

CABINET Agenda

Date Monday 21st July 2025

Time 6.00 pm

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

Notes 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Alex Bougatef or Peter Thompson at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

2. CONTACT OFFICER for this agenda is Peter Thompson, email:
peter.thompson@oldham.gov.uk

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - Any Member of the public wishing to ask a question at the above meeting can do so only if a written copy of the question is submitted to the contact officer by 12.00 noon on Wednesday, 16th July 2025.

4. FILMING - The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Constitutional Services Officer who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

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

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET:

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

Item No

1 Apologies For Absence

2 Urgent Business

Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair

3 Declarations of Interest

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

the meeting.

4 Public Question Time

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

5 Minutes (Pages 5 - 24)

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 16th June 2025, are attached for approval.

6 Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25 - Outturn Report (Pages 25 - 50)

Report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability, which provides Cabinet with an overview of the Council's revenue budget position and Capital Programme for 2024/25.

7 Oldham Live Well Implementation (Pages 51 - 60)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing which seeks to develop the Oldham Live Well scheme.

8 Infant Feeding Peer Support Service – new contract (Pages 61 - 68)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing seeking approval of new contract arrangements for the Infant Feeding Peer Support Service.

9 Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan: Decision Making Process (Pages 69 - 82)

A report of the Statutory Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods that seeks approval to delegate to AGMA Executive Board the formulating and preparing of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils.

10 Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper (Pages 83 - 116)

A report of the Statutory Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods that seeks approval for the publication of the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper on the council's website.

11 Transport Capital Programme 2025/26 (Pages 117 - 136)

Report of the Cabinet member for Transport and Highways, that seeks approval and formal acceptance of various funding programmes, so that the funds can be appropriately utilised in full, during 2025/26.

12 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the

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

13 Infant Feeding Peer Support Service – new contract (Pages 137 - 148)

To consider confidential recommendations.

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

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Brownridge and Jabbar each declared a 'registerable interest' in agenda items 12 and 22 (Creating a Better Place – Update) by virtue of the fact that they were both Council appointed Trustees of Northern Roots. Councillors Brownridge and Jabbar both left the room during the consideration and determination of these agenda items.

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 7th April 2025 be approved as a correct record.

6 **GMCA REFUGEE SUPPORT PROJECT - SANCTUARY SEEKERS IN OLDHAM**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Education, skills and Early Years that requested the formal acceptance of a grant award of £276,888 from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on behalf of Oldham Council, for the purpose of delivering the Refugee Support Project via the Get Oldham Working programme, over a two-year period commencing in May 2025.

The report advised that Oldham Council had secured £276,888 from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to deliver a two-year Refugee Support Project starting in May 2025. Developed in partnership with Action Together, the programme would enhance support for refugees and people seeking asylum through English language education, digital inclusion, volunteering, and employment support.

The projects were to be delivered in collaboration with the local Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector, aiming to support 250 individuals and improve integration and employment outcomes. A detailed mobilisation plan was in place, and all stakeholders — including elected members, council services, and delivery partners — had been consulted and were fully supportive.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1: To accept the Grant and Proceed with Project Delivery Under this option, Oldham Council would formally accept the £276,888 grant funding from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and proceed with the implementation of the Refugee Support Project as outlined in the approved proposal. Delivery would be undertaken in partnership with Action Together and the local Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector. This approach would enable the Council to address identified local needs by enhancing support for refugees and individuals seeking asylum through an integrated model focused on language skills, digital inclusion, volunteering, and employment support. Accepting the funding would contribute to the borough's wider ambitions for community cohesion, inclusion, and socio-economic resilience. It would also demonstrate a continued commitment to collaborative working with local partners and the GMCA.

Option 2: to decline the Grant and Withdraw from Project Delivery. The Council could choose not to accept the grant funding and, as a result, would not proceed with the delivery of the Refugee Support Project.

The preferred Option was Option 1.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agrees to accept the £276,888 grant funding from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and to proceed with delivery, enabling Oldham to meet identified local needs and strengthen community cohesion.

7

GET BRITAIN WORKING HEALTH AND WEALTH TRAILBLAZER

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years which presented a request that funding, provided by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), to participate in and deliver the Get Britain Working Health and Wealth Trailblazer be accepted and the associated grant funding agreement be agreed. Agreement was sought from the Cabinet to utilise the funds in the various schemes that were being proposed in the submitted report.

The GMCA had confirmed that Oldham will receive 6.6% of the £10 million allocated to GM for the Trailblazer. Following management and evaluation costs the actual amount to be allocated from GMCA to Oldham Council was £566,475.

The trailblazer had set criteria for working with residents who are economically inactive and those further away from the labour market. The aim was to prioritise residents who were economically inactive due to a long-term health condition or learning difficulties and disabilities and those who are looking after the home. These represent two of the most significant groups within our population who are economically inactive, and for whom there is not currently a comprehensive employment support offer.

Therefore, as part of this pilot, the Council will not be focusing on other groups of residents that are “economically inactive” as per the definition, for example, students or those residents who are retired.

The trailblazer should provide the Council with an opportunity to build on existing assets, knowledge, relationships with the VCFSE, and experience to test approaches to supporting these residents to progress towards employment.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – To accept the funding and proposed projects up to 31st March 2026 and deliver the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer for Oldham residents. This option secures additional support for economically inactive residents and community organisations in Oldham that would not normally be available.

Option 2 - To decline the funding and proposed projects up to 31st March 2026. This option effectively removes the provision, resource and support for residents who are economically inactive, provides capacity to the VCSF sector and supports the Oldham Partnership to embed LiveWell.

The preferred Option was Option 1.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet accepts the funding from GMCA, in the sum of £566,475, along with acceptance of the associated grant agreement.
2. That the Cabinet agrees to use funds as set out in the submitted report report.

8

UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND - NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING - FUNDING EXTENSION

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years that sought an extension to the funding provided by GMCA (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) as part of the UKSPF skills funding allocation for NEET support be accepted and that any variations to the original contract agreement be agreed.

In August 2023, a Cabinet report (attached at Appendix 1) was considered and Members agreed to accept funding from the UKSPF Skills funding via GMCA to support NEET young people to re-engage and return to the EET (Education, Employment and Training) pathway. This funding was a total of £720,000.

The report outlined the intention for the funding to be attached to the existing TIIAG (Targeted Independent Information, Advice and Guidance) contract as this would provide the most effective use of the additional resource. This became the “Empower Oldham” project currently being delivered by Positive Steps. This grant agreement, contract and funding was made available until 31st March 2025.

The Cabinet was advised that in December 2023, Oldham Council had applied to receive some additional funding from the UKSPF fund. This request originated from GMCA and was

known as “Growth Fund”. Oldham was awarded an additional £19,000 (which increased our monitoring outputs by 10 young people reached). The agreed use of this additional funding was to support the rental costs for the new provision Oldham College are developing at Positive Steps. In July 2024, Oldham Council was notified of GMCA’s intention to extend UKSPF funding and outcomes to September 2025. The extension will provide an additional £240K to cover the costs of the programme. A Cabinet report (attached at Appendix 2 to the submitted report) was taken and agreed to accept the extension.

The GMCA had recently confirmed their intention to continue to provide NEET support funding and have confirmed funding up to 31st March 2026. Therefore the total amount of the additional funding requested, from the Cabinet, to be accepted, was £240,000.00.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 - To accept the extension to the funding up to 31st March 2026 and continue to deliver Empower Oldham for our NEET young people. This option secured additional support for young people in Oldham that would not normally be available.

Option 2 – To decline the extension to funding up to 31st March 2026. This option would effectively remove provision, resource and support for young people who were an identified vulnerable group.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet agrees to accept the additional funding, of £240,000.00, to deliver the extension to the scheme, known locally as “Empower Oldham” provided for the Brough of Oldham’ ‘NEET’ young people - this option provides additional support to our young people in Oldham, that would not normally be available.

9

HIGH NEEDS PROVISION IN MAINSTREAM SETTINGS

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years that sought approval for three capital projects that would offer additional places and enhance provision for pupils with additional needs that are based in mainstream settings. The report also sought approval for the allocation of funding from Basic Need Grant towards the schemes.

