a new Leader be elected by the Council at the Annual Council Meeting on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

The mover and seconder of this amendment hereby nominate Cllr Kamran Ghafoor to be elected as the new Leader of the Council."

A recorded vote, in line with Council Procedure Rules was then taken on the **AMENDMENT** as follows:

<b>COUNCILLOR</b>		<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	
Adams Christine	FOR	Hussain Fida	AGAINST
Akhtar Shoab	FOR	Hussain Junaid	AGAINST
Al-Hamdani Sam	FOR	Hussain Sajed	AGAINST
Ali Mohon	AGAINST	Ibrahim Nyla	FOR
Ali Zaheer	FOR	Iqbal Nadeem	AGAINST
Arnott Dave	FOR	Islam Mohammed Nazrul	AGAINST
Aslam Naseem	AGAINST	Jabbar Abdul	AGAINST
Azad Montaz Ali	FOR	Kenyon Mark	FOR
Ball Sandra	FOR	Kouser Aisha	FOR
Bishop Helen	FOR	Lancaster Luke	APOLOGIES
Bashforth Marie	AGAINST	Malik Abdul	AGAINST
Brownridge	AGAINST	Marland Alicia	FOR

Barbara			
Byrne Pam	FOR	McLaren Colin	AGAINST
Charters Josh	AGAINST	Murphy Dave	FOR
Cosgrove Angela	AGAINST	Mushtaq Shaid	AGAINST
Chauhan Zahid	AGAINST	Nasheen Umar	AGAINST
Chowhan Naveed	FOR	Navesey Lisa	AGAINST
Davis Peter	AGAINST	Quigg Lewis	FOR
Dean Peter	AGAINST	Rustidge Ken	AGAINST
Ghafoor Kamran	FOR	Shah Arooj	AGAINST
Goodwin Chris	AGAINST	Sharp Beth	FOR
Hamblett Louie	FOR	Sheldon Graham	FOR
Harkness Garth	FOR	Shuttleworth Graham	AGAINST
Harrison Holly	AGAINST	Sykes Howard	FOR
Hince Marc	AGAINST	Taylor Elaine	AGAINST
Hindle Neil	AGAINST	Wahid Abdul	FOR
Hobin Brian	AGAINST	Wilkinson Mark	FOR
Hughes Jade	FOR	Williamson Diane	FOR
Hurley Maggie	FOR	Woodvine Max	FOR
Hussain Aftab	AGAINST	Eddie Moores (MAYOR)	AGAINST

On a recorded VOTE being taken 28 VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT with 31 VOTES cast AGAINST and there were 0 ABSTENTIONS. The AMENDMENT was therefore LOST.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

10

**APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER, CABINET MEMBERS AND DEPUTY CABINET MEMBERS AND ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS AND DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Leader of the Council which detailed the Cabinet portfolios and the appointments to the Cabinet for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

**RESOLVED** that the appointment of the Deputy Leaders, Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members, the allocation of portfolios to Cabinet Members and the determination of delegations to executive functions for 2025/2026 be noted as outlined below:

Councillor Arooj Shah	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth
Councillor Elaine Taylor	Statutory Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Councillor Abdul Jabbar	Deputy Leader and Cabinet



Councillor Shaid Mushtaq	Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability
Councillor Mohon Ali	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Councillor Barbara Brownridge	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Councillor Peter Dean	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Fida Hussain	Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure
Councillor Chris Goodwin	Cabinet Member for Enterprise
Councillor Holly Harrison	Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways
Councillor Aftab Hussain	Deputy Cabinet Member for Resident Focus
Councillor Lisa Navesey	Deputy Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Community Safety
Councillor Marie Bashforth	Deputy Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding
Councillor Umar Nasheen	Deputy Cabinet Member for Adults with Learning Disabilities
Councillor Nazrul Islam	Deputy Cabinet Member for Skills
Councillor Josh Charters	Deputy Cabinet Member for Get Oldham Working
	Deputy Cabinet Member for Bee Network Delivery

Note - the executive functions are those as described in Part 3 of the constitution as amended by item 15.

11

## **MAIN OPPOSITION NOMINATIONS TO THE SHADOW CABINET**

### **RESOLVED:**

That the appointment of the main Opposition Leaders and the Shadow Cabinet, members, as set out below, be noted:

a. Liberal Democrat Group

Leader – Councillor Howard Sykes

Deputy Group Leader – Councillor Sam Al-Hamdani

Liberal Democrat Group Shadow Cabinet:

Councillor Howard Sykes	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth
Councillor Garth Harkness	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Councillor Sam Al-Hamdani	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability
Councillor Diane Williamson	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Councillor Helen Bishop	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Councillor Louie Hamblett	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Alicia Marland	Cabinet Member for Culture and

Councillor Mark Kenyon	Leisure
Councillor Dave Murphy	Cabinet Member for Enterprise Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways



b. Oldham Group  
 Leader – Councillor Kamran Ghafoor  
 Deputy Group Leader – Abdul Wahid

Oldham Group Shadow Cabinet:

Councillor Kamran Ghafoor	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth
Councillor Abdul Wahid	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Councillor Nyla Ibrahim	Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability
Councillor Zaheer Ali	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Councillor Naveed Chowhan	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Councillor Aisha Kouser	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Graham Sheldon	Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure
Councillor Montaz Ali Azad	Cabinet Member for Enterprise
Councillor Shoab Akhtar	Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways

12

**APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND COMPOSITION OF POLITICAL GROUPS**

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Taylor SECONDED a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which sought a review of the political composition of committees and the composition of political groups as previously notified under Regulation 8(1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and under Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government Housing Act 1989.

**RESOLVED:**

1. The composition of the political groups as shown in paragraph 1.1, of the report, be noted.
2. The committees detailed in paragraph 1.2 of the report be appointed with the Terms of Reference and delegated powers as detailed in the Constitution.
3. The number of seats on the various Committees for the 2025/26 Municipal Year be as detailed in paragraph 1.5, of the report.
4. Council confirms unanimously the allocation of seats to the political groups and makes appointments to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, as far as is practicable.
5. Council appoints a Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the various Committees for the 2025/26 Municipal Year, as



detailed in Appendix 1, to the submitted report, except for the Appeals Committees.

6. The Council appoints District Lead and Deputy Lead Members as follows:
  - i. Central District Lead – Councillor Malik (no Deputy Lead Member required)
  - ii. North District Lead – Councillor Hince and Deputy Lead – Councillor Adams
  - iii. East District Lead – Councillor Cosgrove and Deputy Lead – Councillor Bishop
  - iv. South District Lead – Councillor Hindle (no Deputy Lead Member required)
  - v. West District Lead – Councillor Shuttleworth (no Deputy Lead Member required)
7. The Co-opted Members detailed at paragraph 1.9 of the report be appointed to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Board and the Co-optees be given full voting rights in respect of education matters only.
8. Any outstanding appointments to be delegated to the Chief Executive in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group.
9. Council ratifies the Leader’s nominations to the Health and Well-being Board, as listed in Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

13

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2025/26**

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Taylor SECONDED a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which detailed the appointments to Outside Bodies for the Municipal Year 2025/26.

##### **RESOLVED that:**

1. The appointments to the Outside Bodies as listed in the Appendices as circulated for the 2025/26 Municipal Year be agreed.
2. Any outstanding appointments be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Leaders of the main Opposition Groups.

14

#### **COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Taylor SECONDED a report of the Interim Borough Solicitor, which invited Council to re-affirm the Council’s Constitution as a matter of good governance.

##### **RESOLVED:**

That Council re-affirms the Council’s Constitution.

15

#### **COUNCIL MEETINGS AND MUNICIPAL CALENDAR 2025/26**

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which set out the Calendar of Meetings for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.

##### **RESOLVED that:**

1. The meetings of Full Council be held on the undermentioned dates during the 2025/2026 Municipal Year, commencing at 6.00pm unless otherwise shown:

16<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
12<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2026

2. The Council's calendar of meetings for 2025/2026 be approved.
3. Approval of any outstanding dates or changes to dates to be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders.

16        **NOTICE OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS**

There were no items of Opposition Business to consider.

17        **NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS**

There were no items of Administration Business to consider.

The meeting started at 11.15am and ended at 1.50pm

Report to COUNCIL – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025



Oldham  
Council

## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth.

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to the portfolio responsibilities.

**LGC Awards – Most Improved Council:** I was absolutely delighted that Oldham Council was named *Most Improved Council* at this year's prestigious LGC Awards. The national recognition reflects the hard work, resilience, and dedication of our staff, partners, and communities who have played a part in our improvement journey.

The judges praised the clarity of our vision, our strong leadership, and the progress we have made in areas such as financial management, partnership working, and delivering better outcomes for residents through our Resident Focused approach.

This award isn't just about where we have come from, it's about where we are going. I know there is still more to do, but this award shows we are on the right path. Together, we are building a better Oldham and I'm proud of every single person who helped us get here.

**Greater Manchester Leading the Way:** Oldham has played a key role in shaping the new Greater Manchester Strategy (launched Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July). Through working closely with partners across Greater Manchester, we have ensured that Oldham's priorities and ambition are reflected throughout the strategy. Importantly, Oldham is ready to deliver, our Oldham Plan and Corporate Plan are fully aligned with the new Greater Manchester Strategy, meaning we are well positioned to turn our ambitions into action, benefiting all Oldham's communities. As part of our contribution to the GMS, we have included three clear commitments to help drive Oldham's growth and live well aspirations:

- **Creating an Oldham Mayoral Development Corporation** which will include: 8,000 new homes, the transformation of Oldham Town Centre, the development of the Northern Roots Eco-Park, development of the SportsTown facility, Beal Valley & Broadbent Moss development and a £20m investment to support the growth of Chadderton.
- Major upgrades to **Transport & Active Travel infrastructure** including Cop Road Metrolink stop (inc. Park & Ride) and associated new bus service connections, Atom Valley connectivity.
- Supporting the **development of a co-operative model to boost the cultural and night-time economy** in Oldham, continuing to build on the successful major town centre regeneration underway, and the delivery of 2,000 new town centre homes. This will include redeveloping Oldham Coliseum Theatre on Fairbottom Street, complimenting the High Street Accelerator funding secured for Yorkshire Street.

**Resident Focus:** I am delighted to share that as part of our on-going commitment to working with a resident focus, we have extended access to the Registrars service to enable urgent burials for communities when they face heartbreaking losses. From early July, residents are now able to contact the service to arrange the paperwork required for time critical burials on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

As part of our renewed commitment to resident focus and the number of enquiries coming through to members and staff, I have asked for a full business case and feasibility study to be undertaken with the aim to transform vacant space in Spindles into a new Customer Service Centre, and we are currently exploring whether this space can be one of Oldham's 'Live Well' centres.

**Growth:** I am delighted that the six planning applications submitted by our Town Centre residential development partner, Muse, were all approved at Planning Committee two weeks ago. The first site to come forward will be Prince's Gate, where enabling works will begin this Autumn, before works on the developing the first of the three new blocks of apartments will start in the New Year. The first phase of development on the Civic Centre site will also begin next year. The intention is that both the first phase on Princes Gate and the first phase on the Civic Centre site will be affordable and social homes delivered with a registered provider housing association partner.

---

I am pleased to report that we continue to make strong progress in delivering regeneration projects strengthening our town centre for everyone who lives, works, studies and visits. The high street can now be accessed from the central bus station via Snipe Gardens which creates a vibrant and welcoming first impression of our town centre. As the much-loved Old Library nears completion in the next few months plans to relocate from the Civic Centre into the building are already underway releasing the Civic Centre site for much needed new homes.

**Place Making:** At the end of May officers hosted a study visit from Scotland's Towns Partnership, Architecture and Design Scotland, and Scottish Futures Trust. They travelled down for the day to learn about the multi-funded and ambitious approach to our town centre transformation. They felt that our 'strong place leadership, design-led regeneration and climate-conscious planning' were stand out examples of good practice.

In June we held the first Town Centre Forum where the Chief Executive and I spoke to the businesses and traders who keep our town centre thriving, we broke the news that we were renaming 'The Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre' simply to 'The Spindles', that the new market hall would be know equally as simply as 'The Market' and that the new events space would be called 'The Loom'.

As always, I am keen to ensure that the standards our residents receive are always the best, and the decision to keep the Queen Elizabeth Hall open for Panto means we can ensure that the final works to Parliament Square and The Loom are spot on for a grand opening later this year.

We also launched a shop front grant scheme to enable tenants or landlords in the town centre to apply for financial support to improve their shop frontages. Applications are now open, and I would encourage businesses to apply as soon as possible to ensure they can secure funding.

I was also really pleased that we have retained a Post Office in the town centre. We have a temporary counter now whilst the permanent fit out works take place over the coming weeks. Residents have fed back to me and officers how pleased they are to see this vital service back.

Finally, I am really pleased to welcome our parking enforcement and administration team to the council: insourced from NSL on 26 June, the team are now very much part of our town centre team, so we can help ensure focused parking enforcement action in the most needed areas of the borough to keep our roads safe.

**Housing Needs/Strategy:** It's great to see the hard work achieving a reduction in the number of households requiring temporary accommodation (TA) by either preventing or relieving homelessness – this includes making best use of the private rented sector (where appropriate to do so). At the end of June 2025, we had 564 households in TA, this steady reduction is a consistent trend month-by-month. At the height of the crisis, we had over 700 households residing in TA. Building on the prevention work already being undertaken coupled with the new resources that are being brought online, we should see an even sharper decline in the number of households residing in TA.

Oldham's refreshed Strategic Housing Partnership had its first meeting in May. The group focused on ensuring we have a partnership approach to tackling the issues we all face, i.e. high demand, lack of stock, and supporting our most vulnerable residents, some of whom have high levels of complexity. The Partnership agreed to focus on how we can work together to increase levels of affordable suitable TA and how we can make best use of the existing socially rented stock in the borough, for example introducing a new right sizing scheme, and co-producing the new Allocations Policy.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.

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

1           **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Fida Hussain.

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 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025, be approved as a correct record.

6           **REVENUE MONITOR AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT  
PROGRAMME 2024/25 MONTH 10**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Director of Finance that provided Members with an update, as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 (Month 10), of the Council's 2024/25 forecast revenue budget position (detailed at Annex 1) alongside the financial position of the capital programme together with the revised capital programme 2024/25 to 2028/29 (detailed at Annex 2).

In terms of the revenue position the forecast overspend position based on the Month 10 profiled budget was £12.164m which, if not addressed, would result in a year-end overspend of £14.597m (£14.178m at Month 9). This financial monitoring report followed on from the previously reported positions and detailed the potential year end position if no further action was taken to reduce net expenditure.

The management actions already implemented for 2024/25 had been factored into the current forecasts and have had a positive impact on the adverse position from that reported at Quarter 1 (£26.033m). Work continued across the organisation to address this position and reduce this position even further.

An update on the Month 10 2024/25 position was detailed within Annex 1. Information on the forecast year end position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), and Collection Fund were also outlined in the submitted report.

In term of the capital position, the report outlined the most up to date information for 2024/25 to 2029/30 for approved schemes. The revised capital programme budget for 2024/25 was £87.460m at the close of Month 10 (£87.260m at Month 9), a net increase of £0.200m. The actual expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 was £59.145m (67.63% of the forecast outturn).

Options/alternatives considered:

- a. To consider the forecast revenue and capital positions presented in the report.
- b. To propose alternative forecasts.

The preferred option was 'a.' above.

Resolved that the Cabinet:

1. Notes the contents of the report.
2. Approves forecast profiled budget, being an adverse position of £12.164m at Month 10 and the forecast potential adverse position by year end of £14.597m, with mitigations in place to reduce expenditure as detailed at Annex 1.
3. Approves the use of general earmarked reserves to fund any year end revenue overspend for 2024/25.
4. Notes the forecast positions for the Dedicated Schools Grant and Collection Fund.
5. Approves the revised capital programme for 2024/25 including the proposed virements and the forecast for the financial years to 2029/30 as at Month 10 as outlined in Annex 2 to the report.

7

## **GRANT ACCEPTANCE: COMMUNITY REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which advised members that following receipt of grant notification on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025, from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), on behalf of national government, the submitted report was seeking approval to accept £20,100,000 (twenty million, one hundred thousand pounds). Members were reminded of previous announcements about Oldham being included in the Levelling Up Partnership on behalf of national government. The notification had also confirmed that the programme has changed its name to the Oldham Community Regeneration Partnership.

Within MHCLG, a sub-team called the Communities Delivery Unit (CDU) had led the work which began in April 2024, and included community engagement and, data insight and assessments to assess the “need” for Levelling Up Oldham. The CDU undertook further scoping work, desk-based research, literature reviews and work with analysts to develop an evidence base on the opportunities and challenges for Oldham.

Due to the timing of the General Election, the programme was paused from June to November 2025; however, all the work then resumed and informed a cross-government process to develop a long-list of policy options and interventions, as set out in the submitted report. The finalised selection of projects/list of



interventions was developed and confirmed by the CDU in February 2025, following ministerial sign off and approval: again, the detail of which was set out in the submitted report.



**Oldham**  
Council

On acceptance of the grant, the Council and the MHCLG will form the Oldham Community Regeneration Partnership, and after reviewing the identified programme, the proposals are fully aligned with the Oldham Plan and Creating a Better Place framework to create jobs, build homes, and enhance buildings and communities across the borough.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1: To accept the list of projects identified by MHCLG and the proposed grant funding allocation as set out in this report which will create the opportunity to delivery significant outcomes across the borough aligned to the Oldham Plan priorities and expend the grant in accordance with the development and delivery plan approved in line with the delegations recommended in this report. Parts of the grant may be used by the Council to purchase works, supplies or services or it may be used to make onward grants to third parties.

Option 2: To decline the offer of the external funding. This option is not supported or recommended as it would result in a significant missed opportunity to deliver a range of activity, across the borough, where funding does not currently exist and associated outcomes will not be achieved.

The preferred Option is Option 1.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet:

1. Approves the acceptance of the £20,100,000 grant funding award from the MHCLG.
2. Approves a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with the MHCLG in respect of the grant award and establishment of the Oldham Community Regeneration Partnership.
3. Notes the extensive consultation and work undertaken by the MHCLG's CDU Team to collect and assess the longlist of projects and ideas submitted by Oldham's communities and partners and to note the projects selected by the CDU (after passing MHCLG business case approval) for progression.
4. Delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Building a Better Oldham, the Director of Finance and the Interim Borough Solicitor/Monitoring Officer, or his nominated representative to oversee and approve: the expenditure of grant funding for the projects selected by MHCLG; the onward award of the grant funding for any policy intervention or project listed by the CDU team; and, any associated partnership or programme of activity.
5. Delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Building a Better Oldham, the Director of Finance and the Interim Borough Solicitor/Monitoring Officer, or his nominated representative to approve the procurement and

appointment of contractors and service providers (and to authorise any sub-contractors) to supply any works, supplies or services needed to deliver the programme of activity following procurements undertaken in compliance with the Council's own Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (or Procurement Act 23, as of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025).

6. Delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) in consultation with the Interim Director of Finance and the Interim Borough Solicitor/Monitoring Officer, or their nominated representatives to award onward grant funding and to enter into any associated grant agreements with delivery partners and/or community groups, as applicable, setting out clearly prescribed funding timescales, project scope as agreed with MHCLG and subject to appropriate terms and conditions, including any relevant provisions within the MoU entered into with the MHCLG.
7. Delegate authority to the Interim Borough Solicitor/Monitoring Officer and/or his nominee to formalise any necessary legal requirements including signing and/or sealing any documentation required to give effect to the recommendations and/or delegations in this report.
8. Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) and the Interim Borough Solicitor/Monitoring Officer and/or their nominee(s) to approve the appointment of external legal advisors required to protect the Council's interests and/or give effect to the recommendations in this report and carry out all necessary legal formalities in respect of any activity approved by virtue of this report.

8

## **OLDHAM'S PLAYING PITCH AND OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY (2025)**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) that asked members to note the findings and recommendations set out within the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy; to agree to their publication on the council's website (the documents were attached at Appendix 1 to the report); and to delegate the approval of future updates of the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy documents to the Cabinet Member for Thriving Communities and Culture, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Decent Homes and Don't Trash Oldham.

In 2023, Cabinet was advised that Oldham Council had commissioned Knight Kavanagh & Page (KKP) to carry out a Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS). The PPOSS updates the previous (2015) PPOSS and will build on the assessment of outdoor sports facilities undertaken within the Council's Open Space Study (2022).

The PPOSS provides a more in-depth assessment of the borough's pitches and outdoor sports sites, identifies the current and future needs for particular sports and sets out an Action Plan for future investment and improvement. The PPOSS provides evidence to support the implementation of existing



local planning policies, will inform planning policy within the new Local Plan and will be a material consideration for planning decisions.

The PPOSS will also inform how and where S106 developer contributions are secured and spent. In terms of investment, it is often a requirement that an area/ local authority has an up-to-date PPOSS to access funding from Sport England, National Governing Bodies (e.g. the Football Association, England and Wales Cricket Board, England Netball, Rugby Football Union etc), and other organisations.

As such the PPOSS can be used to help sports clubs and the council gain access to funding and investment. In particular, the PPOSS provides:

- Evidence of supply and demand of playing pitch and outdoor sports provision.
- A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities.
- A number of aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions.
- A series of strategic recommendations which provide a framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch and outdoor sport facility stock.
- A series of sport-by-sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- A prioritised area-by-area Action Plan to address key issues on a site-by-site basis.

The PPOSS was completed in February 2025.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 was to approve and publish the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) (2025) on the council's website and to delegate approval for future updates of the documents to the Cabinet Member for Thriving Communities and Culture, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Decent Homes and Don't Trash Oldham. The advantages to this were that publishing the PPOSS will inform the planning process and the council's maintenance and management of pitches and outdoor sport provision, support local sports development, guide investment and support funding opportunities.

Option 2 – Not to approve and publish the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) (2025) on the council's website and not to delegate approval for future updates to the Cabinet Member for Thriving Communities and Culture, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Decent Homes and Don't Trash Oldham. There are no advantages in following this course of action.

Option 1 was the preferred Option,

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the findings and recommendations set out within the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy.
2. Cabinet agrees to the publication of the strategy on the council's website (the documents were attached at Appendix 1 to the report).
3. Cabinet agrees to delegate the approval of future updates of the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy documents to the Cabinet Member for Thriving Communities and Culture, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Decent Homes and Don't Trash Oldham.

9

### **SOUTH PENNINE MOORS SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION/SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS JOINT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

The Cabinet received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which sought agreement to adopt the South Pennine Moors Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The report also sought for the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Decent Homes and Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to be given delegated authority to agree the date on which the SPD takes effect; and to delegate approval to the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to make minor, non-material modifications to the South Pennine Moors SPD before final publication, subject to consultation and agreement with the two other relevant Places for Everyone authorities (Rochdale and Tameside Borough Councils).

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 - That the Cabinet agrees the recommendations detailed in the submitted report. This will ensure that the South Pennine Moors SPD can become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and that development does not cause / mitigates adverse impact(s) on the protected habitats and species of the relevant parts of Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside local authority areas. There are no disadvantages to this option.

Option 2 - To not approve the SPD for adoption. This would prevent the SPD from becoming a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and would significantly limit the ability to secure appropriate development in the South Pennine Moors area of the three relevant PfE authorities. There were no reported advantages to this option.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That Cabinet agrees to adopt the South Pennine Moors Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), attached at Appendix 1 to the report and for the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Decent Homes and Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to be given delegated authority to agree the date on which the SPD takes effect.

2. That Cabinet delegates approval to the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to make minor, non-material modifications to the South Pennine Moors SPD before final publication, subject to consultation and agreement with the two other relevant Places for Everyone authorities (Rochdale Council and Tameside Council).

10

## **HOLCROFT MOSS PLANNING OBLIGATIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) that sought adoption of the Holcroft Moss Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which was attached at Appendix 1 to the report and for the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Decent Homes and Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to be given delegated authority to agree the date on which the SPD takes effect; to agree to provide Warrington Metropolitan Borough Council (as the responsible authority for implementing a mitigation strategy for Holcroft Moss), as necessary and through an appropriate mechanism, with S106 funds collected in accordance with the Holcroft Moss SPD; and to delegate approval to the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to make minor, non-material modifications to the Holcroft Moss SPD before final publication, subject to consultation and agreement with the eight other relevant Places for Everyone authorities.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 – that the Cabinet approves the recommendations detailed in the submitted report. This option will ensure that the Holcroft Moss SPD can become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and that developer contributions required to mitigate adverse impact(s) on the protected habitats and species of Holcroft Moss can be collected and appropriately handled. There are no disadvantages to this option.

Option 2 - To not approve the Holcroft Moss SPD for adoption. This would prevent the SPD from becoming a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and hinder the collection of developer contributions required to mitigate adverse impact(s) on the protected habitats and species of Holcroft Moss. There were no reported advantages to this option.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet:

1. Agrees to adopt the Holcroft Moss Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), attached at Appendix 1, and for the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Decent Homes and Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to be given delegated authority to agree the date on which the SPD takes effect.
2. Agrees to provide Warrington Metropolitan Borough Council (as the responsible authority for implementing a mitigation strategy for Holcroft Moss), as necessary and

through an appropriate mechanism, with S106 funds collected in accordance with the Holcroft Moss SPD.

3. Delegates approval to the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to make minor, non-material modifications to the Holcroft Moss SPD before final publication, subject to consultation and agreement with the eight other relevant Places for Everyone authorities.

11

## **COMPLYING WITH THE BIODIVERSITY DUTY - OUR POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES FOR THRIVING WILDLIFE IN OLDHAM**

The Cabinet received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) that sought approval and subsequent publication of Oldham Council's policies and objectives to conserve and enhance biodiversity – 'Complying with the Biodiversity Duty – Our Policies and Objectives for Thriving Wildlife in Oldham'.

The submitted report included actions to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The Environment Act 2021 introduced a strengthened 'biodiversity duty' into the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 which required all public authorities in England to consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Oldham Council as a public authority, was required to:

- a. Consider what we can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- b. Agree policies and specific objectives based on our consideration.
- c. Act to deliver our policies and achieve our objectives.

Following this initial consideration, Oldham Council must agree our policies and objectives as soon as possible after. This report fulfils this second step. This decision will ensure that the council is meeting its legal duties in relation to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and helping to support implementation of other plans and strategies such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1: To approve the recommendations detailed in the submitted report. This would ensure that the council was meeting its legal duties in relation to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and helping to support implementation of other plans and strategies such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. There were no reported disadvantages however some resources such as funding may be needed to be identified for management plans however most actions can be met through internal and partnership work.

Option 2: To not approve the recommendations detailed in the submitted report. This would mean that the council was currently failing to take account of environmental law in relation to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and would not through this report be supporting implementation of other plans and strategies such as the Local Nature Recovery

Strategy. There were no reported advantages to this option as the council would need to consider how it was going to meet the strengthened biodiversity duties.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet approves and publishes Oldham Council's policies and objectives to conserve and enhance biodiversity – 'Complying with the Biodiversity Duty – Our Policies and Objectives for Thriving Wildlife in Oldham'.
2. That the Cabinet supports implementation of the actions identified within Tables 4 to 9 of the submitted report.

12

## **PROCUREMENT OF WASTE COLLECTION RECEPTACLES**

The Cabinet received a report of the Director of Environment that sought approval to enable the Waste Team, to procure and contract, for the provision of various domestic and non-domestic waste collection receptacles to replace existing life cycle expired waste collection receptacles, lost and damaged receptacles, to supply new receptacles to new dwellings and businesses as well as to repair and service the goods for a total term of 6 years duration.

The Cabinet were informed that the Council is a duty holder in connection with the Environmental Protection Act 1990, as updated by the Environment Act 2021. Therefore the provision of domestic and non-domestic waste collection was a statutory obligation under the legislation. In order to fulfil its duty, the Council must procure an adequate supply of waste collection receptacles to cater for the volumes and types of waste generated by businesses and households, and the Council must be able to maintain satisfactory stocks of waste collection receptacles as shall enable the Council to respond quickly to operational needs. The Council's duties and obligations were ongoing and the continual depletion of its stock of replacement waste collection receptacles means that the Waste Team needs a quick, effective and compliant route to market to ensure the replenishment supply arrangements are satisfactory.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1: This entailed agreeing a 6-year procurement strategy in consultation with the Commercial Procurement Unit.

Options 2 and 3: these Options sought agreement to a 4-year procurement strategy in consultation with the Commercial Procurement Unit, with variations in the specific detail for each of these Options.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet approves the Procurement Strategy, detailed in the submitted report at Option 1.
2. That the Cabinet delegate authority to the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Don't Trash Oldham, the Interim Director of Finance, the Interim Borough Solicitor and the Head of the



Commercial Procurement Unit, or each of their nominees to approve all expenditure linked to Option 1 and to implement the Procurement Strategy under Option 1, to agree and implement the specific commissioning arrangements for each of the requirements under Option 1 and to award and enter into contracts with the preferred suppliers identified in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

3. That the Cabinet delegates authority to the Interim Borough Solicitor or his nominated representative to carry out all legal formalities associated with Option 1, detailed in the submitted report, including the execution of all contracts.

13 **FUTURE COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES, COMPLEX NEEDS AND/OR AUTISM**

Resolved:

That consideration of this item be deferred to the Cabinet's next meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

14 **TRAVEL ASSISTANCE POLICY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND/OR DISABILITY (SEND)**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years that provided Members with details of a formal review and consultation of Oldham's SEND Travel Assistance Policy, that was carried out from early December 2024 to the end of January 2025. The Cabinet was requested to approve the revised policy and to formally adopt it (as set out at Appendix 1 to the report).

Local authorities were advised to keep their school travel policy under regular review to ensure it continued to meet local needs and that it complied with statutory requirements. An up-to-date policy must be available each year, so that parents/carers may take it into account when deciding which schools to apply for during the normal admissions round.

Oldham's current policy had been reviewed with partners and a targeted public consultation had taken place. In consideration of those activities, the submitted report described the current position and also set out proposals for a revised policy.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: was to approve and adopt the proposed policy, with a primary offer (for those eligible) of a personal travel budget, with effect from September 2025 for all current and new post 16 learners.

Option 2: was to maintain the current policy, with no changes. This would mean that statutory review of the policy has not been considered and acted upon.

The preferred Option was Option 1. This would allow for changes to be made from September 2025, that would apply equally to all young people who are affected by the change to an

emphasis on personal travel budgets, rather than council organised transport. This would enable a focus on more independence for the majority of post 16 learners. There would also be budget savings associated with this option, as set out in the finance section of the submitted report.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet approves the proposed Travel Assistance Policy, with effect from September 2025, including adoption of the proposed policy, of a primary offer (for those eligible) of a personal travel budget, with effect from September 2025, for all current and new post 16 learners.