The Cabinet was advised that the report related to three projects that would enhance existing provision and provide additional provision for pupils with additional needs. These proposals were now developed sufficiently for costs and proposals to be placed before the Cabinet for a final decision. The three projects would create a total of 55 places in mainstream primary and secondary schools for children with additional needs. The three projects were proposed to be implemented at Woodlands Primary School, North Chadderton Secondary School and at Weneth Primary School.

Currently the Local Authority has around £4.7million of Basic Need funding and £8.3million of High Needs Capital Allocation Funding. It was proposed that where projects will generate additional places that these projects be funded from the Basic Need Grant.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – To approve the above capital investment for the projects listed above to deliver the ambitions of the Send and Inclusion Strategy 2023 - 2027.

Option 2 – To not approve the projects and therefore risk not fulfilling the above strategy.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

That Cabinet grants approval for the three projects, that were detailed in the Director of Education, Early Years and Skills' report, to be funded from the Basic Need Grant.

10

FAMILIES FIRST PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director for Children and Young People which sought to support the Council to deliver the Children's Social Care reforms outlined in the Children's Wellbeing and School Bill and Families First Partnership Programme guide March 2025, Oldham Council had received a £2.2m Prevention Grant from the Department for Education (DfE).

The Cabinet were informed that the conditions of the grant, outlined expectations that up to 30% of the grant should be utilised for transformation resources, which would support the Local Authority to deliver significant reforms, as well as to support the delivery of partnership services under a new operating model. The submitted report also outlined how the new policy change and programme were to be delivered in Oldham and sought approval of the resources required to ensure a smooth implementation in line with the national guidance.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – To not recruit and/or procure additional programme resource, deliver the programme in Oldham within existing transformation and service capacity. This was not the recommended option as the required pace and scale of change will be hindered if existing staff were to deliver the programme whilst continuing with business-as-usual activity and competing priorities.

Option 2 – To approve the governance arrangements and the recruitment and/or procurement of the additional resources detailed in this report, as required to deliver the programme at pace and in line with national guidance.

Option 2 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the implementation of the Families First Partnership Programme across the Borough of Oldham, be noted.

2. That the Cabinet approves the governance arrangements, detailed in the submitted report, to oversee the co-design and implementation of the Families First Partnership Programme in Oldham.
3. That the Cabinet approves the use of part of the Prevention Grant to recruit the roles as identified in the report to drive design and delivery.
4. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children and Young People and/or their nominee, to procure a Systems Transformation Lead in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.
5. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority for future decisions regarding the delivery of the programme, resources and use of the Prevention Grant to the Executive Director Children and Young People, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder and the Director of Finance.
6. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Borough Solicitor and/or their nominees to carry out all necessary legal formalities.

11

HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND WEIGHT MANAGEMENT SERVICE- CONTRACT EXTENSION

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Public Health that was seeking to ensure that Oldham residents continued to have access to high quality health improvement services, including smoking cessation support and specialist weight management services. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to extend the contract with the current provider, ABL Health Ltd, for another two years.

The Cabinet were advised that Local authorities had responsibility for improving the health and wellbeing of their local population and to reduce health inequalities across, including the provision of public health advice on smoking and tobacco, obesity and physical activity. Oldham's adult population is less physically active, smokes more, and carries more excess weight than the England average, which contributes to higher numbers of people with recorded diabetes, and deaths from smoking-related diseases, cardiovascular disease and cancer.

The Council's Public Health service, in collaboration with NHS ICB, commission a Health Improvement and Weight Management Service (HIWM Service). The service is currently delivered by ABL Health Ltd, under the service name of 'Your Health Oldham'. Your Health Oldham provide our specialist health improvement service through delivery of a range of interventions, including healthy weight, low level mental health and smoking cessation offers.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1- to extend the contract with ABL Health Ltd for another two years. This service has been performing well in the context of a high volume of referrals. Targeting those with greatest need, they achieve positive changes which contribute towards a healthy weight and smoking cessation. This contributes towards

the prevention of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and other preventable health conditions thus improving quality and longevity of life for the residents of Oldham and diverting pressure from NHS resources and addressing health inequalities.

Option 2- to not extend the contract with ABL Health Ltd and cease the health improvement and weight management service. The service is reaching capacity for certain elements due to high demand, such as adult weight management. The service received 1475 referrals in the last quarter. Out of those, 882 referrals were for weight management. Therefore, ceasing this contract could result in high numbers of lost opportunities for people to receive support and change health behaviours. It could also result in increased demand on the rest of the system, in particular the NHS, as people try to access support to stop smoking, lose weight and/or move more from elsewhere. If people are not able to seek effective, evidence-based support, there is a potential that there will be greater demand on health and social care to support people living with preventable smoking or obesity related health conditions. For the NHS and wider public services, the lifetime value of a person stopping smoking, maintaining a healthy weight, and being physically active, is considerable.

Option 3- to commence a procurement process. As an integrated service with specialist weight management services, this service delivers good value for money compared with other areas and delivers comparable or better outcomes than other providers. Not extending the contract and instead going out to the market is unlikely to provide better value for money. The preferred Option was Option 1.

Resolved:

That the contract with ABL Health Ltd, be extended for a further two years.

12

CREATING A BETTER PLACE - UPDATE

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Director – Creating a Better Place which informed members that the Creating a Better Place (CaBP) programme continued to be on track delivering significant transformational projects across the borough, to build much needed new homes, to create jobs and support businesses to grow, and to deliver against our Green New Deal commitments ensuring Oldham is a great place to live, work and visit with lots of family friendly and accessible places to go.

In alignment with previous recommendations from the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, the submitted report provided the Cabinet with a formal update on the strategic progress of the CaBP regeneration and redevelopment programme, including external funding opportunities secured, benefits realised for specific projects and the associated social value generated to Create a Better Place.

The submitted report was seeking approval on the recommendations for various projects following a review of the

Council's regeneration and redevelopment capital programme, including outcome delivery, social value capture, positive opportunities and impacts for Oldham's residents and local businesses, and where applicable note the challenges and mitigations in place linked to reprofiling of capital resource to allow the continued delivery and completion of flagship projects.



The Council and partners continue to make significant progress on the delivery of the CaBP programme which will ultimately reshape Oldham Town Centre but also reaches out across the borough. The submitted report sought to provide a comprehensive update on delivery achieved, it acknowledges the successes to date and sets out key milestones in respect of the flagship projects across the programme either in development or currently in delivery.

Options/alternatives:

Option 1 – to approve the report.

Option 2 – to reject the recommendations in the report.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet will consider the confidential recommendations, detailed in the report, at agenda item 22.

13

LOCAL GROWTH AND PLACE FLEXIBLE GRANT ACCEPTANCE

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Director – Creating a Better Place which asked members to approve and accept the £2,175,336.90 Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant Programme (LGPFG) grant allocation, previously known as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), following confirmation of award from the Integrated Settlement Fund and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) in April 2025.

The Cabinet were advised that the Borough of Oldham had been allocated a £2.175m grant from LGPFG. The Council had focused its proposals on accessible public realm; rehabilitation of green space including infrastructure for community and visitor use; town centre infrastructure and cultural events programme and supporting local business growth to improve the local shopping environment.

The proposed programme was drawn from the Creating a Better Place strategy and action plan and would support a range of projects that will meet the core 3 interventions, namely:

1. E1 – Accessible Oldham –
 - a. Jubilee Park Phase 1 – increase accessibility into and around the town centre park.
 - b. Town Centre Park Staff Members – facilitate the expansion of the town centre green space that has been created in the Town Centre
2. E6 – Town Centre Infrastructure and Cultural Events Programme

- a. Co-design cultural events to support Oldham's Place Marketing approach, a core element of the Cultural Strategy and will support the emerging Creative Improvement District and Night-Time Economy strategy and action plan. Creating a safe, welcoming and vibrant town centre with wayfinding and town centre wardens/ambassadors.
3. E22 – Town Centre Shop Front Business Grants and Support
 - a. Providing financial assistance to owners and tenants who wish to enhance their shopfronts. Supporting local business growth, improves the local shopping environment and raises the town's appeal.