15

### **GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY - IN WORK PROGRESSION**

The Cabinet received a report of the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years that requested acceptance of a £400,000 grant from Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) for Get Oldham Working on behalf of Oldham Council to deliver the In Work Progression project over the next two years starting January 2025.

GMCA had secured and offered each Local Authority funding for In Work Progression activity. Oldham Council have developed a proposal for Get Oldham working to support approx. 150 residents per year for next two calendar years, starting in January 2025 to support residents in work to progress, obtain better earning potential, find more hours or change jobs due to individual circumstances.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option One: to accept the grant and deliver project.

Option Two: to not accept the grant and therefore not to deliver the project.

Option One was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet accepts the £400,000 grant from GMCA for Get Oldham Working on behalf of Oldham Council.
2. That the Cabinet authorizes the application of the funding, as outlined in the submitted report, to deliver the In Work Progression project over the next two calendar years starting January 2025.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.25pm

This page is intentionally left blank



**Present:** Councillor Jabbar (Deputy Leader in the Chair)  
Councillors Mohon Ali, Brownridge, Dean, Goodwin,  
Fida Hussain and Taylor

1           **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mushtaq and 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 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025, be approved as a correct record.

6           **HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND 7 – UTILISATION OF GRANT ALLOCATION**

The Cabinet received a report of the Assistant Director of Customer Experience that was seeking approval, from members, to allocate grant funding of £4,264,066.44 from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to Oldham Council to deliver the seventh round of the Household Support Fund (HSF) from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

HSF had been designed to support vulnerable households in most need with the cost of essentials during the funding period.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: The extension of the Household Support Fund scheme continues to provide crisis support to low-income households living in Oldham. The support provided is well established and are all deliverable within the timeframe outlined within the DWP's scheme guidance.

Option 2: to do nothing and not accept the Household Support Fund.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet agrees to approve the scheme, outlined in Table 1 of the report, noting that the proposed option balances supporting specific cohorts with providing support across a range of low-income households. The scheme proposed will ensure that the full grant funding is

spent in accordance with the grant funding criteria from the DWP within the limited time allocated.

2. The Cabinet notes that data and insight have been used to inform the proposed options in addition to engagement with teams delivering the fund and that there are four thematic areas which have been established to formulate priority areas for allocation of the grant funding:
  - Children and Young People – preventing holiday hunger.
  - Energy costs – delivering urgent and proactive support.
  - Housing – supporting sustainable tenancies.
  - Crisis Support – providing a prompt response and signposting to wider support.

7

### **FUTURE COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES, COMPLEX NEEDS AND/OR AUTISM**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Adult Social Care/DASS which informed Members that the Council's contractual arrangements for the delivery of care and support services for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism ended in 2020. The Council has a statutory duty to deliver care and support services for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism based on assessed Care Act 2014 needs to support some of Oldham's most vulnerable adults residing in supported living accommodation.

To meet its obligations, the Council proposes to utilise the Greater Manchester (M) Framework for Supporting People to Live Well at Home, which is being tendered by Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) as the lead authority for the 10 GM authorities and will be available to the Council and other contracting authorities from its commencement. Tenders have been received and are being evaluated with STaR procurement advising RMBC. The estimated commencement date is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025. The new contractual arrangements will replace the current GM Learning Disabilities and Autism Flexible Procurement System which expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

The Council entered into a Framework Agreement with six service providers in 2016 to deliver care and support services to eligible service users living in named properties (owned by third party landlords). The service providers were allocated to properties and all orders for services were directed to the relevant service provider attached to the relevant property. The Framework Agreements for the delivery of services for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism ended in 2020. Since then, any additional placements required have been made with the previously appointed service providers in respect of those service users residing in the properties listed in the Annex to this report, using the framework approach.

In addition, individual placement arrangements have been made for service users requiring an out of borough placement where there is a limited market, where there was either a need to place

out of borough for safety and best interest needs, or where there was not any appropriate provision in Borough.



**Oldham**  
Council

Where possible, the Council has been placing orders under the current GM Learning Disabilities and Autism Flexible Procurement System, but this flexible system closed on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

Therefore to meet its statutory obligation to deliver a range of care and support services which meet assessed needs, the Council proposes to utilise the GM Framework for Supporting People to Live Well at Home, which is being tendered by RMBC and will be available to the Council and other contracting authorities from its commencement.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: to maintain the existing ad hoc service provision arrangements with the current providers of the required services.

Option 2: Cease Delivery of Supported Living Services – to discontinue the provision of care and support services for adults with learning disabilities and/or autism.

Option 3: To procure Services via the GM Supporting People to Live Well at Home FPS Agreement (Preferred Option) - for the immediate in-borough requirements (for current service users resident in the in the properties listed in the Annex to this report and any new service users who move into the properties when accommodation becomes available), proceed with a mini competition under the GM Framework for Supporting People to Live Well at Home, procured by RMBC. For future in-borough and out of borough ad hoc arrangements, procure all requirements in accordance with the GM Framework for Supporting People to Live Well at Home. This option ensures a compliant and transparent process to secure high-quality care and support services through the GM Framework for Supporting People to Live Well at Home.

Option 3 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. The Cabinet grants approval for Oldham Council to call-off any care and support (supported living) services it requires during the term of the GM Supporting People to Live Well at Home flexible framework arrangements which are planned to commence on 1 April 2025 in order to meet the assessed needs of service users.
2. The Cabinet grants approval to carry out a mini procurement exercise (competition) under Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council's flexible framework arrangements for Supporting People to Live Well at Home, in respect of in-borough care and support (supported living) services:
  - (a) for existing residents in the properties listed in the Annex to this report; and
  - (b) for any replacement service users which take occupation in the properties

3. The Cabinet grants approval to carry out mini procurement competitions as and when required under the GM Supporting People to Live Well at Home flexible framework arrangements for the provision of care and support (supported living) services of any nature to new service users who: are not resident in the properties listed in the Annex to this report, but  
are or will be resident in properties in or outside of the Oldham borough.
4. The Cabinet grants approval, if requested, to enter into Call-Off Contracts with the successful service providers referenced in recommendations 3 and 4 above who will be appointed from time to time by the Council under and in accordance with the GM Supporting People to Live Well at Home flexible framework arrangements.

8

## **PUBLIC HEALTH BUDGET SETTLEMENT 2025/26**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Public Health, the purpose of which was to note and accept the increased notional Public Health budget settlement for Oldham in 2025/26.

Further, approval was sought, from the Cabinet to delegate authority to the Director of Public Health, after consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care, Health, and Wellbeing to agree all spending decisions related to, and any decisions taken in respect of procurement or contract modification activity linked to the notional Public Health budget settlement for Oldham in 2025/26.

In the 2025 to 2026 financial year, the total public health grant by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to local authorities, under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, will be £3.858 billion in total. This included the notional amounts for the 10 Greater Manchester (GM) local authorities under the business rate retention arrangement.

Oldham Council was one of the 10 GM local authorities piloting the business rate retention for public health and, therefore, no longer received a public health grant, which is why the funding values referenced in the DHSC grant award were notional allocations only. However, the impact of the business rate retention arrangement in GM is that whilst the 10 GM authorities, including Oldham, had agreed through GMCA to forgo the public health grant, each council retained higher shares of business rates.

The notional public health grant allocation for 2025/26 was confirmed as £19,853,309, which was an increase of £1,014,142 from the published allocation for 2024/25 and which corresponded to a per-head allocation of £81.19.

The notional public health grant settlement for Oldham will be received from the GM business rate retention arrangement rather than through the public health grant. Therefore, as a result, the GM authorities would not be subject to all the terms

and conditions of the public health grant, as imposed by the DHSC.



On average, people in Oldham are less healthy than those in other parts of the North-West region and when compared to the England average. Oldham's communities have wide ranging health and wellbeing needs, and these can vary significantly between different groups. It is important that the Public Health funding is invested effectively, to address identified health and wellbeing needs, ensuring the greatest possible positive impact on the health and wellbeing of Oldham's people.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: To approve the recommendations set out in the submitted report.

Option 2: Do not allocate the value of the Public Health settlement for 2025/26 to the Public Health budget via the Business Rates Retention Pilot - This would mean that the Public Health Department would not have the funding in 2025/26 to provide public health support to the value of the Public Health Settlement for 2025/26.

The preferred Option was Option 1.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet approves:

1. The notional DHSC 2025/26 Public Health budget settlement for Oldham of £19.8m.
2. That the value of the Public Health settlement for 2025/26 of £19.8m shall be allocated to the public health budget via the Business Rates Retention Pilot.
3. The delegation of authority to the Director of Public Health after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing to make all spending decisions relating to the Public Health settlement for 2025/26.
4. The delegation of authority to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Director of Finance (where required) to procure, award, and modify all contracts stemming from spending decisions relating to the Public Health settlement for 2025/26 and from a compliant procurement process.
5. The delegation of authority to the Borough Solicitor or their nominee to carry out all necessary legal formalities linked to the above approvals, including the signing and sealing of contracts.

9

## **DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT AND RECOVERY IMPROVEMENT GRANT (DATRIG)**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Public Health, the purpose of which was to note the allocation of grant funding for 2025/26 to improve Drug and Alcohol treatment and recovery provision and outcomes in the borough.

Approval was also sought to delegate authority to agree all decisions related to the utilisation of the Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Grant (DATRIG) to the Director of



Public Health, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health, and Wellbeing. This will include the authority to vary existing contracts (and any associated collaborative commissioning agreements) or award grant agreements or contracts stemming from a compliant procurement process. It is also requested that authority is delegated to the Interim Borough Solicitor or nominee to carry out all necessary legal formalities, including the execution of any contracts.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1: to accept the recommendations in the submitted report, because it will ensure that the Council can continue to improve prevention and early intervention around drugs and alcohol, improve access to treatment and recovery services and improve quality of provision to ensure that Oldham residents receive the best possible support to tackle drug and alcohol related harm, which will in turn improve health outcomes and reduce the number of drug and alcohol related deaths.

Option 2: To reject the recommendations in the submitted report and not to accept the DATRIG grant. This Option was not recommended, as investment of grant funding in the Council's current drug and alcohol treatment and recovery offer to date has made a difference in terms of increasing numbers in treatment but more needs to be done to improve quality of provision, as per the intentions of the DATRIG, and to improve the recovery offer locally.

The preferred Option was Option 1.

Resolved:

The Cabinet resolved to:

1. Note and accept the Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Grant (DATRIG) settlement for 2025/26, including the conditions of funding outlined in this report and that the DATRIG is limited to 12 months of funding, and agree that the grant funding is allocated to Public Health to enact, in line with the grant conditions.
2. Delegate authority for the execution of all decisions regarding utilisation of the funding from the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Improvement Grant 2025/26 to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Health, in conjunction with the Borough Solicitor and Director of Finance (or their nominees), to vary existing contracts (and any associated collaborative commissioning agreements), issue grant agreements or award contracts stemming from a compliant procurement process.
4. Delegate authority be delegated to the Borough Solicitor or their nominee to carry out all necessary legal formalities linked to the actions delegated to the Director of Public Health, including the execution of contracts.

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 reports.

11

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT AND RECOVERY  
IMPROVEMENT GRANT (DATRIG)**

Consideration was given to a commercially sensitive appendix in relation to Item 9: Drug and Alcohol Treatment and recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG).

Resolved:

That the confidential appendix be noted.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.16pm

This page is intentionally left blank



**NOTICE OF DECISIONS AGREED AT THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED  
AUTHORITY  
HELD ON FRIDAY, 28TH MARCH, 2025**

**PRESENT:**

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Nicholas Peel
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Joanna Midgley
Oldham	Councillor Arooj Shah
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Eleanor Wills
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Salford	Councillor Jack Youd
---------	----------------------

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Group Chief Executive Officer, GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM	Caroline Simpson
Group Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
Group Chief Finance Officer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Paul Marshall
Oldham	Shelley Kipling
Rochdale	Stephen Rumbelow
Salford	Melissa Caslake
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Harry Catherall

Trafford	Sarah Saleh
Wigan	James Winterbottom
TfGM	Steve Warrener
TfGM	Martin Lax
GMCA	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Sarah Horseman
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

## **1. APOLOGIES**

1. That apologies be received and noted from Councillor Bev Craig (Manchester), City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford), Councillor David Molyneux (Wigan), Tom Stannard (Manchester), Sara Todd (Trafford), Alison McKenzie-Folan (Wigan) & Councillor Nadim Muslim.
2. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to Councillor Nadim Muslim and his family following the recent loss of his father.

## **2. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

1. That the appointment of Carlos Meakin as the new Deputy Chief Fire Officer of Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service be noted and welcomed.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to the outgoing Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Ben Norman, for his considerable contributions to the work of Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service.
3. That the GMCA records its support for all individuals impacted by the announcement that Sky was planning to close three call centre sites in the UK, including Stockport, putting 2,000 jobs at risk.

4. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester will work with the Leader of Stockport Council and relevant officers to arrange a meeting with Sky's leadership to discuss their rationale, explore any possible alternatives, and ensure that they fulfil their responsibilities to their employees and the GM community.
5. That the GMCA record its thanks and best wishes to Councillor Mark Hunter, following the announcement that he intends to stand down as the Leader of Stockport Council at the end of May 2025.
6. That the GMCA record its thanks and best wishes to Steven Rumbelow following his retirement as the Chief Executive of Rochdale Borough Council.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2025**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 7 February 2025 be approved as a correct record.

### **5. MINUTES - GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY 26 FEBRUARY 2025**

That the proceeding of the meeting of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 February 2025 be noted.

### **6. MINUTES - BEE NETWORK COMMITTEE - 27 FEBRUARY 2025**

That the proceedings of the meeting of the Bee Network Committee held on 27 February 2025 be noted

## **7. MINUTES - GMCA WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE 12 MARCH 2025**

That the proceedings of the meeting of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee held on 12 March 2024 be noted.

## **8. MINUTES - AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 MARCH 2025**

That the proceedings of the meeting of the GMCA Audit Committee held on 19 March 2025 be noted.

## **9. GM APPOINTMENT**

1. That the appointment of Councillor Jackie Schofield as the GMCA substitute member to Councillor Nick Peel (Bolton) be noted.
2. That Councillor Jacqueline Owen (Tameside) be appointed as a member of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
3. That Councillor Sangita Patel (Tameside) be appointed as a substitute member of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
4. That Councillor Helen Foster-Grime (Stockport) be appointed to the GM Culture & Social Impact Fund Committee.
5. That Councillor Sean Fielding (Bolton) be appointed to the GM Homelessness Board.
6. That Councillor Helen Foster-Grime (Stockport) be appointed as a substitute member of the GM Homelessness Programme Board.

## **10 #BEEWELL HEADLINES REPORT**

1. That the key findings of the 2023 #BeeWell survey results be noted.
2. That approval be given to act on what the data is telling us and support the #BeeWell mission to make young people's wellbeing everybody's business. Support the development of an action plan to improve young people's wellbeing, across the city region and into localities and neighbourhoods. Utilise the insights to inform future policy, including our ambitions to create a stronger education system.
3. That GM Local Authorities be requested to celebrate the improvement of young people's wellbeing by sharing a quote or short video clip to [beewell@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:beewell@manchester.ac.uk) highlighting how you are supporting young people in Greater Manchester to #BeeWell.
4. That it be noted that the dashboard breaking down details by neighbourhood will be published on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025.
5. That the GMCA record Councillor Mark Hunter thanks to the Children & Young People's Team at the GMCA for their support to him as portfolio lead over the past two years.
6. That it be noted that the findings will be helpful to Councillor Arooj Shah in her role as the national Chair on the LGA Children & Young People's Board.

## **11 DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK (PERFORMANCE & DELIVERY)**

1. That the performance of Greater Manchester's Transport Network be noted.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to the team at TfGM for the delivery of the 'Pay and Go' scheme from 23<sup>rd</sup> March, concluding a successful phase 1 launch of the Bee Network.

3. That it be noted that a significant agreement has been reached with Greater Manchester Police on the introduction a TravelSafe Live Chat from Autumn 2025.

4. That minimum models of service for Partington and other areas traditionally underserved by transport networks in the region will be considered as part of the network review.

5. That it be noted that within the first 4 days of operation, the 'Pay and Go' system had seen 120,000 customers take advantage of the scheme.

## **12 RAIL REFORM BILL CONSULTATION - A RAILWAY FIT FOR BRITAIN'S FUTURE**

1. That the content of the consultation and how it related to Greater Manchester's ambitions for rail be noted.

2. That the outline GMCA response to the consultation, and the proposed approach for developing the response further be endorsed.

3. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive, in consultation with the GM Mayor, to finalise and submit a response to the consultation.

4. That all GM MPs would be asked to support the lobbying of government on rail reform in the region.

5. That the Group Chief Executive will seek agreement on the transfer of rail land to TfGM for regeneration as part of the Task and Finish Group.

a) **APPROACH TO THE ALLOCATION AND USE OF FLEXIBILITIES IN THE INTEGRATED SETTLEMENT FUNDING FOR 2025-26**

1. That the approach to the use of integrated settlement flexibilities within 2025/26 be approved.

2. That the approach to virement of integrated settlement (under GMCA constitution scheme of delegation) be approved

3. That a further report be submitted to the GMCA in due course.

b) DETAILS ON THE PRINCIPLES AND ACTIVITY OF THE 2025/26 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND EXTENSION

That the approach to allocations to programmes formerly funded through UKSPF for 2025/26 under the Local Growth and Place pillar of Integrated Settlement and the proposed allocations and proposals, as set out in the report, be approved.

c) WORKING WELL: INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT IN PRIMARY CARE (IPSPC) PROGRAMME

1. That the procurement of a similar service to the current Working Well: IPSPC programme for 2025/26, on the basis set out in this report, be approved.

2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chief Executive Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Leader for Technical Education, Work & Skills, to approve the award of the new contract and any post-award variations to the contract including approving any extensions provided for in the contract.

### **13 IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING FUND TO LAUNCH ROLL-OUT OF GM LIVE WELL**

That the use of £5m to create an implementation support fund, as set out in paragraph 4, including the flow of investment into localities, noting the specific deliverables identified in the report, be approved.

### **14 GMCA HOMELESSNESS AND A BED EVERY NIGHT**

1. That approval be given to the proposed funding allocations and administration arrangements as set out in the report, for the following programmes:

- Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant
- Rough Sleeping Accommodation Grant
- A Bed Every Night
- GM Housing First/RSAP Programme
- Youth Homelessness Prevention Pathfinder

2. That the current position in relation to the GM Community Accommodation Tier 3 programme be noted.

3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Group Chief Finance Officer to determine the final allocations to the projects, referred to in Tables 5) and 6) in the report, in the event that the additional required funding referred to in paragraph 5.10 becomes available.

4. That the comments raised by the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee be supported and that officers be requested to consider how these recommendations could be incorporated into the Live Well model given the funding implications.

That it was noted that the Rough Sleeper Allocation Grant was currently underperforming and that consideration may want to be given to secure improved and faster results.

## **15 GM ADULT SKILLS UPDATE**

1. That the achievements and performance of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2023/2024 academic year, set out in Section 2 of the report, be noted.

2. That the developments and progress of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2024/2025 academic year, set out in Section



3 of the report, be noted.

3. That the approach towards integration, as set out in Section 5 of the report, be noted.

4. That approval be given to the indicative 2025/2026 academic year GM Adult Skills allocations for grant funded and procured providers and that delegated authority be granted to the Group Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution / organisation and GMCA, set out in Section 4 of the report.

5. That authority be delegated to the the Group Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to make decisions relating to commissioning and procurement of skills & work delivery during the 2025/2026 academic year utilising existing adult skills funding and any adult skills reserves, set out in Section 4 of the report.

6. That support for the administration and management costs for the 2025/2026 academic year, be approved.

7. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the proposed indicative 2025/2026 academic year GM Adult Skills allocations for grant funded Local Authorities and to grant delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA, set out in Section 4 of the report.

8. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the continuation of the Adult Skills LA Grant Programme to each of the ten local authorities for the 2025/2026 academic year.

That the GMCA record its thanks to Gemma Marsh for all her considerable work on leading the skills landscape in GM.

## **16 BUSINESS RATES UPDATE**

1. That the forecast, as at the end of quarter 3, for 2024/25 business rates income be noted.

2. That the planned income for 2025/26 be noted.

1. That the proposed 2025/26 GM use of the 2024/25 business rates income be approved.

2. That the position in respect of the future developments in relation to retained business rates be noted, including:

- National business rates reset
- GM partial reset
- Approach to the use of income secured through the enhanced business rates retention zones
- Alignment of future business rates income with the GMCA Integrated Settlement

That the comments raised by the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received.

## **17 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT, MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2025/26**

That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2025/26 be approved.

## **18 2025/26 GMCA CAPITAL STRATEGY**

That the Capital Strategy for 2025/26 be approved.

## **19 GMCA REVENUE UPDATE - QUARTER 3 2024/25**

That the forecast position at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 be noted.

## **20 NET ZERO HOUSING RETROFIT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT**

1. That the creation of a Net Zero Housing Retrofit Framework Agreement be noted and that its use be promoted.
2. That it be noted that the sustainability assessment identified numerous long term positive impacts on health, wellbeing, jobs and skills as well as carbon reduction through the increase in home energy efficiency and reduction in fuel poverty.

## **21 MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR NORTHERN GATEWAY - CONSULTATION**

1. That the Mayor undertaking a consultation exercise in respect of the designation of a Mayoral Development Corporation for Northern Gateway (Chapter 4) be endorsed.
2. That it be noted that a further report setting out the outcome of the consultation will be submitted to the GMCA.
3. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the undertaking of a consultation exercise in respect of the designation of a Mayoral Development Corporation for Northern Gateway.

4. That Transport for Greater Manchester would be requested to accelerate the Tram/Train Pathfinder to support the business case for Atom Valley and the Northern Gateway MDC.

## **22 PROPOSED EXPANSION OF STOCKPORT MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (MDC) CONSULTATION**

1. That the proposal for contact to be made with the relevant Government department to outline proposals for the expansion of the Stockport Mayoral development area and obtain support for the proposed process for expansion, as set out in this report, be approved.
2. That the proposal to undertake a consultation on expanding the Mayoral development area covered by Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation from the area 'Stockport Town Centre West' to include the area 'Stockport Town Centre East' (see Appendix One), enabling it to become the delivery vehicle for housing-led regeneration across the entirety of Stockport town centre be endorsed.
3. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the undertaking of a consultation exercise, as described above and in the report.

## **23 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND / GM BROWNFIELD HOUSING FUND**

## **24 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK FUND**

1. That an equity investment of £125,000 to Wi-Q Limited, approved under delegation be noted.

2. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Finance Officer and Group Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above loans, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the loans, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loans noted above.
3. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive Officer, and Group Finance Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding in the period 29 March 2025 to 29 May 2025.
4. That it be noted that any recommendations that are approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the Combined Authority

A link to the full agenda and papers can be found here: [Greater Manchester Combined Authority](#)

This decision notice was issued **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025** on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU. The deadline for call in of the attached decisions is 4.00pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Call-In Process**

In accordance with the scrutiny procedure rules, these decisions would come into effect five days after the publication of this notice unless before that time any three members of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee decides to call-in a decision.

Members must give notice in writing to the Chief Executive that they wish to call-in a decision, stating their reason(s) why the decision should be scrutinised. The period between the publication of this decision notice and the time a decision may be implemented is the 'call-in' period.

Decisions which have already been considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and where the GMCA's decision agrees with the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may not be called in.

**NOTICE OF DECISIONS AGREED AT THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED  
AUTHORITY  
HELD ON FRIDAY, 30TH MAY, 2025**

**PRESENT:**

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Nicholas Peel
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Elaine Taylor
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Mark Roberts
Tameside	Councillor Andrew McClaren
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

GM Active Travel Commissioner	Dame Sarah Storey
Greater Manchester Police	DCC Terry Woods
Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue	CFO Dave Russel
MP for Leigh & Atherton	Jo Platt

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Group Chief Executive Officer GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM	Caroline Simpson
Group Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
Group Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
Bolton	Sue Johnston
Bury	Paul Lakin
Manchester	Tom Stannard
Oldham	Mike Barker

Rochdale	Julie Murphy
Salford	Miranda Cannon
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Harry Catherall
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
TfGM	Steve Warrener
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

**1. Apologies**

That apologies be received and noted from Councillor Arooj Shah (Oldham), Councillor Eleanor Wills (Tameside), Lynne Ridsdale (Bury), Shelley Kipling (Oldham), James Binks (Rochdale) & Melissa Caslake (Salford)

**2. Chairs Announcements and Urgent Business**

That Councillor Mark Roberts be welcomed to his first meeting of the GCMA as the Leader of Stockport Council.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**4. Minutes of the GMCA Meeting Held on 28 March 2025**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 28 March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

**5. GMCA Resources Committee – Minutes of the Meetings Held on 7 February & 28 March 2025.**

That the minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee meetings held on 7 February & 28 March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

**6. GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Minutes of the Meetings Held**



**on 26 March and 9 April 2025**

That the proceeding of the meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 26 March and 9 April 2025 be noted.

**7. Bee Network Committee - Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 March 2025**

That the proceedings of the meeting of the Bee Network Committee held on 27 March 2025 be noted.

**8. GM Appointments**

1. That the appointment of Councillor Mark Roberts (Stockport) to the GMCA be noted.
2. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester be appointed to the Transport for the North Board, the Rail North Committee and the General Purposes Committee.
3. That Councillor Eamonn O'Brien be appointed as the substitute member to the Transport for the North Board, the Rail North Committee and the General Purposes Committee
4. That the appointment of Mr Paul Stone and Mrs Jackie Njoroge as Independent Members of the GMCA Audit Committee be approved, subject to the completion of required pre-employment checks, with immediate effect.

**9. Greater Manchester Fire Plan 2025-29: Participation Approach & Outcomes**

1. That the report and GMFRS Fire Plan 2025-2029, found at Appendix A be noted.
2. That the GMFRS Fire Plan 2025-2029 and the formal launch and publication activities be endorsed.

**10. Safer Transport Review**

1. That the contents of the initial review findings be noted.
2. That the recommended 3 phased approach to implementing an integrated 11<sup>th</sup> District to police the transport network be supported.

3. That the programme for phase 1, including a dedicated TravelSafe LiveChat facility be noted, with further consideration of funding requirements to be considered as part of the programme.
4. That the signing of the safety charter for food delivery courier companies be noted.
5. That it be noted that the Vision Zero Conference would be taking place on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025.
6. That all GM Local Authorities be requested to disseminate information around TravelSafe LiveChat as it moves towards full mobilisation.

#### **11. Greater Manchester's Integrated Pipeline**

1. That GM's ambitious plans for growth and the work underway to develop an Integrated Pipeline as a key tool for supporting delivery and investment be noted.
2. That the progress being made to scale up delivery across GM, including the plans being progressed for the GM Development Forum, GM Skills Academy and GM Delivery Vehicles to accelerate development be noted.
3. That the launch of the initial version of GM's Integrated Pipeline through the MappingGM platform, providing residents and business with key information about plans for growth be noted.
4. That the further development of the Integrated Pipeline to support GM's growth ambitions and meet the objectives and purpose, as set out in this report, be approved.
5. That it be noted that GM Development Forum insight sessions, considering a number of development topics, such as affordable housing and net zero, will be planned in across the year.

#### **12. Greater Manchester AI Demonstrator City Region**

1. That the overall vision of a GM AI Demonstrator region be approved, in principle.
2. That the contribution of a range of stakeholders in shaping this report be acknowledged and it be noted that further consultation and co-

design with partners and interested parties will take place over the coming weeks and months.

3. That the creation of a GM AI Data and Innovation Office (ADIO), to be supported by £500,000 from GMCA reserves led by GMCA Digital in 2025/26, be approved.
4. That members note the importance of capturing the wider public significance of AI developments.
5. That the development of opportunities to create educational and vocational courses via the Raspberry Pi Foundation MBacc partnership be noted.

### **13. Integrated Water Management**

1. That the Annual Business Plan (2025-26) and strategic priorities for the Integrated Water Management Plan (Annex A) be approved.
2. That the headline investments from United Utilities, including their approach to the Advanced Water Industry National Environment Programme (AWINEP) (Annex B), be noted.
3. That the lessons learnt from the integrated response implemented following flooding at Platt Bridge and Hindley, Wigan, on New Year's Day and applicability to other areas at risk of flooding be noted.
4. That the review of early warning systems for flood incidents be noted.
5. That the strategic asks of Government (Annexes C and D) be noted.
6. That the importance of integration across all partner agencies in preparing for, and responding to, flooding issues be highlighted, particularly the need for transparent plans with clear lines of responsibility and accountability.
7. That the update from the MP for Leigh & Atherton on work taking place in the locality to continually push for an adequate response to address

flooding incidents at Platt Bridge and Hindley be noted.

8. That the GMCA record its thanks to the MP for Leigh & Atherton and all residents across GM impacted by the New Year flooding incidents for their work with partners to hold the relevant bodies to account.
9. That the reflections of GMFRS on the response to the New Year flooding incidents across GM be received.
10. That it be noted that a round table event was being scheduled for early July to which all national and local partners agencies would be invited.

**14. Greater Manchester Post-16 Sufficiency Fund**

1. That option 6, as the preferred methodology for use of a £10m grant from the Department for Education (“DfE”), to enable Local Authorities to ensure sufficient and appropriate education and training places are available for 16–19-year-olds in Greater Manchester be approved.
2. That the approach to using £10M of recycled Local Growth Fund (LGF) as additionality to the DfE funding as part of a strategic approach to ensuring sufficient education and training places are available to young people be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Finance Officer to make the final allocations and grant awards in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Lead Chief Executive.
4. That the GMCA record its thanks to the Department of Education for the £10m grant funding.

**15. Community Accommodation Service (Tier 3) Budget**

1. That the allocation of £14,866,624 to all ten Greater Manchester local authorities, as set out in section 3 of the report, for the purposes of delivering the Community Accommodation Service (Tier 3) programme, be approved.

2. That, subject to the approval of the proposed grant allocations, as outlined in section 3 of the report, it be noted that the Group Chief Finance Officer has the necessary delegations to facilitate the entering into of the required grant agreements with Local Authorities.

**16. Greater Manchester School Travel Strategy**

1. That the contents of the report be noted.
2. That the final School Travel Strategy and the adoption of the vision of wanting more young people to choose to walk, wheel, scoot, cycle and use public transport to travel to school and access further education be approved.