Option 1: To do nothing. Failure to accept the grant allocation from the LGPFG would reflect negatively on the perception of the town and its ambitions. It would have significant implications for delivery of the project budgets and, therefore, the achievement of regeneration ambitions and objectives.

Option 2: Formally accept the LGPFG award allocation for £2.175m and enter into the Grant Funding Agreement as set out in this report.

The preferred Option was Option 2.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet will consider the confidential recommendations, detailed in the report, at agenda item 23.

14

OLDHAM COUNCIL (NON-LFFN) SITES

The Cabinet considered a report of the Interim Director of IT and Digital which followed-on from the Oldham Council Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) Cabinet report (dated 22nd February 2022), which approved capital funding to deliver a LFFN Fibre network into 71 Oldham Council assets/buildings. The submitted report to this meeting provided costs for the 45 Non-LFFN (dubbed Oldham One) Council buildings deemed out of scope for the Greater Manchester One LFFN project but will benefit from a more cost-effective network solution via the Greater Manchester One contract.

Options/alternatives considered:

The options and alternatives, that the Cabinet considered, were detailed in the confidential report, relating to this matter, at agenda item 24.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet will consider the confidential recommendations, detailed in the report, at agenda item 24.

15

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND (LAHF) - ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Director of Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery which advised that the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government

(MHCLG) had launched a third round of the Local Authority Housing fund (LAHF) to run over the financial years of 2024-25 and 2025-26.



In October 2024, Oldham Council had accepted a funding allocation of £1,506,000 to deliver 16 homes.

In January 2025, an Expression of Interest process was launched by MHCLG for additional funding and Oldham Council had secured a further £372,000 to provide four additional homes.

The Council had only received interest from Cromwood Housing to deliver the additional homes, as detailed in the submitted report. To deliver the homes, Cromwood required an additional £320,574 and without this additional funding the project would not be deliverable.

A revenue cost from the Council of £40k per annum would achieve a revenue saving of £61k per annum by virtue of a one-off capital investment therefore delivering an annual revenue saving of £21k.

The Cabinet was informed that the report had been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, held on 12th June 2025, where the recommendations were supported and endorsed.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – Award grant monies to Cromwood Housing to enable Cromwood to deliver the housing project. If the Council passported the £372,000 grant monies from MHCLG and it provided Cromwood with additional grant funding of £320,574 from its own budget monies, Cromwood would identify, purchase, refurb, manage and maintain the homes. The homes would be available for letting by December 2025 at the latest. Cromwood have a strong track record of delivery from the previous LAHF Programmes.

Option 2 – Council to Self-Deliver. If the Council were to retain the MHCLG Grant and self-deliver the programme, this option would require the Council to find an additional £0.5M. The Council would be responsible for finding the home, purchasing, completing refurbishment works and all on-going management and maintenance. The Council would own the properties and retain rental income. Capacity and skills for managing the works outlined above would also need to be identified.

Option 3 – To decline the grant. The Council could decline to accept the MHCLG grant and not take part in the scheme. Any grant received through signing the MoU would be returned to MHCLG.

Option 1 was the preferred option.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet will consider the confidential recommendations, detailed in the report, at agenda item 25.

PLANNING APPLICATION VALIDATION CHECKLIST



The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive, which asked the Cabinet to consider the Draft Validation Checklist for planning applications submitted to the Council and to approve it for public consultation.

The Cabinet was advised that officers, having reviewed the existing Validation Checklist, given its age (it was last updated in 2011) and the recent changes in legislation, national policy and local planning policy, there was a need to update the Checklist. The proposed revised Validation Checklist is attached at Appendix 1, to the submitted report.

The submitted report was therefore seeking approval to publicly consult on the revised Validation Checklist. The consultation would be an open consultation on the council's consultation platform, with any member of the public or interested party able to comment. A specific invitation to comment via the consultation will be sent out to planning agents and consultants who regularly use our Planning Service, given they are most affected by the Validation Checklist.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 - To approve the public consultation on the revised Validation Checklist. There were no disadvantages to this preferred option, as it was considered positive to review the Validation Checklist regularly and consult on the revisions. Conversely, the advantages were considered significant, to facilitate the efficient validation of planning applications, and ensure that appropriate information is submitted with an application so that their determination is not delayed.

Option 2 – To do Nothing, and continue to use the March 2011 Validation Checklist. This option brought no benefits and would continue to create delays in the processing of applications, both at validation stage and in determining planning applications caused by the fact that the authority does not receive the necessary information with an application when it is first submitted.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Draft Validation Checklist be approved for public consultation.
2. That authority to agree amendments to the Validation Checklist to take onboard comments from the public consultation and to then adopt the Validation Checklist be delegated to the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods.

HOUSING DELIVERY INTERIM PLANNING POSITION

The Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive that sought approval for the publication of the Housing Delivery Interim Planning Position

Paper on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of existing planning policies in Oldham's Local Plan.



Cabinet was advised that the Interim Planning Position Paper supported the implementation of policies within Oldham's Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document, adopted November 2011. The paper supersedes the previous 'Affordable Housing Interim Planning Position Paper' published by the council in March 2022.

The submitted report sets out the council's updated position in relation to:

- a. Housing mix – size, type and tenure – including housing mix for affordable housing;
- b. Affordable housing requirements, including affordable housing thresholds and exceptions (including the application of Vacant Building Credit).
- c. Housing in the Green Belt including the application of the affordable housing 'Golden Rule'.

The paper was intended to be used as guidance for developers in preparing development proposals and as a material consideration when assessing planning applications and development proposals for residential development.

The report was intended to be read alongside PfE and the Local Plan as a whole, but in particular - PfE policy JP-H2 'Affordability of New Housing', JP-H3 'Type, Size and Design of New Housing' and also policy 3 'Address of Choice', policy 10 'Affordable Housing' and policy 11 'Housing' of Oldham's Local Plan.

The report was therefore informed by the council's Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA) (2024). The LHNA was a key evidence base document and sets out information on local housing needs of different groups (including affordable housing, provision for older people and disabled people), housing mix – including size, tenure and type, and sets out recommendations and policy guidance.

The council's approach to updated national guidance and local evidence will be considered further and inform policy preparation as part of the Local Plan Review.

The Cabinet was informed that the report had been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, held on 12th June 2025, where the recommendations were supported and endorsed.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 - To approve the Housing Delivery Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of existing planning policies in Oldham's Local Plan.

Option 2 – To not approve the Housing Delivery Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website. Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board endorsement and support for the recommendations, detailed in the submitted report, on this item, from their meeting held on 12th June 2025.
2. That the Cabinet notes that this item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the report has already been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board.
3. That the Cabinet approves the Housing Delivery Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of existing planning policies in Oldham's Local Plan.

18

HOUSING DELIVERY TEST ACTION PLAN 2025

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive that was seeking approval for the publication of Oldham Council's Housing Delivery Test Action Plan (2025 update)

The Cabinet was advised that this report provided an update on the Housing Delivery Test (HDT) position in respect of Oldham. It also sets out an updated position to the previous Housing Delivery Test Action Plan published in July 2024.

The HDT was introduced by the Government as a monitoring tool to demonstrate whether local areas are building enough homes to meet their housing need. The HDT measures net additional dwellings provided over the past three years against the homes required over the same period. The thresholds for consequences for under-delivery remain as per the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The latest HDT results (and which will be reported in the HDT Action Plan 2025) were published 19 December 2024.

Oldham Council had delivered 91% of its housing need over the past three years (2021/22 to 2022/23). This was the same as the 2021 and 2022 measurement result (91%) and an improvement from the 2020 result of 80%.

The pass rate for the HDT was now 95%. There were consequences of not achieving 95% in the HDT that require some form of action, as set out in the NPPF.

As Oldham had delivered 91% of the housing required, we are required to prepare an Action Plan to address housing delivery. Oldham's previous Action Plan was published in July 2024, as such it is proposed to update the Action Plan as required. Action Plans should be published within six months from the measurement publication date.

This is Oldham Council's fifth Action Plan, drawn up in response to the Housing Delivery Test: 2023 Measurement, published December 2024.