**17. Bus Franchising Re-Procurement Strategy**

1. That the proposed approach to the re-procurement of the Small Franchise Agreements and extensions to the School Franchise Agreements be noted.
2. That the completion of the consultation process on the proposed variation to the Franchising Scheme be noted.
3. That the report "*Bus Franchising – Report on Mobilisation Period Consultation*", attached as Appendix 2, and conclusions be endorsed.
4. That the Mayor be recommended to vary the Franchising Scheme in the manner proposed and as attached at Appendix 1 to the report submitted.
5. That when the Mayor has decided whether or not to vary the Franchising Scheme, that the following be agreed:
  - to adopt and publish this report and its appendices as its response to the consultation, together with the Mayor's decision,

as the report to be published by the GMCA under section 123(M)(8) of the Act;

- to give notice of this report to the traffic commissioner in accordance with section 123G(2) of the Act; and
- to give notice of the decision to the traffic commissioner in accordance under section 123(M)(2) of the Act.

6. That the links into the GM Good Employment Charter be noted.

**18. Mayoral Development Corporation for Middleton Town Centre – In Principle Decision**

1. That the creation of an MDC for Middleton Town Centre be approved, in principle.
2. That GMCA officers be requested to explore with Rochdale Council, detailed options for an MDC to be created for Middleton Town Centre, with a view to a further report being submitted to the GMCA in due course.

**19. GM Brownfield Housing Fund Reallocations: Approvals Made Under Delegation**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**20. GM Investment Framework Recommendations**

1. That an investment of up to £750,000 to Black Bull Biochar Ltd be approved.
2. That an amendment to a loan provided to HM Pasties Ltd be approved.
3. That the approval of a loan of £500,000 to Heyside Plastics Limited, an investment of £250,000 to PhovIR Technologies Limited and an investment of £250,000 to CAGE Technologies Ltd, provided under

the delegated authority process be noted.

4. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Finance Officer and Group Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above investments, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the investments, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of these.

## **21. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

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

## **PART B**

## **22. GM Investment Framework Recommendations**

That the report be noted.

**Clerk's Note:** This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 20 above refers).

**A link to the full agenda and papers can be found here: [Greater Manchester Combined Authority](#)**

This decision notice was issued 03 June 2025 on behalf of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU. The deadline for call in of the attached decisions is 4.00pm on 10 June 2025.

## **Call-In Process**

In accordance with the scrutiny procedure rules, these decisions would come into effect five days after the publication of this notice unless before that time any three members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee decides to call-in a decision.

Members must give notice in writing to the Chief Executive that they wish to call-in a decision, stating their reason(s) why the decision should be scrutinised. The period between the publication of this decision notice and the time a decision may be implemented is the 'call-in' period.

Decisions which have already been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and where the GMCA's decision agrees with the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may not be called in.



**NOTICE OF DECISIONS AGREED AT THE AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD  
ON Friday, 28th MARCH, 2025**

**PRESENT:**

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Nicholas Peel
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Joanna Midgley
Oldham	Councillor Arooj Shah
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Eleanor Wills
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Salford	Councillor Jack Youd
---------	----------------------

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Group Chief Executive Officer, GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM	Caroline Simpson
Group Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
Group Finance Officer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Paul Marshall
Oldham	Shelley Kipling
Rochdale	Stephen Rumbelow
Salford	Melissa Caslake
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Harry Catherall
Trafford	Sarah Saleh
Wigan	James Winterbottom
TfGM	Steve Warrener
TfGM	Martin Lax
GMCA	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Sarah Horseman
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

**1. APOLOGIES**

That apologies be received and noted from Councillor Bev Craig (Manchester), City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford), Councillor David Molyneux (Wigan), Tom Stannard (Manchester), Sara Todd (Trafford), Alison McKenzie-Folan (Wigan) & Councillor Nadim Muslim.

**2. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

There was none.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations received in relation to any item on the agenda.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2025**

That the minutes of the AGMA Executive Board meeting held on 7 February 2025 be approved.

### **5. GM APPOINTMENT**

1. That the appointment of Councillor Ayyub Patel to the GM Joint Health Scrutiny Committee be noted.
2. That the appointment of Councillor Sangita Patel to the GM Joint Health Scrutiny Committee be noted.
3. That the appointment of Councillor Helen Foster-Grime to the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee be approved.

### **6. JOINT WASTE AND MINERALS PLAN REVIEW**

1. That the outcome of the Joint Waste and Minerals Plans, as outlined in Section 3, of the report, be approved.
2. That the recommended approach to produce a single Joint Waste and Minerals Plan, as set out in paragraph 5.1, be approved.

This decision notice was issued **Monday 31 March 2025** on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU. The deadline for call in of the attached decisions is 4.00pm on 7 April 2025

#### **Call-In Process**

In accordance with the scrutiny procedure rules, these decisions would come into effect five days after the publication of this notice unless before that time any three members of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee decides to call-in a decision.

Members must give notice in writing to the Chief Executive that they wish to call-in a decision, stating their reason(s) why the decision should be scrutinised. The period between the publication of this decision notice and the time a decision may be implemented is the 'call-in' period.

Decisions which have already been considered by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and where the GMCA's decision agrees with the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may not be called in.

This page is intentionally left blank

## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Elaine Taylor, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods.

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to the portfolio responsibilities.

**Public Protection:** Mayor Burnham's GM Good landlord Charter was developed in 2023 through the GMCA who led the process with advice and feedback from a coordinating group of stakeholders and industry experts. An independent body, the 'Implementation Unit' were recruited in November 2024 to deliver the charter, operating independently from the GMCA or any Greater Manchester local authority and being overseen by a Governing Board of tenants, landlords, and industry experts. The Good Landlord Charter is a pioneering initiative to improve rental standards for private and social tenants. The charter consists of 21 membership criteria across 7 categories covering affordability, inclusive, private and secure, responsive, safe and decent, supportive and well managed.

Food Service Plan 2025/26 - The Council has recently approved the yearly Food Service Plan 2025/26, for submission to the Food Standards Agency. In the plan, we are reporting a year-on-year increase in registered food businesses – currently we have 2,024 registered food premises across the Borough. The Council participates in the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme whereby qualifying businesses receive a food hygiene rating after their inspection. The highest rating is '5' – 'Very Good' and the lowest rating is 'zero' – 'Urgent Improvement Required'. The scheme includes catering and retail premises, and consumers can search for current food hygiene score ratings on the FSA or through Oldham Council's websites. This allows consumers to make an informed choice as to where to eat out or buy food. Currently, as reported in the service plan, 72% of businesses across the borough are rated at a 5 (very good) with another 16% rated a 4 (good) showing excellent compliance with the necessary standards and reassuring everyone that the food businesses with these ratings are showing a good understanding of the working practices required to be a food business as well as providing good quality premises that comply with the regulations.

**Planning:** I was pleased to take a number of planning-related reports to Cabinet last month, with two more going to Cabinet this month, which show the level of work ongoing in Planning to enable housing delivery in the borough, particularly on brownfield sites and to deliver affordable and social homes, enhancing our natural environment and public open spaces. Alongside the preparation of our own Part 2 Local Plan for Oldham, we will be commencing the preparation of a new Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan for Greater Manchester, to guide how each of the 10 GM authorities will determine planning applications for minerals and waste developments in the future – something which is essential given the level of growth and development in the city region.

**Districts:** The District Teams have been undertaking a service restructure. This is now in the implementation period and will see each of the 5 teams back to full staffing capacity with each district having a District coordinator, a partnerships officer and a community engagement officer. Community Engagement activity – 1,843 residents have taken part in activities, supported by the district teams across a range of events. This has enabled residents to help shape the support and services available locally to ensure residents are directly supported at the right time and in the right place.

The Quarter 1 Cycle of Community Councils has concluded alongside the facilitation of district-based partnership meetings that has enabled Partnership working to deliver against District level priority plans and localised place based working arrangements to support residents.

**Community Safety & Cohesion:** Vulcan, Derker - commenced in March and continues in the area. The project includes a dedicated problem-solving team from GMP, which works alongside partner

---

organisations and the Neighbourhood Policing Team. The project has adopted the principle of 'Clear, Hold, Build' (CHB). This is the first example of this operation in a residential area across the whole of Greater Manchester.

This operation aims to remove the immediate threats through coordinated enforcement, disruption of individuals and groups and their spheres of influence through arrests and disruption activity. While Vulcan is focused in Derker, because of the nature of work, it has a reach into areas right across the borough. The project is ongoing, and to date, there have been multiple warrants executed, arrests and charges, along with seizures of vehicles, including bikes, cash and illegal drugs. Recently, the first Vulcan-related prosecution resulted in a significant custodial sentence. FCHO are also proactively taking tenancy enforcement action. Recent resident engagement shows an increase in confidence in the community.

The MHCLG funded cohesion project - Boxing United – has completed its delivery. This highly successful pilot project was a partnership between a number of boxing clubs, the Youth Service and Action Together, bringing together young males aged 11-18 from the boxing clubs to take part in workshops and sessions promoting conversation and developing skills, knowledge and abilities in areas such as leadership, understanding hate, media literacy, challenging extremist narratives and ideologies, fostering cohesion and understanding self and others. I was pleased to attend a fantastic presentation evening where the young participants shared their learning and insights with an audience of key decision makers, family and friends. Following delivery of the programme, which includes a residential at the Castleshaw Centre for Outdoor Education, the groups will plan their own community-based activities to implement their learning and enhance cohesion within their communities and across Oldham.

**Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector:** A Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise and Public Sector Partnership Forum has been established. The purpose of the forum is to bring together public sector service leads and leaders of VCFSE organisations delivering activities in Oldham to provide a space for developing and implementing a shared strategy for the VCFSE sector in Oldham, embedding the commitments of GM Accord and Faith Covenant within Oldham and fostering collaboration. The current key priorities are; fair funding and commissioning approaches, embedding co-production and voice of lived experience, and bringing in more resources to Oldham. The forum will also be a key contributor to designing and delivering the Live Well ambition in Oldham.

Action Together continue to work alongside VCFSE organisations across the borough to build their capacity to deliver. The sector offers a huge range of opportunities for residents to get involved in their communities, as well as providing significant support to residents. During 24/25 this includes 1,139 new volunteers registered with the volunteer hub, 133 training events delivered, 652 VCFSE groups and organisations supported, and 62 people supported to start a new group or project.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.

## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Abdul Jabbar, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services & Sustainability.

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to portfolio responsibilities.

**Finance:** Work is underway to review our current financial support offer to residents to ensure we are resident focused and have a joined-up and outcomes focused offer. This builds on the success of our Pension Credit campaign last winter, which resulted in an additional £2.5 million in Oldham residents' pockets over an average lifetime. The Council's outturn position for 2024/25 was an overspend of £10.155m which is to be funded from general reserves. This position was significantly improved from that reported at Qtr1, which was a projected overspend of £26m. This reduction is due to the implementation of management actions such as recruitment and spend controls, revision to the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy and the receipt of one-off income. As reported throughout the year, the three key areas driving this position have been Adults & Children's Social Care and Temporary Accommodation.

The Statement of Accounts for 2024/25 was published on 30 June in line with the statutory deadline, one of 6 (out of 10) GM authorities to do so. This is a great achievement and could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of finance staff and other colleagues across the Council. On 20 June the Government released the consultation paper for Fair Funding Reform. The Council welcomes this consultation and is working on its response which will be submitted by the deadline of 15 August.

**Procurement:** Procurement Act 23 (PA23) training sessions for staff were carried out. The Commercial Procurement Unit requested pipeline procurement project information from all service areas for high value contracts. To meet the Council's obligations under PA23, pipeline notices for all contracts expected to be over £2m, were published on the Government Central Digital Platform in advance of the deadline of 26 May. The collation of pipeline project information for all values of contracts is underway to progress the next stages of a) future resource planning b) the development of the Council's Contracts Register. Options are being considered for the location of a Contracts Register which includes testing external software solutions.

Work is underway with HR to progressively map out the current interim/consultant situation to ensure the definitions of 'consultant' (subject to formal procurement) and 'interim' (subject to IR35 tax rules) are understood and that in any existing cases, we seek to resolve to a suitable solution reducing Council risk of IR35 or procurement challenge.

**Workforce:** Graduate recruitment underway for 6 new graduates to join Oldham Council in September as part of our Early Careers Strategy. We've supported Work Experience and Industry Placements through 10 secondary school students. 6 T-Level students from Oldham College successfully completed industry placements. We are preparing to launch the Care Leavers Summer Placement Scheme in partnership with UK Youth, providing six care leavers (16-25) supportive, paid summer placements. Guidance for career-graded roles has been finalised and approved by trade unions. It will be presented to Employment Committee on 15th July for formal approval. This supports clearer progression pathways and greater workforce retention. We have achieved a 76% completion rate for Annual Let's Talk conversations, a substantial improvement from 24% in 2024 demonstrating improved engagement in performance and development dialogue. Staff can now access OCL's Ultimate Gym Package at a discounted rate of £21/month (previously £36) supporting employee health and wellbeing.

---

We have successfully renewed our Level 2 Disability Confident Badge, evidencing our continued commitment to being an inclusive employer. We have adopted the Greater Manchester People Inclusion Standards, setting a shared regional vision for inclusive workplaces across public service. We are supporting racially diverse and disabled colleagues through the GM Elevate Programme to progress into senior roles, aligned with our talent and EDI priorities.

**Revenues and Benefits:** The Government has just published the national Council Tax and Business Rate collection rates for 2024/25. Our Council Tax collection rate was slightly down on 2023/24 at 93.28% from 94.11% reflecting increased financial pressures for some households, however Business Rates collection increased to 96.48% from 96.11%.

Collection for the first quarter of 2025/26 is slightly up on the same period last year by 0.15% for Council Tax and 1.22% for Business Rates. We have also seen a reduction in arrears of £1.16m for Council Tax and an increase of £0.1m for Business Rates. The Benefits service is continuing to manage the impact of Universal Credit migration, which has resulted in a higher volume of change in circumstances being reported by DWP. This is placing additional demand on the assessment of Council Tax Reduction claims. We are pleased to announce that Mark Edmondson has joined the team on 1<sup>st</sup> July as the new Assistant Director Revenues and Benefits and will be taking forward key areas of service development and improvement. He was previously Head of Revenues and Benefits at Ribble Valley Borough Council for 21 years.

**Legal & Governance:** The Independent Remuneration Panel has made recommendations to Council on members' allowances for 2025/2026; their independent report is on the agenda for this Council meeting. Since the annual meeting of the Council, appointments to committees and outside bodies have been updated on the Council's website, and relevant bodies have been notified. The public consultation to review Polling Districts and Polling Places commenced on 16 June up to 7 July 2025 to ensure as far as reasonable that the Council has accessible and convenient facilities for all voters. Representations will be considered, and a second public consultation on draft proposals will commence 11 July 2025 to 8 August 2025, with final proposals to be considered by the full council at its meeting in September.

**IT & Digital:** We continue to work with Inclusive Bytes who are setting up a network with currently over 50 Digital Champions and more than 30 Hoot Hubs across the borough to provide access to digital support closer to home. Inclusive Bytes are opening a unit at Spindles on a short-term basis initially over the summer to offer digital support.

**Climate Change & Green New Deal:** Oldham Green New Deal Partnership is an initiative to establish what will be only the third local authority Strategic Energy Partnership in the UK, after Bristol and Coventry. The Council has recently completed a very successful Market Engagement exercise. Around 100 organisations attended the online engagement event and around 10 responded to the Council's questionnaire and took part in 1-2-1 interviews with Council officers.

Oldham Low Carbon Heat Network - Work continues on the design of the new heat network and the Council is exploring the potential to utilise some of its Green Heat Network Fund Construction Grant to implement heat network infrastructure in the Town Centre as 'early works' alongside the planned regeneration works around the new park and St Mary's Way.

Wrigley Head Solar Farm - The Council continues to work to discharge Planning Conditions associated with the proposed solar farm development in advance of construction. The Council will fence the site in the near term for public safety purposes in advance of the construction phase of the scheme.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.





## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Shaid Mushtaq, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to Portfolio activities.

**Children's Social Care and Early Help** are providing support to 3,476 Children and Young People plans - 969 early help, 1,357 children in need, 405 child protection, 597 children looked after and 469 care leavers (1st July 2025).

The timeliness of response to children's needs remains strong across the fundamentals of practice and the stability of the workforce continues to improve with increasingly permanent staffing and success in converting agency workers to permanent employees.

### Workforce

I am pleased to share that we've successfully strengthened Social Care teams by recruiting talented social workers for key service areas through tailored recruitment efforts, including the creation of bespoke adverts and a strong pipeline through our 'Grow our Own' model of students and apprentices, ensuring stability and continuity of service. The social work agency rate (23.2%) and turnover rate (18.6%) are continuing a gradual downward trend in May 25. The benefits to families of our recruitment and retention work was reported on BBC's The One Show in April: [Families benefitting from Oldham's social worker training academy - BBC News](#)

### Care Planning

Focused work on pre-proceedings and court proceedings by the new Early Permanence Progression Officer is giving a clear line of sight to support improved tracking and timeliness of care planning and impact on children and families.

### Youth Violence Prevention

In May, progress was made on tackling serious youth violence through a collaborative Strategic Action Plan informed by thorough research and education feedback. Upcoming youth consultations and strong partnerships with community and youth justice services will help develop a focused strategy aimed at lasting positive change in our communities.

### Children in Care and Care Leavers

For children in care and care leavers, we have continued to provide safe, stable placements and support as they transition into adulthood. The service has successfully registered a new Children's Home and I had the privilege of welcoming its first resident to the accommodation at the opening ceremony on 27 June. This home has been delivered as part of the council commitment to creating more internal residential home provision in Oldham. The Fostering Service has grown with a third Mockingbird Hub Carer and updated key policies to enhance recruitment and retention. Care leavers also benefit from the council's 'direct match' housing initiative, strengthening partnership support.

The Annual Stars in their Eyes Awards was held on the 22 June. This is the annual celebration recognizing the achievements of children in care and care leavers. This was a huge success with a record number of nominations and winners in attendance. Children and Young People were congratulated with their awards by elected members, the Mayor, and a high-profile Oldham sports star.

### Education, Employment and Training

I am pleased to report more young people aged 18–21 are engaged in education, employment, or training, demonstrating improved progress in supporting their future opportunities. It is positive that we now have three care leavers working within the Council – in Waste Management, Children's Integration and in one of our internal Children's Homes.

### Children's Commissioning

---

The new [Oldham SEND Local Offer](#), co-produced with children and young people, families, and partners, is now live and was officially launched in May at the Oldham Parent Carer Forum annual conference, receiving positive feedback from the community.

### **Family Help**

Our Early Help teams continue to play a vital role in working with families before issues escalate. The number of children open to targeted early help has fallen a little further to around 850 children, with case closures exceeding referrals. This has assisted in managing caseloads, which helps ensure the quality of support.

The Domestic Abuse team have reduced the number of active cases to just under 300, with the new duty model introduced in January working well in delivering a timely response for victims of domestic abuse.

The Family Hubs offer continues to deliver a positive impact. There were over 107,000 views of family hubs material on the website and social media. There was a very positive article about the work of the parenting team on the BBC website at: ['Oldham parenting group changed my life and made me a better person' - BBC News](#) This news story appeared on BBC North West tonight in June.

### **Families First Partnership**

The Families First Partnership Programme (FFP) national reform is progressing well, with strong engagement from the Oldham Safeguarding Children Partnership and schools. The FFP board has set key priorities focused on Family Help, Multi-agency Child Protection Teams, and Family Networks. The programme emphasises the importance of family group decision-making to effectively involve networks of family and friends in supporting parents to care for children.

### **Early Years**

98% of Early Years providers are good or outstanding. Wrap around places have now expanded to create 764 places currently through 34 providers. This includes 374 new places, 315 expanded places and 70 places where the timings have increased to provide full wrap around provision.

### **Youth Services**

Following the #BeeWell youth council consultation, the #VoiceBox initiative will distribute resources across Oldham's schools to promote youth engagement and awareness of local representatives.

Over 80 young people participated in a boroughwide football tournament that combined sport with workshops on substance misuse and youth violence.

The Castleshaw AirBnB has successfully launched, receiving excellent feedback and upcoming bookings.

Meanwhile, preparations for the summer HAF programme are underway, focusing on securing providers and enhancing support to ensure high-quality delivery.

### **Summary**

Delivering 'Good' Children's Services has had a pivotal contribution in Oldham Council being named Most Improved Council at the 2025 LGC Awards, I want to pass on my thanks to all who work tirelessly to keep children and young people safe and happy to enable them to thrive.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.

## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Adults, Health & Wellbeing

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to the portfolio responsibilities.

**Public Health:** Oral Health - Good oral health is an important part of overall health. Oral health issues such as tooth decay and gum disease impact health and wellbeing in many ways and at all stages of life.

More than one in three 5-year-olds in Oldham have tooth decay (36.3%) and this is more common in our more deprived areas. Tooth decay is preventable, but can cause pain, school absence and difficulty with eating, drinking, speaking, and playing. Tooth extraction due to tooth decay is the most common reason for hospital admission among 5–9-year-old children.

Gum disease can increase the risk of heart disease and dementia. In pregnancy, gum disease can increase the risk of pre-term birth. Tooth decay and tooth loss can also make people self-conscious about their appearance, reducing confidence and self-esteem. Poor oral health in older adults can cause malnutrition, dehydration, and urinary tract infections (UTIs). It can also lead to pneumonia. Around 1 in 10 deaths from pneumonia among older adults in hospitals or care facilities can be prevented by improving oral hygiene.

The previous Oral Health Strategy in Oldham focused specifically on 0–5-year-olds. The proposed approach for the future is to shift to a life course oral health approach based around four priority areas – early years, targeted groups, oral health/food environment, and oral health system. Maintaining good standards of oral health into old age can reduce the risks of pain, dehydration, malnutrition, sepsis and aspiration pneumonia, as well as loss of dignity and quality of life. It is well recognised that people who are dependent on others especially those in Care Homes and those admitted to hospital rely heavily upon the carer's provision of oral care and the perception of need for access to dental services. In Oldham, a provider is in place to deliver comprehensive oral health improvement training and to develop oral health champions within health and social care and within the community.

In 2025/2026, Oldham residents will benefit from enhanced local Public Health initiatives, as well as new initiatives supported by Greater Manchester and National funding to support the oral health of our residents. Our Integrated Children and Families Service continues to provide evidence-based oral health promotion. In the last 6 months, 4525 oral health packs have been distributed through health visitors and 64 early years work force have received training in oral health. Currently 75% of Early Years settings, including Family Hubs, hold our 'Healthy Eating Award'. In the next 12 months, Oldham aims to implement the following enhanced oral health provision:

- A universal supervised toothbrushing programme for 3–5-year-olds in Early Years settings and primary school reception classes in Oldham.
- Re-establish distribution of toothbrushes and toothpastes to reception and year 6 children within the National Child Measurement Programme
- Distribute toothbrushes and toothpastes to all 3- and 4-year-old children in early years settings twice per year.
- Increase investment into targeted, community-based oral health promotion and establish oral health buddies/ champions in community groups serving families with children at higher risk of dental decay.

These initiatives will be supported by additional public health investment, as well as funding from national government as well as resources donated from Colgate Palmolive and from NHS Greater Manchester.

---

Additional aims for 2025/2026 include:

- Establishing an oral health steering group
- Developing an oral health communication plan
- Developing on oral health monitoring and evaluation plan

### **Adult Social Care:**

#### CQC Information Return Submission

Adult Social Care received the Information Request from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June and with a three-week submission deadline of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June. The CQC assessments of Local Authorities were introduced two years ago, to independently appraise adult social care departments of how they meet their duties under Part 1 of the Care Act (2014).

A considerable amount of work has gone into providing CQC with evidence against each of the following domains:

- Safe
- Effective
- Caring
- Responsive
- Well-led

#### Market Position Statement (MPS)

A key responsibility under the Care Act is market development and shaping, ensuring that the locality has a sustainable, diverse, stable and quality provision in place to meet the needs of its population; this is presented through a Market Position Statement. Oldham's MPS has recently been refreshed and has been published on the council's website as a suite of documents. The documents are primarily intended to advise care providers about the current adult social care provider market in Oldham, where we are looking to develop new provisions, what plans we have in place and our commissioning pipeline. It is intended to talk to both our existing care market and also to new providers who are either looking to establish here or broaden their current provision into new areas. It will also be useful to our partners, including residents and their families, to understand our current position and future plans. [Adult Social Care Market Position Statement | Adult Social Care Market Position Statement | Oldham Council](#)

#### Care at Home framework

A major component of how we support people to live independently at home is our commissioned care at home services. The current contracts and commissioned framework come to an end March 2026. The current cluster-based model of delivery has worked well for Oldham as unlike other local authorities we do not have a waiting list, and to fully appraise and consider the commissioning approach for April 2026 we are engaging with stakeholders, including residents and their family members and current providers and providers who are interested in working with us. Support, advice and guidance will be available through the market engagement events on how to complete submissions once the tender is released on The Chest.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.

## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Mohon Ali, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills.

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to portfolio responsibilities.

### **MegaHub & Digital Futures**

Oldham is the first borough in Greater Manchester to invest in the pioneering MegaHub programme, powered by IN4 and supported by IBM, Microsoft, QinetiQ, and Roke. Together with the CyberFirst programme, we're giving local students access to high-quality training and direct links to digital and tech careers—one of the UK's fastest-growing sectors. This bold investment shows our commitment to nurturing the next generation of innovators right here in Oldham. At the programme launch, it was inspiring to see the ambition of our young people, supported by strong partnerships across education and industry.

### **LGC Award – Most Improved Council (2025)**

Oldham Council has been named Most Improved Council at the 2025 LGC Awards. Our progress in education played a key role in this achievement, driven by record-breaking school outcomes and a relentless focus on raising standards. This is a collective success—thank you to everyone supporting education across our borough.

### **Universal Free School Meals & National Breakfast Club**

From September 2026, all children with a parent on Universal Credit will be eligible for free school meals, easing pressure on families and ensuring every child gets a healthy start. Oldham is also among the first areas to adopt the new national breakfast club initiative. Seven local schools are now offering free breakfasts—boosting attendance, tackling hunger, and supporting working parents with up to £450 in savings per year. Cllr Arooj Shah and I recently highlighted this work during appearances on BBC North West Tonight and BBC Politics North West.

### **Early Years Transition Event**

We recently hosted a successful event to support children moving from nursery to primary school—a key milestone in their educational journey. It was fantastic to see the dedication of early years staff, schools, and parents working together to support children's confidence and wellbeing.

### **SEND Capital Investment & Programme Expansion**

I'm pleased to report progress on our SEND capital programme, which is delivering over 250 new specialist school places across the borough. Three major schemes—at Woodlands Primary, North Chadderton, and Werneth Primary—will create 55 new places at a cost of £2.08M. Three additional smaller projects have also been approved at Lyndhurst, St Thomas CE, and Coppice Primary. We've also secured an additional year of grant funding from the Department for Education to support SEND improvement, including the Early Language Support for Every Child (ELSEC) programme now running in 10 local primary schools.

### **Oldham Music Service Success**

The Oldham Music Centre Youth Brass Band achieved outstanding results on Whit Friday, winning prizes at all 7 contests they entered—including five first-place awards. This is one of our best-ever results and a testament to the talent we're nurturing in Oldham.

---

## Empower Oldham & NEET Support

The Empower Oldham programme continues to support 15–19-year-olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), helping them overcome barriers and build brighter futures. Delivered in partnership with Positive Steps and GMCA, and funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, this project is changing lives. Our Care Leaver Youth Hub is also making strong progress, with the Get Oldham Working team providing proactive support to NEET care leavers.

## STEM Promotion with Professor Brian Cox

Thank you to Professor Brian Cox for his visit to Oldham on 1–2 July, where he engaged with students, teachers, and leaders to promote careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths). His visit aligns with Oldham’s economic vision focused on green energy, innovation, and skills. We’re excited to again host a jobs fair and careers event this year, helping connect young people with real opportunities.

## Ofsted Inspections Update

This term has seen continued positive inspection outcomes across Oldham schools.

- **Oldham Academy North** showed strong progress during its recent ungraded inspection.
- **Whitegate End Primary** was praised for raising the bar in curriculum quality and pupil achievement.
- At **St Agnes Primary**, inspectors noted high expectations and strong outcomes, including for pupils with SEND.
- **Holy Cross Primary** was described as “an oasis of calm,” with a supportive and safe environment.
- At **Greenhill Primary**, inspectors celebrated the school’s inclusive ethos and appreciation of diversity.
- **Lyndhurst Primary** was recognised for its effective support of new pupils with limited prior education in England.

Special mention to **Newbridge School**, which retained its **Outstanding** rating following an ungraded inspection. Inspectors highlighted the school’s tailored curriculum and skilled staff who ensure pupils can access the world around them

## Closing Reflections

As we end the academic year, I want to thank everyone working in education, early years, and skills development. Your efforts continue to transform lives and help learners of all ages reach their full potential.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.



## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Peter Dean, Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure.

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to portfolio responsibilities.

**Heritage, Libraries and Arts:** Oldham Theatre Workshop, in partnership with Oldham Coliseum, have recruited 13 young people (aged 13-19) for their Technical Theatre Course, who will be working on delivering the summer show in July. The show will take place at Oldham Library Performance Space before OTW move into their brand-new studio spaces in the Old Library Building later in the year. OTW's Actors House (16-25yrs olds) performed their show at Oldham Library over 3 nights, attracting over 250 people.

Schools linking celebration event took place at Gallery Oldham. Schools Linking is a unique programme helping to build cohesion and solidarity in our communities. In Oldham, children meet up with their link class four times a year, visit Galley Oldham, Castleshaw and share experiences with children they wouldn't normally get a chance to meet. 25 schools took part with over 480 pupils participating.

Gallery Oldham launched three new exhibitions this quarter:

- Pick and Mix is our summer family friendly exhibition created by and for children and families of all ages. The exhibition opened on 10<sup>th</sup> May and runs through to 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 2025.
- Bird Photographer of the Year, 14 June – 6 September' - This stunning exhibition showcases the work of photographers capturing the beauty and diversity of birdlife.
- Pedestrian by Emma Blackburn, 10th May – 26th July - Steeped in contrasts between movement and stillness, Pedestrian is a retrospective of textile-based works by artist/maker Emma Blackburn.

Archives and local studies closed their temporary service offer at the end of May, as they prepare for their move to their new home in Spindles. The library service is getting ready for the summer holidays to deliver StoryFest, and the Summer Reading Challenge, which will launch on Saturday 12th July.

**Culture:** 1000's of visitors attended Festival Oldham on Saturday 5 July. The annual flagship event showcased 60 performances from the very best local and national outdoor artists in spaces across Oldham Town Centre. This year it included music programming from the Oldham Music Service, merging the Summer Music Festival into the main programme with over 30 performances from talented musicians from across the borough.