The Cabinet was informed that the report had been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, held on 12th June 2025, where the recommendations were supported and endorsed.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – To approve the Housing Delivery Action Plan 2025 for publication in line with the requirements of the Housing Delivery Test: 2023 Measurement results (published December 2024).

Option 2 – To not approve the Housing Delivery Test Action Plan 2025 for publication. This would not comply with the requirements of the Housing Delivery Test Rule Book and the Housing Delivery Test: 2023 Measurement results (published December 2024).

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board endorsement and support for the recommendations, detailed in the submitted report, on this item, from their meeting held on 12th June 2025.
2. To note that this item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the report has already been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board.
3. To approve the Housing Delivery Action Plan 2025 (Part One and Part Two) for publication in line with the requirements of the Housing Delivery Test: 2023 Measurement results.

19

GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive that sought approval that the Council would be content for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to be published, on the Council's website and to authorise the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to confirm the same in writing to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the Mayor of Greater Manchester (GM), as the responsible body for the GM Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

The Environment Act 2021 introduced the requirement for Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) to cover the whole of England, to set out where and how efforts should be focused locally to contribute to halting and reversing the decline in biodiversity.

The GM LNRS represented an opportunity to set out a long-term vision for a greener city region, where nature is returning, and more people have better access to greenspace.

The strategy covered the following:

- a. A shared vision for nature recovery in Greater Manchester
- b. Shared priorities and targets for nature recovery
- c. Actions we can all work towards to help deliver them
- d. Maps of a Greater Manchester Nature Network made up of:
- e. Core local nature sites - existing valuable areas for nature
- f. Nature Recovery Opportunity Areas - opportunity areas where action should be focused across the city-region.

Officers at Oldham Council had inputted into the LNRS through various workshops and meetings. The LNRS was also publicly consulted on between November 15th 2024 and January 31st 2025.

The Cabinet was informed that the report had been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, held on 12th June 2025, where the recommendations were supported and endorsed.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 - Oldham Council to agree that they are content for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) to be published; and authorise the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to confirm the same in writing to the GMCA and the Mayor as the responsible body for the GM LNRS. This would allow support for the GM LNRS to be expressed, allowing the LNRS to be published once all supporting authorities have confirmed their support. There are no disadvantages to this option.

Option 2 - Oldham Council to disagree that they are content for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) to be published; and to give a publication advisory notice to the responsible authority outlining that they disagree with the publication of the strategy based on one the grounds under article 15 of the LNRS regulations within 28 days of the receipt of the final LNRS. This would allow for any valid objections to be raised and considered but would delay a nature recovery network being published.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board endorsement and support for the recommendations, detailed in the submitted report, on this item, from their meeting held on 12th June 2025.
2. That Cabinet notes that this item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the report has already been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board.
3. That the Cabinet approves the content for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy to be published.
4. That the Cabinet authorises the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to confirm the same in writing to the GMCA and the Mayor as the

OLDHAM ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE (EVCI) STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Place/ Deputy Chief Executive that sought adoption and publication the Oldham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy and Action Plan.

The Oldham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy and Action Plan sets out the future direction for EVCI in Oldham. It would ensure that the Council's plans will align with relevant national, regional and local policies, as well as Oldham's goals to decarbonise the borough by 2030.

The strategy outlined how Oldham Council was committed to making EVCI more accessible, appropriate and available for our residents - a significant step in overcoming the barriers to EV ownership and helping to make the borough a more attractive place to live and work.

The Action Plan outlined a phased approach over the next three years of smaller work packages that lay the foundations for larger, more ambitious schemes. Each action works towards the overall vision of the strategy and will utilise grant funding where available, whilst acknowledging the role commercial charge-point operators will also play.

The Oldham EVCI Strategy and Action Plan was intended to support the borough's ambitions for growing the EVCI network across the borough, with key actions set out over the next three years to support this.

The Cabinet was informed that the report had been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, held on 12th June 2025, where the recommendations were supported and endorsed.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 - To adopt and publish the Oldham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy and Action Plan for the borough. To use the strategy and action plan to guide us towards our vision of making EVCI more accessible, appropriate and available for our residents. To use currently available and future grant funding opportunities to improve the EVCI offer across Oldham.

Option 2 – To not adopt and publish the Oldham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy and Action Plan for the borough. To not use the strategy and action plan to guide us towards our vision of making EVCI more accessible, appropriate and available for our residents. To not use currently available and future grant funding opportunities to improve the EVCI offer across Oldham.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board endorsement and support for the recommendations, detailed in the submitted report, on this item, from their meeting held on 12th June 2025.
2. Cabinet notes that this item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the report has already been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board.
3. That the Cabinet authorises the adoption and publication of the Oldham Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) Strategy and Action Plan for the borough.
4. That the Cabinet agrees to use the strategy and action plan to guide us towards our vision of making EVCI more accessible, appropriate and available for our residents.
5. That the Cabinet agrees to utilise currently available and future grant funding opportunities to improve the EVCI offer across the Borough of Oldham.

21

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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 four items of business, on the grounds that they contain 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.

22

CREATING A BETTER PLACE - UPDATE

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to agenda item 12: 'Creating a Better Place – Update'.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes and approves the progress being made in relation to the Creating a Better Place (CaBP) Programme that supports revenue savings generated, progress towards the borough's carbon reduction targets, creation of new jobs, apprentice opportunities, new homes for Oldham's residents and increased social value.
2. That the Cabinet notes and approves the social value gained for Oldham's residents and communities through the design, development and delivery of the projects within the CaBP programme.
3. That the Cabinet notes and approves the technical, legal and commercial recommendations for certain projects are contained within this report., including the relevant financial, contractual or legal recommendations for each of the projects within the Council's CaBP capital programme as set out in section 4 of the submitted, confidential, report.
4. That the Cabinet notes and approves the recommendations following a further review of the CaBP capital programme assessing the risks, impacts of change, deliverability, financial impact and contractual

challenges to identify any potential opportunities to ensure alignment of the projects with the political priorities of the Council.

5. That the Cabinet approves the delegation of approval to the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders and the Directors of Growth, Finance and Legal for any further contractual, technical or financial decisions for the delivery of the CaBP projects referenced (all of which follow previous Cabinet approvals on the holistic detail and parameters for project delivery, contractual obligations and financial management) in full consultation with the relevant portfolio holder(s).
6. That the Cabinet approves the delegation of authority to the Interim Borough Solicitor, or his nominees, 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.

23

LOCAL GROWTH AND PLACE FLEXIBLE GRANT ACCEPTANCE

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to agenda item 13: 'Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant Acceptance'.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet approves the acceptance of the £2,175,336.90 LGPFG grant against the three interventions approved for funding by GMCA broken down as follows:
 - a. E1 – Accessible Oldham – allocation £1,131,786.90.
 - b. Jubilee Park Phase 1 – increase accessibility into and around the town centre park.
 - c. Town Centre Park Staff Members – facilitate the expansion of the town centre green space that has been created in the Town Centre.
 - d. E6 – Town Centre Infrastructure and Cultural Events Programme – allocation £543,550.
 - e. Co-design cultural events to support Oldham's Place Marketing approach, a core element of the Cultural Strategy and will support the emerging Creative Improvement District and Night-Time Economy strategy and action plan. Creating a safe, welcoming and vibrant town centre with wayfinding and town centre wardens / ambassadors.
 - f. E22 – Town Centre Shop Front Business Grants and Support – allocation £500,000.
 - g. Providing financial assistance to owners and tenants who wish to enhance their shopfronts. Supporting local business growth, improves the local shopping environment, and raises the town's appeal.
2. That the Cabinet notes that as accountable body for LGPFG, GMCA has issued a Funding Agreement in respect of the grant, which has been reviewed by the Council's legal services.

3. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive to agree the terms of the Funding Agreement issued by GMCA in respect of the grant award in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Interim Borough Solicitor and to approve appointments of professional teams and contract award in respect of the agreed budgets.
4. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Interim Borough Solicitor, or his nominated representative, to finalise and enter into the Funding Agreement issued by GMCA in respect of the grant award subject to the completion of any necessary due diligence on subsidy control compliance and authority to agree and complete any project change requests under the Funding Agreement.
5. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Interim Borough Solicitor, or his nominated representative, to formalise any necessary legal requirements including signing and/or sealing any documentation referred to and/or required to give effect to the recommendations and/or delegations in this report.
6. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Director of Growth, or their nominated representative, to agree approval of spend, works or individual grants for the Accessible Oldham projects, Town Centre Infrastructure and Cultural Events Programme projects and Town Centre Shop Front Business Grants and Support project.
7. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Director of Growth, or their nominated representative, to agree monitoring and evaluation of defined outputs and negotiations thereupon as required over the grant delivery period of 2025–2026.
8. That the Cabinet notes and endorses that the internal governance and administration for the LGPFG grant will be performed via the Creating a Better Place Programme Board (CAPB) structures.

24

OLDHAM COUNCIL (NON-LFFN) SITES

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to agenda item 14: 'Oldham Council (Non-LFFN) Sites'.

Resolved:

That the cabinet agrees that that Oldham Council shall enter into a collaboration agreement with Greater Manchester Combined Authority for the network provision to the non-LFFN (Oldham One) council sites via a three-year (with options for year 4 and 5) contract.

25

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND (LAHF) - ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to agenda item 15: 'Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) - Acceptance of Additional Funding'.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board endorsement and support for the recommendations, detailed in the submitted report, on this item, from their meeting held on 12th June 2025.
2. That Cabinet notes that this item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the report has already been considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board.
3. That the Cabinet approves acceptance of the additional £372,000 grant from MHCLG.
4. That the Cabinet approves a capital grant of £320,574 to be awarded by the Council to Cromwood Housing Limited from the Flexible Housing Fund.
5. That the Cabinet agrees to delegates authority to the Director of Growth, or their nominee, to agree and enter into a grant agreement with Cromwood Housing Limited under which:
 - a. Up to £692,574 (£372,000 MHCLG grant and £320,574 Council grant) would be payable to Cromwood in grant monies to bridge the funding gap for Cromwood's design and delivery of its own housing scheme in the Oldham Borough.
 - b. Cromwood's housing scheme will deliver 3 homes for temporary accommodation and 1 home under the re-settlement co-hort.
 - c. Cromwood's housing scheme will align with the LAHF priorities.
 - d. Fit for purpose grant terms and conditions are imposed.
6. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Interim Borough Solicitor, 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 the submitted report.
7. That the Cabinet agrees to delegate authority to the Director of Growth, or their nominee, to approve the appointment of external legal advisors, as required, to protect the Council's interests and give effect to the recommendations in the submitted report.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.40pm



Report to Cabinet

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25 Outturn Report

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

Officer Contact: Lee Walsh, Assistant Director of Finance

Report Author: Vickie Lambert, Finance Manager

21 July 2025

Reason for Decision

The report provides Cabinet with an overview of the Council's revenue budget position for 2024/25, which reports an overspend of £10.155m. It also highlights the main movements from the previous forecast for the year, which was reported to Cabinet on 24 March 2025.

Executive Summary

Revenue Position

The revenue overspend position for the financial year 2024/25 is £10.155m which is an improvement of £4.442m from the position previously reported to Cabinet.

This financial monitoring report follows on from the previously reported positions and details the year end position. This outturn position reflects the significant financial pressures being faced by the Council particularly for social care services and homelessness.

An update on the 2024/25 outturn position is detailed within Annex 1.

Information on the year end position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is also included within the report.

Capital Position

The report outlines the year end capital spending position for 2024/25 for approved schemes. The revised capital programme budget for 2024/25 was £87.460m with actual expenditure to 31 March 2025 at £81.791m.

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the 2024/25 outturn position as £10.155m overspend for the year.
2. Approves the use of Reserves to finance the overspend position.
3. Notes the outturn position for the Dedicated Schools Grant and the forecast for 2025/26.
4. Notes the 2024/25 outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account.
5. Notes the capital spending position for 2024/25 as at 31 March 2025.

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25 – Outturn Report**1 Background**

- 1.1 The Authority's 2024/25 revenue budget was approved by Council on 28 February 2024 at a sum of £299.818m to be met by government grants, Council Tax, Business Rates, and the use of General Earmarked Reserves. This report sets out the outturn financial position of the Council.
- 1.2 The outturn position reflects the impact of management actions put in place to mitigate in-year pressures, new developments and changes in the profile of planned expenditure and the additional grants that have been received from the Government since the last reported forecast to Cabinet on 24 March 2025.
- 1.3 This report provides an overview of the Council's revenue budget position for 2024/25, which reports an overspend of £10.155m. It summarises the main variances, and changes since the last report and the financing of the overspend.

2 Financial Position 2024/25

- 2.1 The overspend for 2024/25 is £10.155m, reflecting an improvement of £4.442m from the last reported position of £14.597m. This is in the context of significant financial stresses being faced across the Local Government sector. The Council's position reflects the national pressures in the Health and Social Care sector, Temporary Accommodation and trends being experienced across most Social Care providing Local Authorities.
- 2.2 As previously detailed within all the budget monitoring reports presented to Cabinet, the main areas of concern identified have produced an overspend position for the 2024/25 financial year, namely:
- Adult Social Care;
 - Children's Services; and
 - Strategic Housing, in particular Temporary Accommodation.
- 2.3 The net adverse variance has been a concern and as a result, management mitigations were actioned alongside the receipt of one-off resources which resulted in the variance being reduced. However, this is a significant overspend and follows on from the overspend position of £16.114m for the 2023/24 financial year.
- 2.4 To balance the budget and to prevent an impact on the Council's General Fund, an unplanned contribution from general Reserves of £10.155m is required.
- 2.5 As at 31 March 2025, the Dedicated Schools Grant closed with an in-year deficit of £3.900m, which when added to the surplus of £3.702m brought forward from 2023/24 and with a positive adjustment of £1.380m for Growth underspend committed in the following year produces a cumulative (provisional) surplus of £1.182m. Further detail can be found within Annex 1.
- 2.6 The HRA Reserves has increased by of £3.341m by the end of 2024/25. The opening balance of £21.106m has increased to £24.447m. The level of reserves is required to

meet future commitments in the HRA, and in particular to ensure that the PFI schemes can be funded as the corresponding Government credits do not increase to take account of inflationary pressures.

- 2.7 The original capital programme for 2024/25 totalled £99.683m. The revised capital programme budget at the end of the financial year, considering any approved carry forwards, approved new funding, new schemes and variations was £87.460m. Actual expenditure incurred was £81.791m, a variance of £5.669m against the revised budget. Further details of expenditure and schemes within the capital programme can be found in Annex 2.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 The options that Cabinet might consider in relation to the contents of this report are;
- a) to agree the revenue and capital positions presented in the report and agree the use of Reserves to balance the revenue budget.
 - b) to note the outturn position for the Dedicated Schools Grant and the Housing Revenue Account.
 - c) to propose an alternative to balance the revenue budget for 2024/25.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 The preferred options are (a) and (b) detailed at 3.1.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 Consultation with the services within the Council and the Interim Executive Director of Resources (S151).

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 The full financial implications are detailed in the report.

7 Legal Services Comments

- 7.1 There are no legal issues at this time.

8 Co-operative Agenda

- 8.1 Improving the quality and timeliness of the financial information available to citizens of Oldham supports the co-operative ethos of the Council.
- 8.2 The revenue budget and capital strategy/ programme have been prepared so that they embrace the Council's co-operative agenda with resources being directed towards projects that enhance the aims, objectives and co-operative ethos of the Council. Ongoing budget monitoring is key to ensuring this objective is met.

9 Human Resources Comments

- 9.1 There are no Human Resource implications.

10 Risk Assessments

- 10.1 The risk is that the continued use of Reserves to support the revenue position is not sustainable and will continue to impact on the council's financial sustainability.

11 IT Implications

- 11.1 There are no IT implications.

12 Property Implications

- 12.1 There are no Property implications.

13 Procurement Implications

- 13.1 There are no Procurement implications.

14 Environmental and Health & Safety Implications

- 14.1 There are no Environmental and Health and Safety implications.