Jubacana, Oldham's youth-led percussion and dance project based at Gallery Oldham, has been invited to perform at Manchester Day on Saturday 26 July. The group of 25–30 young people aged 8–18 create powerful music influenced by Brazilian rhythms with a UK twist, blending percussion, guitars, flute, and vibrant choreography. Led by young leaders with support from professional artists, Jubacana exemplifies what youth can achieve through the arts.

Barcelona La Mercè Festival 2025 - Oldham dancers will represent the borough and Manchester on the international stage as part of Manchester's Guest City programme at La Mercè Festival in Barcelona this September. 16 local women from Saddleworth Women's Morris & Clog and Oldham Indian Association Dancing Diyas have been selected to perform, supported by funding from GM Arts Network and the GMCA Culture Fund.

Looking ahead - Khushi Festival – Oldham's Happy Festival will return this August. Delivered in partnership with the Oldham Chai Women's Project and Oldham Coliseum, this all-female South Asian-led festival will take place over two days. August at Gallery Oldham and Oldham Library and

---

August at Northern Roots. Featuring specially commissioned performances and installations, music, storytelling, food, dance, and joy. September will see the return of Nostalgic Oldham - A hugely successful event in 2024 drawing together community memory, heritage and creativity. Over 3,000 residents engaged with exhibitions, workshops, and storytelling experiences last year reflecting Oldham's rich industrial, social and cultural history.

**Leisure & Sports:** Recently, over 25 Community Health Champions came together at the new Environmental Centre in Alexandra Park. The session focused on encouraging physical activity and enjoying the great outdoors in our communities. Champions learned practical ways to build movement into everyday life, how being active can bring people together, and the huge benefits it has for our health and wellbeing. They also explored the brilliant outdoor spaces we have here in Oldham – including our wonderful parks – and the importance of active travel. The session ended with a visit to the Growing Hub in the park, and these champions are now taking this knowledge back into their communities to spread the word.

Following the successful introduction of Bikeability sessions through our Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, demand is growing. This summer, we're now working with two providers to offer even more opportunities for young people to gain cycling confidence and road safety skills.

Earlier this year, we welcomed an externally funded Move More Active Travel Activation Officer. Since then, we've seen a rise in numbers attending Dr Bike sessions across the borough. These free sessions offer a health check for bikes, with basic repairs like brakes and tyres included. So far, over 40 bikes have been seen at community events, such as the Foxdenton Park Family Day, and we've got three more events we're supporting with these sessions.

The Workforce Health Check programme, run by Oldham Active in partnership with Oldham Council and local businesses, concluded in May. Over 1,000 full Health Checks were completed across local businesses and workplaces and the comprehensive checks were well received by employers and employees. Oldham Active are looking at ways to continue their work to support businesses and the Health and Wellbeing of the workforces.

This summer, Oldham Active is delivering a fantastic programme to support young people across the borough to Move More and support their own Health and Wellbeing. In partnership with Oldham Council through the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme, they're offering free gym and swim access to teenagers aged 14 to 16 who receive free schools meals. This initiative gives eligible teens unlimited access to all Oldham Active centres, helping them to stay active and healthy during the school holidays. Participants will also receive 16 free hot meals over the summer.

In addition, Oldham Active is running a wide range of free holiday camps and activities for children aged 6 plus, including sports, swimming, gymnastics and more. These sessions are part of the HAF programme, aimed at supporting families during the summer holidays, ensuring access for young people to fun, enriching and healthy experiences this summer.

Finally, Oldham had a strong presence at the GM Moving Conference at The Lowry Theatre in June – an event that attracts people from across the UK. We were proud to be part of a panel in the main theatre, sharing the great collaborative work happening in Oldham to tackle inactivity and inequalities in our communities. Talking about working alongside our communities to find ways to support them to move more, in a way that works best for them.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.





## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Fida Hussain, Cabinet Member for Enterprise

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to the portfolio responsibilities.

### Employment & Employability:

Unemployment has continued to decrease over the last 12 months and is now 6.9% (reduced from 7.72% in July 2024)

### Get Oldham Working:

Get Oldham Working (GOW) continues to drive inclusive economic growth, supporting residents into sustainable jobs, training, and improved wellbeing through our holistic, person-centred approach.

**Restart Programme:** Over **600 residents engaged** so far this year, with employer satisfaction exceeding **90%**.

**National Careers Service:** Delivered **117 learning achievements**, equipping residents with skills for career progression.

**Support to Succeed:** Providing vital support to economically inactive residents to build confidence and job readiness.

**Vanguard: 274 residents started** on the programme this year, with a strong referral pipeline in place.

### New Projects Mobilisation

**Trailblazer Programme:** Mobilisation underway, including setting up back office systems, process design, and multi-agency collaboration to prepare for delivery to residents with complex barriers who are economically inactive to support the Get Britain Working policy.

**Sanctuary Seekers Project:** Mobilisation complete, ready to deliver ESOL, employability, and wellbeing support to refugees and asylum seekers, with community engagement plans in place to ensure accessibility.

### Recent Customer Feedback:

★ “They treated me with respect and didn’t judge me.”

★ “My coach helped me find my confidence again.”

★ “I’m now working in care, which I love.”

✓ 94% felt supported by staff

✓ 90% would recommend GOW services

### Key Achievements

In June, **Matrix reaccreditation** was secured for three years, recognising our person-centred and innovative delivery (shared with Lifelong Learning Service so features in Cllr Ali’s portfolio brief as well).

**Council Leader visit** in June commended GOW’s impact, with **15,800+ jobs filled since 2013**.

Partnerships created **135+ local mental health jobs** and new NHS career pathways.

**Community engagement:** Micro Business sponsorship, Mental Health Awareness Week, and charitable staff activities.

---

## **Get Oldham Working Strategic Developments**

**Spindles Hub:** Development underway to create a modern, accessible GOW delivery base from Level 8 Spindles.

**Displacement Support:** Tailored employment and wellbeing services for care sector staff affected by regional changes.

### **Business Networking:**

Lots of networking has taken place since the last Council meeting. In partnership with Action Together, Oldham Athena Labs was launched at Oldham College on 2 June. This business growth programme is for female founders of ethnic minority led business in Oldham. It aims to help challenge and break down some of the main barriers for women leading businesses in this area and helping them to develop their business models in preparation for growth and funding. There are eleven Oldham participants taking part in this fully funded 3-month programme which covers a range of topics such as business planning, access to finance, investment readiness and pitching to investors.

On Friday 27 June Oldham was home to a Green Economy Networking event hosted by the Business Growth Hub. Thirty-five green tech businesses from Oldham and across GM attended this event to network with peers from the green tech community, hear short presentations, inspiring journeys and industry developments and see what fully-funded support is available to this sector. We are keen to host such events with the green tech sector being such an important part of our growth plans via our Green New Deal Strategy.

Preparations for the seventeenth annual Oldham Business Awards are well underway with all the finalists being announced at a special finalist event on Thursday 3 July at Grains Bar Hotel. It was an exciting night with over eighty attendees on the night there to hear the names of the three finalists for each of the eleven categories. Not long now until the big event on the Friday 3 October at the Queen Elizabeth Hall when the winners of each category will be revealed.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.

## Portfolio Report

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Chris Goodwin, Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways.

---

This report provides an update on the main activity since the last Council meeting relating to portfolio responsibilities.

### **Highways, Operations & Engineering:**

The Highways service has continued to deliver strategically and reactively.

The 2024/25 Capital programme has been successfully delivered. Due to the diligent approach, Oldham council was successful in securing additional support from the region, and therefore, deliver additional schemes already identified as being necessary. Similarly, for 2025/26, the capital highways and engineering programme has been put together based on a data led approach covering highways / footway surfacing; drainage schemes; bridges & structures works; safety engineering and traffic related schemes – last year for example over 31,000 sqm of capital resurfacing was carried out across the borough.

So far, in April and May 2025, the service has received nearly 1,900 highways related enquiries with associated volume of works orders made, with scheduled highways safety inspections carried out totaling 980km so far this quarter by the Council's inspectors. This includes over 2,500 streets visited as part of the scheduled inspection programme, proactively identifying issues that may impact the boroughs residents and visitors.

The Highways team also continues to administer permit applications, mostly from utility companies to the Council, to coordinate and allow them to work on the highway, and causing the least amount of disruption - from April to June 2025, almost 1,300 permit requests have been received and processed – for context, in 2024/25, over 13,000 applications were received.

The planned gully cleansing programme is currently visiting the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> wards out of the 20 listed on the Council website - to date approximately 17,000 of the 47,500 gullies having been visited. Work remains ongoing – a significant number of gullies are requiring revisits to 'dig out' and repair the network – this is having an impact on the proposed timetable. However, as ever, we will keep ward members and residents updated.

### **Strategic Transport & Bee Network:**

I was pleased to take our new Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy and Action Plan to Place Scrutiny Board and to Cabinet last month – thank you to the members of Place Scrutiny who engaged positively in the discussion and are so keen to support the ongoing implementation of the Action Plan as we seek to enable a greater provision of EV infrastructure across the borough.

At their last meeting, the GMCA also approved the reallocation of City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement funding to invest an additional £7.3m in two key cycling and walking projects in the borough, as well as an additional £2.2m of highways maintenance funding. £19m was also reallocated to the Bee Network, for improvements like enhancing the tap & go functionality on the Bee Network amongst other things, and £21m was reallocated to Active Travel Funding, which Oldham will be able to utilise for the creation of more of our highly successful school streets.

### **Street Lighting:**

The service continues to replace the final 20% of lighting assets as they expire. Replacements have been taking place in Chadderton area with 748 columns and lights replaced in 2024-25 as part of the annual investment programme. The assets were replaced with new modern LED lighting within the contractual time limit, helping reduce both energy consumption and carbon emissions. Over the

---

last twelve (12) months, energy consumption has reduced by 294,014 kWh (3.65%) and carbon production has reduced by 62 tonnes CO2 (3.60%).

The service is continuing to achieve above contractual performance standards for the number of assets working as intended each month with an average of 99.30% across 2024-25. All faults are being attended to within contractual performance requirements with a small number of third-party vehicles blocking access to complete some repairs.

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report



**Report to COUNCIL**

## **Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan: Decision Making Process**

**Portfolio Holder:**

Cllr Elaine Taylor Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

**Officer Contact:** Emma Barton, Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

**Report Author:** Georgina Brownridge, Senior Planning Officer  
**Ext.** 1670

**Council 16 July**

---

### **Reason for Decision**

To seek approval from Council to agree to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester.

### **Executive Summary**

Greater Manchester leaders at the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Executive Board meeting on 28th March 2025 agreed to the production of a statutory Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan (GMJMWP). This report considers the necessary steps required in relation to seeking approval from all the GM districts to commence preparation and to delegate it's preparation to the AGMA Executive Board.

The existing Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plans require updating in full because they are out of date having been adopted over a decade ago. Their replacement with a single, joint minerals and waste plan will ensure efficient compliance with national planning policy.

### **Recommendations**

**Council:**

In advance of Cabinet agreeing to delegate to AGMA Executive Board the formulating and preparing of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester

---

councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester insofar as such matters are executive functions, Council is recommended to:

1. Agree to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester.
2. Note that the Cabinet will be asked to agree to the below recommendation, to delegate the formulating and preparing of the draft joint development plan document to AGMA Executive Board.
3. Note that there will be further reports to the Council in respect of, matters, which are within the remit of the Council including adoption of the joint development plan document.

---

**Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan: Decision Making Process****1 Background**

- 1.1 The ten Local Authorities in Greater Manchester are the waste and minerals planning authorities for their respective area. Each authority is responsible for land use planning matters for waste and minerals development. The 10 Greater Manchester authorities worked together to produce a Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document (the Waste Plan), adopted in 2012, and a Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document (the Minerals Plan) which was adopted in 2013.
- 1.2 The Waste Plan and the Minerals Plan form part of the development plan for each of the 10 authorities, and planning applications for minerals and waste development are determined in accordance with these plans.
- 1.3 The Waste Plan considers all types of waste arisings, including: construction, demolition and excavation waste; commercial and industrial waste; hazardous waste; and Local Authority Collected Waste. It allocates sites and areas to provide sufficient opportunities for waste management facilities across Greater Manchester and provides a policy framework for determining planning applications for new waste management facilities.
- 1.4 In terms of household waste collected by the authorities, Wigan manages its own waste whilst GMCA manages waste collected by the other nine authorities. The sites needed to deliver household waste management strategies and individual waste management streams e.g. recovery, recycling, are identified and then safeguarded in the Waste Plan.
- 1.5 The Minerals Plan provides a guide to operators and the public about where mineral extraction may take place in future and safeguards mineral resources from other forms of development.
- 1.6 The Waste Plan and Minerals Plan are required by law to be reviewed at least once every five years, starting from the date of adoption. Such a review is focused on deciding whether plan policies remain relevant and effective in addressing local needs. Where policies are no longer considered to be relevant or effective, the plan should be updated in whole or part.
- 1.7 A review of the Waste and Minerals Plans found that there have been numerous national policy and legislative changes since their adoption, including the publication of the Greater Manchester Sustainable Consumption and Production Plan 2022-2025. The policies in the plans are therefore no longer effective in addressing specific local issues. The review concluded that both plans should be updated in whole.
- 1.8 The AGMA Executive Board considered options on how to update the two plans and concluded that their replacement with a single, joint plan covering both minerals and waste matters offers benefits in terms of resource efficiencies (economy of scale) and will ensure that Greater Manchester can continue to deliver housing and infrastructure and ensure that recent policy changes relating to the environment and climate change are considered.
- 1.9 Although the document will be produced collaboratively across GM, with the AGMA Executive Board (Joint Committee) responsible for formulating and preparing the joint development plan document (insofar as such matters are executive functions), the responsibility for agreeing the submission of the GMJMWP for independent examination and its ultimate Adoption, will remain the responsibility of each individual Greater

---

Manchester council. This will ensure the timely production of the plan, but also importantly the ability of each individual Council to retain control over the contents of the GMJMWP.

- 1.10 The decision links most closely to Green and Growing as it seeks to ensure that waste and minerals planning are addressed which is needed to support growth.
- 1.11 In terms of the purpose of the report there are no / limited implications for:
- (a) Community Cohesion Implications, including crime and disorder implications under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 - N/A
  - (b) Risk Assessments – N/A
  - (c) If relevant, Co-operative Implications, Human Resource Implications, IT implications, Property Implications, Procurement Implications and Environment and Health and Safety Implications - Property implications will be considered as the Plan is prepared.

## 2 **Current Position**

### District Arrangements

- 1.1 In order for the GMJMWP to be progressed in this way, each Council is requested to agree to prepare a new joint plan with the other 9 local authorities.
- 1.2 Approval from each authority is also requested to delegate the preparation of the GMJMWP as a joint plan to the AGMA Executive Board. The delegation to the AGMA Executive Board to prepare the GMJMWP (insofar as such matters are executive functions), will help to ensure timely progress in developing the GMJMWP, whilst retaining the Councils' approval at key stages. A separate report requesting this will go to Cabinet on 21 July 2025.
- 1.3 Council approval by all 10 GM authorities will be required prior to the submission of the draft plan to the secretary of state for independent examination and to adopt the final plan, once it has been through the examination in public.