15 Equality, Community Cohesion and Crime Implications

- 15.1 There are no Equality, Community Cohesion and Crime implications.

16 Implications for Children and Young People

- 16.1 There are no direct implications for Children and Young People

17 Equality Impact Assessment Completed

- 17.1 An equality impact assessment has been included at Annex 3.

18 Key Decision

- 18.1 Yes

19 Key Decision Reference

- 19.1 FCR-05-25

20 Background Papers

- 20.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

File Ref: Revenue Background Papers are contained in Annex 1 including Appendix 1
Officer Name: Lee Walsh / Vickie Lambert
Contact: lee.walsh@oldham.gov.uk

File Ref: Capital Background Papers are contained in Annex 2
Officer Name: James Postle
Contact No: james.postle@oldham.gov.uk

21 Appendices

Annex 1 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 – Outturn Report

Appendix 1 Directorate Summary Financial Position

Annex 2 Capital Investment Programme Report 2024/25 Outturn Monitoring Report

Appendix A - Summary - Month 12 - Community Health and Adult Social Care
Appendix B - Summary - Month 12 - Children's Services
Appendix C - Summary - Month 12 - Communities
Appendix D - Summary - Month 12 - Heritage Libraries and Arts
Appendix E - Summary - Month 12 - Place and Economic Growth
Appendix F - Summary - Month 12 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)
Appendix G - Summary - Month 12 - Corporate/Information Technology
Appendix H - Summary - Month 12 - Capital Treasury & Technical Accounting
Appendix I - Summary - Month 12 - Funding for Emerging Priorities

Annex 3 Equality Impact Assessment- Financial Monitoring 24-25 (Outturn)

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2024/25

Outturn Report

1 Background

- 1.1 The Authority's 2024/25 revenue budget was approved by Council on 28 February 2024 at a sum of £299.818m to be met by government grants, Council Tax, Business Rates, and the use of General Earmarked Reserves. This report sets out the revenue outturn position for the 2024/25 financial year.

2 Overview

- 2.1 The Council's final revenue position for 2024/25 is an overspend of £10.155m which is an improvement of £4.442m from the position previously reported in March 2025.

- 2.2 In summary, the overspend relates to the following areas:

- £10.703m for Children's Services. This position is mainly due to the number and cost of expensive external residential placements, the cost of agency staff alongside additional costs for Home to School Transport.
- £10.832m for Adults Social Care due to the growth in need for support particularly in services supporting Mental Health and Learning Disability clients alongside costs for homecare, direct payments and residential placements.
- £5.803m for Place and Economic Growth Directorate of which £4.483m relates to housing costs particularly around Temporary Accommodation.

- 2.3 The above pressures have been offset by underspends across other Directorates as follows:

- (£2.853m) for Corporate Services mainly due to the number of vacancies held across the whole Directorate.
- (£1.502m) in Public Health Services largely due to a reduction in cost liabilities for the 0-19 service.
- (£13.580m) for the Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting Directorate. This underspend was predominately generated through the receipt of one-off resources and the application of the revised Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy as approved by Council in January 2025.

- 2.4 Budget Reductions for 2024/25 had been approved at £20.408m with 78% of these savings achieved by the financial year end. Of the 22% which were not achieved, the largest areas for non-achievement related to Children's Services (£2.260m) and Place and Economic Growth (£2.074m).

3 Outturn Position – Revenue Budgets

- 3.1 The Council's net revenue controllable budget (excluding Depreciation & Impairment, Central Support Recharges and Technical Accounting budgets) at the end of the 2024/25 financial year was £306.837m (£302.677m at Month 10). The increase between periods is as a result of additional revenue funding received by 31 March 2025.
- 3.2 The revenue outturn position is detailed in the table below showing an overspend position of £10.155m which will need to be met from general Reserves.

Table 1 – Summary of Revenue Outturn Position 2024/25

Directorate	Annual Controllable Budget £000	Annual Controllable Actual* £000	Variance Outturn £000	Variance Mth 10 £000	Change in Variance between periods £000
Adult Social Care	76,739	87,571	10,832	9,747	1,085
Children's Services	70,705	81,408	10,703	12,205	(1,502)
Public Health	23,054	21,552	(1,502)	(90)	(1,413)
Place and Economic Growth	67,001	72,084	5,083	7,045	(1,962)
Corporate Services	36,392	33,539	(2,853)	(3,047)	194
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	32,946	19,365	(13,580)	(10,464)	(3,117)
NET EXPENDITURE	306,837	315,520	8,682	15,396	(6,714)
FINANCING			1,472	(799)	2,271
OVERALL VARIANCE			10,155	14,597	(4,442)
Use of Reserves to support 2024/25 position			(10,155)		

Notes: *Outturn figures include reserves movements as shown in Table 6.

Significant revenue variances by Directorate

- 3.3 There are significant variances contained within the net overspend position.

Adult Social Care adverse actual variance of £10.832m (£9.747m forecast at Month 10)

- 3.4 The Community Health and Adult Social Care service area closed the financial year with an overspend of £5.141m primarily attributed to the cost of care placements, particularly for individuals with physical disabilities. Within this service, the key expenditure pressures relate to Homecare (£2m), Short Stays and Respite (£2.6m) and Nursing Care (£1.7m). Additional income and slippage from vacant posts are offsetting these pressures by £0.474m.

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- 3.5 The Mental Health service is reporting an adverse position of £1.141m at the financial year end. The biggest contributing factors to this position are Supporting Living (£1.7m), Residential Care (£0.880m) and Short Stay Placements (£0.680m). Additional income and vacancies have reduced this pressure.
- 3.6 The Learning Disability service is reporting an overspend position of £5.044m. There has been an increase in Supported Living costs (£1.9m) with additional Homecare costs (£1.6m) and Direct Payments (£0.730m). This has been further compounded by the underachievement of income for clients and non-residential contributions.

3.7 **Children's Services adverse actual variance of £10.703m (£12.205m forecast at Month 10)**

Children's Social Care and Preventative Services - £12.061m overspend

- 3.8 The Children in Care service overspent by £11.765m. The main pressure relates to the social care placements budget at £11.602m which includes a pressure of £0.441m from reduced contributions from Health for joint funded packages. There was a pressure of £0.250m for Children's Residential homes and costs incurred by the Permanence team of £0.118m above allocated resources. These pressures have been offset in part with underspends in the Adolescence Support Unit of £0.107m, Children with Disabilities team at £0.120m and Fostering Team of £0.060m due to additional income and slippage on vacancies.
- 3.9 The continual review of external placement packages in 2024/25 yielded cost reductions of £3.723m however, new placements cost £3.738m which resulted in a small increase of £0.015m against the position previously reported.
- 3.10 For the Children's Integration service an underspend of £0.728m is reported. The main reasons for this favourable variance are underspends in Business Support (£0.418m) and Targeted Youth (£0.226m).
- 3.11 The Children's Safeguarding service has reported a year end underspend of £0.246m. The biggest contributing factor within this service area is within the Social Work Academy which relates to reduced staffing costs and additional income received (£0.201m).
- 3.12 Fieldwork and Family Support services have overspent by £1.541m against the budget allocation. There has continued to be a reliance on agency staff in 2024/25 which has resulted in costs of £5.680m compared with slippage generated from vacant posts of £4.456m. In addition, the service has seen a pressure of £0.149m in relation to legal and drug testing costs and payments to external providers such as Pennine Social Care.
- 3.13 The number of agency staff across Children's Social Care steadily reduced during the financial year which is due to the successful recruitment of permanent staff and newly qualified social workers moving into established posts. To further mitigate budget pressures the service transferred a proportion of agency staff onto GM Pledge rates.
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- 3.14 Across the Preventative Services area an underspend of £0.272m is reported. The main variance relates to slippage on vacant posts and underspends on non-pay budgets and additional income (£0.101m).

Education, Skills and Early Years - £1.358m underspend

- 3.15 For the Skills and Employment service area an underspend of £0.341m has been reported. This is due to the receipt of income generated by the service to support its work across the borough.
- 3.16 Central Education Services have overspent by £0.227m. This in the main relates to pressures on the School's Insurance budget of £0.146m due to the reduction in buy back for this service, with other minor variances across this service area.
- 3.17 SEND Services have reported an overall underspend of £0.245m for the 2024/25 financial year. Within this service area, the main pressure relates to Home to School Transport at £0.347m due to the number and costs for routes required. This pressure has been offset by other underspends across the service due to slippage on vacant posts, maximisation of grant income and additional income being received.
- 3.18 Other smaller variances across Education, Skills and Early Years have contributed towards the favourable position.
- 3.19 As highlighted within previous budget monitoring reports, Children's Services demand and cost pressures have continued from previous financial years into this year. Increases in the number of Children Looked After having resulted in increased pressures for differing placements particularly residential, where costs for this provision are significant. Alongside Children Looked After placement costs, the continued reliance on agency staff and an increase in demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision is having an impact on the services' financial position.

Public Health favourable actual variance of £1.502m (£0.090m forecast at Month 10)

- 3.20 Following the transfer of the 0-19 Service from the Northern Care Alliance to the Council, potential financial liabilities were highlighted which had been included within financial forecasts. As the service have worked through these potential costs, these liabilities have been removed, and as such a favourable variance has been realised at the financial year end.

Place and Economic Growth adverse actual variance of £5.083m (£7.045m forecast at Month 10)

Communities

- 3.21 The Communities Directorate ended the financial year with an adverse position of £3.753m (£5.077m at Month 10) of which Strategic Housing and in particular Temporary Accommodation (TA) was the main driver reporting a year end overspend of £4.483m (£5.558m at Month 10). The year end pressure reported for this service area has reduced

by £1.075m between reporting periods due to a reduction in placements, an increase in the estimated levels of Housing Benefit recovery and further work with certain TA providers which has resulted in a reduction to the average unit cost.

- 3.22 The number of individuals and families in Temporary Accommodation during 2024/25 has continued to follow the recent downward trajectory. The numbers in temporary accommodation as previously reported at Month 10 was 637, the number in temporary accommodation as at 31 March 2025 was 616. The adverse position reported is as a direct result of the placement cost in hotels, B&B's and other temporary accommodation used to house the increased demand.
- 3.23 The Housing Recovery programme is continuing to investigate more cost-effective delivery models of temporary accommodation through leasing, commissioning, and working in partnership with external partners to better meet our resident's needs. This work will continue during 2025/26, along with further prevention schemes to continue to try to reduce the costs within the Housing service.

Economy

- 3.24 The Economy Directorate is reporting a £0.635m adverse variance at the financial year end previously £0.545m at Month 10. The main reasons for the adverse variance are due to budget pressures within the Estates & Property Management service areas.

Environment

- 3.25 The Environment service reported a year-end adverse position of £0.695m (£1.422m at Month 10). The main reason for this change is due to additional income received in the Public Protection service from fines and a reduction in the overspend within the Highways service as a result of only essential work being completed. The Council also received a significant GMCA Rebate linked to the Waste Levy in late March 2025, the additional income helping further reduce the overall Environment pressure.

Corporate Services – favourable actual variance of £2.853m (£3.047m at Month 10)

- 3.26 Corporate Services is reporting a favourable year end variance of £2.853m which is largely as a result of slippage from vacant posts across all services within this Directorate such as finance, procurement and HR.

Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting – favourable actual variance of £13.580m (£10.464m at Month 10)

- 3.27 The Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting directorate holds the budgets associated with the Council's Treasury Management activities including interest payable on borrowing and interest receivable on investments.
- 3.28 A revised Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy was presented and subsequently agreed at the Council meeting of 20 January 2025 which is the largest contributing factor to the favourable variance within this area.

3.29 Additional one-off resources have also been received such as Business Rates Levy Surplus, Waste levy refund and additional dividend payments.

3.30 A detailed revenue table is attached at Appendix 1.

4 Outturn Position – Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

4.1 The table below provides the 2024/25 DSG outturn position and a forecast position for 2025/26 as reported to Schools Forum on 25 June 2025.

Table 2 – Summary of DSG Outturn Position 2024/25 and forecast for 2025/26

DSG Summary 2024/25 to 2025/26	2024/25 Outturn £000	2025/26 Forecast £000
Schools Block (excludes central services)	255,312	274,777
Central Schools Services Block	2,378	2,559
Early Years Block	17,480	18,535
High Needs Block – pre/post 16	61,719	66,954
Under Two & Two Year Olds' Funding	13,281	20,564
Early Years Pupil Premium	573	648
Early Years Disability Access Fund	216	218
Total Grant	350,959	384,255
Budget Requirement		
Individual Schools Budgets	255,928	276,157
Early Year Funding Delegated to Schools	7,757	8,189
High Needs Funding for Schools (including Post 16)	51,747	57,310
Total Delegated to Schools	315,432	341,656
Central Schools Services	2,398	2,559
Central Early Years Services	1,043	1,692
Central High Needs Services	13,558	16,576
Three and Four Year old PVI's	9,001	9,542
Under two & Two Year Old Funding	12,783	19,853
Total Retained Centrally	38,783	50,222
Early Years Pupil Premium	618	603
Early Years Disability Access Fund	26	408
Budget Requirement	354,859	392,889
(Deficit)/Surplus	(3,900)	(8,634)
Balance brought Forward	3,702	1,182
Provisional (Deficit)/Surplus	(198)	(7,452)
Anticipated Growth underspend committed for 25/26	1,380	
Balance Carried Forward	1,182	(7,452)

-
- 4.2 The actual in-year deficit for 2024/25 was £3.900m, which when added to the surplus of £3.702m brought forward from 2023/24 and with a positive adjustment of £1.380m for Growth underspend committed in the following year produces a cumulative (provisional) surplus of £1.182m as at 31 March 2025, this position is subject to External Audit and Department for Education approval.
- 4.3 It is an important element of the financial management of the Authority that the DSG, wherever possible is not in a deficit position, notwithstanding which, clearly the financial position of the DSG has worsened.
- 4.4 The in-year deficit has been driven by pressures within the High Needs Block where both demand for and the cost of services continue to grow exponentially year on year, both locally and nationally. It is vitally important that the level of scrutiny and management intervention that previously returned the DSG to a surplus position is upheld to ensure that the use of funding is optimised, and future deficits are mitigated wherever possible. Implementation of the programme of work funded under the Delivering Better Value in SEND combined with the complimentary work undertaken in the North West Change Partnership Programme (NWCPP) and the Early Language Support for Every Child initiative (ELSEC) will be pivotal in the consolidation and future sustainability of the DSG in Oldham. Work will continue throughout 2025/26 and beyond to ensure that the current position is mitigated as far as is possible going forward.

5 Outturn Position – Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- 5.1 The HRA for 2024/25 produced a surplus of £3.341m which was transferred to the HRA Reserve at year end. The areas where performance varied from budget are as follows:
- Dwelling Rents – additional income due to one off backdated income (Holly Bank and Primrose Bank)
 - PFI Management Costs – these were reported as lower than expected due to a change in the accounting treatment as a result of the implementation of the new International Accounting Standard. Effectively, this has resulted in additional monies being transferred to the reserve, which will be required to pay its associated debt costs. This will ensure the HRA can finance its re-aligned debt repayment costs in the future.

Table 3 – Summary of HRA Outturn Position 2024/25

HRA Summary Outturn 2024/25	2024/25 Budget £000	2024/25 Outturn £000	Variance from Budget £000
Income			
Dwelling Rents	(9,682)	(11,281)	(1,599)
Service Charge and Other Income	(1,231)	(1,385)	(154)
PFI Credits	(18,799)	(18,799)	-
Interest on Balances	(200)	(375)	(175)
Total Revenue Income	(29,912)	(31,840)	(1,928)
Expenditure			
Repairs & Maintenance	214	49	
Utilities	1,250	773	
Rent & Rates	98	112	
RCCO	1,000	1	
PFI Management Costs inc MRP	26,369	24,896	
Central Overheads	1,564	1,691	
Other Miscellaneous	765	739	
Transfer to HRA Reserve	-	3,341	
Depreciation	331	-	
MRP – Prudential Borrowing	-	(40)	
Transfer to MRR	-	121	
Transfer to Capital Receipts Reserve	-	25	
Adjustment to the Loss Allowance	-	132	
Total Revenue Expenditure	31,591	31,840	249
Total HRA	1,677	-	(1,679)

HRA Capital Programme

- 5.2 There was minimum Capital Expenditure of £1k during 2024/25. The work related to minor works that are outside the scope of the PFI agreement. It must be noted that most of the capital expenditure within the HRA is covered within the PFI agreements.
- 5.3 The HRA Reserves has increased by of £3.341m by the end of 2024/25. The opening balance of £21.106m has increased to £24.447m. The level of reserves is required to meet future commitments in the HRA, and in particular to ensure that the PFI schemes can be funded as the corresponding Government credits do not increase to take account of inflationary pressures.