### Resources

- 1.4 Work is underway to identify the level of resource required to undertake this work and further reports will be presented to the AGMA Executive once more details are known.
- 1.5 As with previous joint plans, there are significant budgetary savings in preparing the plan jointly across GM.
- 1.6 There will be a requirement to procure external capacity for specific pieces of work, such as background evidence and supporting documents as well as a sustainability appraisal. There will also be costs associated with the consultation and examination stages.
- 1.7 Additionally, each of the ten GM local authorities will provide officer support to the small central planning team, based in the GMCA. This support will provide valuable knowledge, steering and guidance in relation to individual local authority priorities and individual site appraisal work, as well as ensuring that the leadership within the authority is kept up to date with plan progress. The local authority officer support will be required throughout the preparation of the plan, including assistance at early scoping, public consultation and examination stages.



---

## Timescale

- 1.8 The Government is in the process of reforming the plan-making system and the GMJMWP will need to be taken forward under this new plan-making system. It is anticipated that regulations for the new plan-making system will be published in the autumn. Following publication of the regulations, a detailed timetable will be taken to a meeting of the AGMA Executive and, once approved, will need to be incorporated into each authority's Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- 1.9 Whilst it is not possible to set out a detailed plan timetable at this stage, based on recent government publications (most recently the outcome of the plan-making consultation, published in February 2025), it is anticipated that plans made under the new plan-making system will be expected to take no more 30-months from commencement to adoption and will include two mandatory/formal public consultations. It is also expected a new system of 'gateway' assessments, with Planning Inspectors, will be introduced, to ensure compliance and track progress. Plan timetables will be expected to set dates for the various "Gateway" stages, the mandatory consultation stages, submission for independent examination and the anticipated date for adoption.

## 3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 **Option 1:** In advance of Cabinet agreeing to delegate to AGMA Executive Board the formulating and preparing of the joint development plan document to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester insofar as such matters are executive functions, the Council is recommended to:
1. Agree to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester.

This option is the most efficient option and will ensure an up-to-date minerals and waste plan. There are no disadvantages to this option.

- 3.2 **Option 2:** To produce two separate joint plans, one for Waste and one for Minerals. This approach would require more resources than a single, joint plan due to duplication of work and could result in delay. This option would not be an efficient use of resources to Oldham. There are no advantages to this option.
- 3.3 **Option 3:** To produce a joint Waste Plan and incorporate minerals policies into each authority's Local Plan. Some authorities are already advanced in preparing a Local Plan and therefore cannot incorporate minerals within their plan timetable. Therefore, some GM authorities would continue to have outdated minerals policies, contrary to national policy. Oldham Council is preparing the Local Plan Publication stage so this option would lead to significant delays and change the scope of the Local Plan. There are no advantages to Oldham under this option.
- 3.4 **Option 4:** Do not update the current plans – 'do nothing' scenario. This approach would be contrary to national policy and legislation and risks unplanned proposals coming forward. There are no advantages to this option.

## 4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 The preferred option is Option 1. In advance of Cabinet agreeing to delegate to AGMA Executive Board the formulating and preparing of the joint development plan document to

---

cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester insofar as such matters are executive functions, the Council is recommended to:

1. Agree to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester.

## 5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 Public consultation will be carried out on the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan. The timetable for this will be set out in the revised Local Development Scheme once details are known. This will be in line with planning regulations and the council's Statement of Community Involvement.

## 6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 Agreement to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester will not have any additional costs for the Council.
- 6.2 However, the financial implications of developing the joint plan are currently being assessed. A clearer picture of the total resource requirement, including staffing, consultancy support, and other operational costs, will emerge as work progresses. These details will be brought forward in subsequent reports to the AGMA Executive.
- 6.3 Any direct costs incurred by the Council in relation to this work will be charged against the Strategic Planning service budget.

(John Hoskins)

## 7 **Legal Implications**

- 7.1 Under section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, 2 or more local authorities may agree to prepare one or more joint local development documents. Pursuant to Regulation 4(4A) and (4C) of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, the making of an agreement to prepare one or more joint development plan documents shall not be the responsibility of an executive of the authority. The decision to agree to prepare a joint development plan document must therefore be made by full Council.
- 7.2 Section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 enables two or more local authorities to discharge any of their functions by a joint committee. Section 9EA of the Local Government Act 2000 enables the Secretary of State to make regulations for enabling an executive of a local authority to arrange for the discharge of any functions which under executive arrangements are the responsibility of the executive by another local authority or by the executive of another local authority or a committee or specified member of such an executive. The Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012 no. 1019) were made pursuant to Section 9EA. The Regulations provide at Regulation 4 that in an authority with a Leader and Cabinet (as in Oldham), the persons with the power to make arrangements under section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 are the Cabinet, a member of the Cabinet or a committee of the Cabinet, as respects those functions which are allocated by executive arrangements to the Cabinet, that member or that committee. (A Evans)

---

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

8.1 The completed Oldham Impact Assessment is attached. This notes neutral impacts on equality characteristics. It also notes moderate positive impacts in relation to corporate priorities on 'A Great Place to Live' and 'Green and Growing' as the Minerals and Waste Plan will help ensure that minerals and waste are planned alongside housing and economic growth to ensure development is supported by infrastructure.



Minerals and Waste  
Impact Assessment 1

9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

11.1 RBO-06-25.

12 **Background Papers**

12.1 N/A

13 **Appendices**

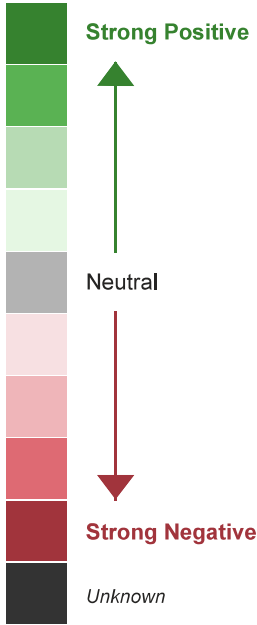
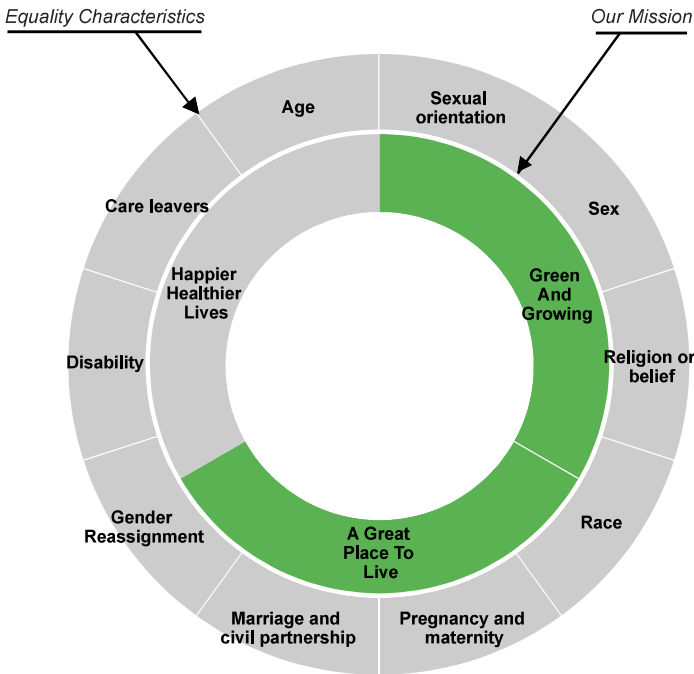
13.1 N/A

This page is intentionally left blank

# Commencement of Joint Minerals and Waste Plan

completed/last updated by Georgina Brownridge on 22/05/2025

Portfolio	
<b>Decent Homes</b>	
Directorate	
<b>Place</b>	
Service/Team	
<b>Economy</b>	
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	<input type="checkbox"/> 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	

### Our Mission / Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Happier Healthier Lives	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
A Great Place To Live	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	The Joint Minerals and Waste Plan will help ensure that minerals and waste are planned alongside housing growth to ensure development is supported by infrastructure.
Green And Growing	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	The Joint Minerals and Waste Plan will help ensure that minerals and waste are planned alongside economic growth to ensure development is supported by infrastructure.

### 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)
----------	--------	--------	----------	--------------	---	-----------	----------	--------------

This page is intentionally left blank



## Report to Council

# Update on Appointments to Committees

**Officer Contact:** Fiona Greenway, Interim Executive Director of Resources

**Report Author:** Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance  
Ext: 0041

**16 July 2025**

---

## Reason for Decision

To consider changes in relation to appointments to Committees for 2025/2026.

## Recommendations

1. That the changes to the appointments to Committees as set out in Appendix 1 for the 2025/26 Municipal Year, be agreed.
2. That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to make any in-year changes to appointments where notified.

Update on Appointments to Committees

**1. Background**

1.1 Since the annual meeting of the Council, several changes are proposed to appointments to Committees. These appointments do not affect the overall political balance.

**2. Options/Alternatives**

2.1 Changes to appointments to committees for the remainder of the municipal year could remain a decision of the full council, however, this is likely to result in a delay to implementing any changes which may need to be made in-year.

**3. Preferred Option**

3.1 For Council to approve the changes of appointments to Committees for the remainder of the municipal year, and to agree the delegation of any further changes during the municipal year to the Chief Executive.

**4. Consultation**

4.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant officers and Councillors.

**5. Financial Implications**

5.1 There are no financial implications.

**6. Legal Implications**

6.1 There are no legal implications.

**7. Equality Impact including implications for Children and Young Persons**

7.1 None.

**8. Key Decision**

8.1 No

**9. Key Decision Reference**

9.1 Not applicable.

---

## **10. Background Papers**

- 10.1 The following is a list of the 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 that Act.

Council Constitution

Any person wishing to inspect copies of the above background papers should contact the Constitutional Services: [constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk)

## **11. Appendices**

- 11.1 The proposed changes to appointments to committees are detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Original appointment in May 2025</b>	<b>Proposed change</b>
Children and Young People Scrutiny Board	Cllr Naseem Aslam	Cllr Abdul Malik
Children and Young People Scrutiny Board (Substitute)	Cllr Abdul Malik	Cllr Naseem Aslam
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board	Cllr Angela Cosgrove	Cllr Nadeem Iqbal
Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board (Substitute)	Cllr Graham Shuttleworth	Cllr Angela Cosgrove
Highway Regulation Committee	Cllr Angela Cosgrove	Cllr Nadeem Iqbal
Vice Chair of Children and Young People Scrutiny Board	n/a	Cllr McLaren



## Report to Council

# Update to pay policy statement and organisational framework

### Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council

**Officer Contact:** Shelley Kipling, Chief Executive

**Report Author:** Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance  
**Ext.** 0041

**16 July 2025**

---

## Reason for Decision

The Council's corporate plan 'Ready for the Future' sets out ambitions to drive change by focusing on three missions: healthier, happier places; great place to live; and green and growing. To turn the ambitions into reality, we need to have appropriate organisational leaderships arrangements in place for us to deliver against the ambitions of our plan, but to also continue to deliver statutory services and priorities.

The Council's Appointments Committee has met and considered revisions to the Council's senior management team structure and this report details recommendations from that Committee for Full Council's consideration.

## Recommendations

The Appointments Committee recommends that Council:

1. Notes the decision of the Appointments Committee to move to a senior management structure of four executive directors.
2. Notes that the Appointments Committee have redesignated the vacant role of Assistant Chief Executive to Executive Director of Resources.

- 
3. Notes that the Appointments Committee have approved the redesignation of the Director of Economy to the Director of Growth and approved the recruitment to this post, and should it be required, to apply a market supplement of up to £10k.
  4. Notes that the Appointments Committee have renamed the Strategic Director of Children's Services to the Executive Director of Children and Young People.
  5. Notes that the Appointments Committee have approved the renaming of the Director of Technology to the Director of Digital, and should it be required, to apply a market supplement of up to £10k.
  6. Notes that the Appointments Committee have agreed to the recruitment to the role of Director of Children's Social Care and Early Help.
  7. Approves the designation of the Director of Finance as the Council's Chief Finance Officer for the purposes of s114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and shall fulfil all the statutory duties of that post and in accordance with S151 of the Local Government Act 1972 shall be the officer with responsibilities for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs, and the Constitution be updated where required.
  8. Approves the designation of the Director of Legal as the Council's Monitoring Officer/Borough Solicitor for the purposes of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and the Constitution be updated where required.
  9. Notes that the Appointments Committee have redesignated the Deputy Place Lead and Deputy Chief Executive Health and Care Integration to the Executive Director of Health and Care (Deputy Chief Executive), with responsibilities including public health, adult social care and retaining the Deputy Place Lead role for the Integrated Care Board, and that this post will transfer to the Council's terms and conditions.

It is further recommended that Council:

10. Considers the case for any salary in excess of £100,000, prior to any appointment to the chief officer posts, and approves the roles of Executive Director of Resources, Executive Director of Health and Care (Deputy Chief Executive), Director of Growth, Director of Digital, Director of Children's Social Care and Early Help, Director of Finance and Director of Legal.
11. Agrees to update the Pay Policy Statement to reflect these changes.
12. Agrees to update the Constitution to reflect these changes.



**Update to Pay Policy Statement and Organisational Framework**

**1 Background**

1.1 To ensure we have the right organisational leadership arrangements in place, in May 2025, the Council's Appointments Committee met to consider changes to the Council's senior management team structure. The structure proposed changes to some roles and to move to a senior management structure of four executive director roles comprising:

- Executive Director of Place (Deputy Chief Executive).
- Executive Director of Resources.
- Executive Director of Health and Social Care (Deputy Chief Executive).
- Executive Director of Children and Young People.

1.2 The Appointments Committee agreed to this structure and to commence recruitment to the vacant role of Executive Director of Resources role; together with recruitment to a number of other senior management team roles, some of which have interim arrangements in place.

1.3 In line with the Council's Pay Policy Statement, Full Council will consider the case for any salary in excess of £100,000, prior to any appointment to the chief officer posts that it relates. The salary package will be defined as basic salary, any performance related pay, fees, routinely payable allowances and benefits in kind, that are due under the contract. The roles of Director referred to in this report have been graded at Director level and would be appointed on a spot salary between £104,337 to £115,105 and the roles of Executive Director have been graded at Executive Director level and the vacant role would be appointed on a spot salary of £144,160. The Appointments Committee approved a market supplement of up to £10k for the roles of Director of Growth and Director of Digital in light of a benchmarking exercise to attract the right candidates for the roles.

**2 Financial Implications**

2.1 The revised structure arrangements are in line with the budget available for the Senior Management Team of the Council

**3 Legal Implications**

3.1 The roles of Director of Finance, Director of Legal and Executive Director of Children and Young People are roles that carry statutory responsibility as defined by s.151 of the Local Government Act 1972, s.5 Local Government and Housing Act 1989,

---

and s.18 Childrens Act 2004 respectively. This report notes the designation of the statutory responsibility to the associated job roles and ensures the Council is compliant.

- 3.2 Full Council is required to approve posts with remuneration of over £100k according to the Council's pay policy.

#### 4 **Human Resources Implications**

- 4.1 All changes proposed within this report will follow existing policy and guidance, and any staff directly affected by the proposals have been consulted in line with the Council's agreed procedures for implementing structural changes.

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

- 5.1 The recommendations have no impact on any particular equality group therefore an equality impact assessment is not required.

#### 6 **Key Decision**

- 6.1 No.

#### 7 **Key Decision Reference**

- 7.1 n/a

#### 8 **Background Papers**

- 8.1 No background papers.

#### 9 **Appendices**

- 9.1 None.