Table 4 – Movement in HRA Reserve 2024/25

HRA Balance	Total £000
Balance brought forward from 2023/24	(21,106)
Transfer from HRA 2024/25	(3,341)
Balance carried forward to 2025/26	(24,447)

6 Delivery of Budget Reductions 2024/25

6.1 Table 5 below presents the achievement of the 2024/25 approved Budget savings.

6.2 In terms of savings, £15.864m of the £20.408m approved budget reduction targets were delivered representing 78% of the total savings target with a further 22% or £4.544m not delivered. The table below summarises the progress by Directorate:

Table 5 – Achievement Summary of 2024/25 Approved Budget Reductions

2024/25 Impact of Approved Budget Reductions	Green £000	Red £000	Total £000
Adult Social Care	(7,450)	0	(7,450)
Children's Services	(1,961)	(2,260)	(4,221)
Public Health	(175)	0	(175)
Place & Economic Growth	(2,617)	(2,284)	(4,901)
Corporate	(3,661)	0	(3,661)
TOTAL	(15,864)	(4,544)	(20,408)

Significant Budget reduction variances by Directorate

6.3 As can be seen in the table above, £2.260m of Children's Services budget reductions were not achieved. These budget reductions were in relation to certain proposals aimed at reducing high-cost placements and a proposal for Home to School Transport.

6.4 Within the Place & Economic Growth Directorate, the main budget reductions not achieved balance of £2.284m is with regard to the disposal of assets, Creating a Better Place operational savings and the capitalisation of staff costs for highways and regeneration.

6.5 It is imperative that these approved budget reductions are delivered in 2025/26 alongside the significant additional savings of £26.7m agreed at Budget Council in March 2025. The Financial Sustainability Delivery Board chaired by the Leader of the Council will be continued throughout 2025/26 with a focus on the achievement of all savings targets.

7 Reserves and Balances

7.1 On 1 April 2024, Reserves totalled £72.540m, split between Earmarked Reserves of £49.646m and other reserves such as Revenue Grant Reserve, Schools Reserve and DSG Surplus reserves totalling £22.894m. The General Fund Balance stood at £18.865m.

During 2024/25, the net movement on reserves for services totalled £13.517m (£11.692m of Earmarked Reserves and £1.825m of Revenue Grant Reserves).

- 7.2 Furthermore, as detailed within this report, the Council has ended the financial year with a £10.155m overspend position which will need to be met from reserves. Following a reserves review, this balance will be funded by way of £6.391m of Earmarked Reserves and £3.764m of Revenue Grant Reserves. The total net use of reserves use for 2024/25 is therefore £23.672m.

Table 6 – Summary on Reserves Position

Directorate	Opening Balance £000	Use of Reserves £000	Contribution to Reserves £000	Year End Position £000
Adult Social Care	(3,766)	2,402	(194)	(1,558)
Children's Services	(814)	67	-	(747)
Public Health	(1,114)	-	-	(1,114)
Place & Economic Growth	(3,057)	606	(475)	(2,926)
Corporate	(4,530)	609	(458)	(4,379)
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	(19,712)	3,558	(6,521)	(22,675)
Joint Fund	(5,900)	1,345	-	(4,555)
Balancing Budget 2024/25	(10,753)	10,753	-	-
Unbudgeted use of Earmarked Reserves to support revenue budget	-	6,391	-	6,391
Total Earmarked Reserves	(49,646)	25,731	(7,648)	(31,563)
Revenue Grant Reserves	(7,799)	2,463	(638)	(5,974)
Unbudgeted use of Revenue Grant Reserves to support revenue budget	-	3,764	-	3,764
Total Revenue Grant Reserves	(7,799)	6,227	(638)	(2,210)
Total Reserves	(57,446)	31,958	(8,286)	(33,773)

- 7.3 As highlighted within monitoring reports presented throughout the financial year, any additional call on reserves to offset any unmitigated deficit in year has an adverse impact on the financial resilience of the Council and is not sustainable. Whilst the year end balance for Usable Reserves is higher than what had been forecast at Budget Setting Council in March 2025, this is still close to the minimum level of reserves assessed by the Council which is £30m.
- 7.4 It is positive that the 2025/26 budget was set with a budgeted transfer to reserves with the aim to replenish reserves balances, however any unmitigated pressures or non-delivery of budget savings in 2025/26 would need to be met from general reserves balances reducing the Council's financial resilience. There is therefore a risk that balances could fall below the minimum level set and it is essential that the Council ensures any expenditure, income or savings pressures will have appropriate mitigations applied.

APPENDIX 1 - Directorate Summary Financial Positions

DIRECTORATE	SERVICE AREA	2024 Revised Budget £000	2024/25 Actual £000	2024/25 Year End Variance £000
Adult Social Care	Commissioning	16,452	16,437	(15)
	Community Business Services	1,304	994	(310)
	Clusters	3,093	2,943	(150)
	Community Health & Social Care	27,721	32,863	5,142
	Director Adult Social Care	1,641	1,736	95
	Learning Disability	15,548	20,592	5,044
	Mental Health	9,950	11,091	1,141
	Safeguarding	1,030	916	(114)
	Adult Social Care Total	76,739	87,571	10,832
Children's Services	Children in Care	41,584	53,825	12,241
	Childrens Safeguarding	3,041	2,795	(246)
	Fieldwork & Family Support	11,888	12,953	1,066
	Children's Services Intergration	3,535	2,807	(728)
	Central Education Services	(2,575)	(2,348)	227
	Community / Adult Learning	300	300	0
	Inclusion Service	(81)	(394)	(313)
	Learning Services	556	229	(327)
	Learning Services - Early Years	964	676	(288)
	Post 16 Service	41	41	0
	School Support Services	51	(20)	(71)
	SEND Services	7,520	7,275	(245)
	Skills and Employment	318	(23)	(341)
	Early Help	3,564	3,293	(271)
	Troubled Families	(0)	(1)	(1)
	Children's Services Total	70,705	81,408	10,703
Public Health	Public Health (Client and Delivery)	20,171	18,905	(1,266)
	Leisure Services	2,883	2,647	(236)
Public Health Total		23,054	21,552	(1,502)
Place & Economic Growth	Business Growth	213	121	(92)
	Creating a Better Place	(206)	(205)	0
	Estates	(291)	841	1,132
	Facilities Management	(359)	(663)	(304)
	Planning	359	148	(212)
	Property Management	(2,197)	(1,764)	433
	Strategic Housing	326	124	(201)
	Town Centre and Markets	1,269	1,147	(122)
	Building Control	46	265	220
	Environmental Management	7,742	7,993	251
	Fleet Management	(297)	(297)	(0)
	Highways	4,187	4,011	(176)
	Public Protection	1,374	1,513	139
	Strategic Transport	17,271	17,271	0
	Street Lighting	4,199	4,273	74
	Waste Disposal Authority	17,889	17,680	(209)
	Waste Management Service	4,625	5,022	398
	Heritage, Libraries and Arts	5,395	5,162	(233)
	Community Safety	478	424	(54)
	District Partnerships	1,587	1,227	(360)
	Strategic Housing	2,416	6,899	4,483
	Stronger Communities	197	111	(86)
	Youth Services Client	780	783	3
	Place & Economic Growth Total	67,001	72,084	5,083

DIRECTORATE	SERVICE AREA	2024 Revised Budget £000	2024/25 Actual £000	2024/25 Year End Variance £000
Corporate Services	Partnership Support (Borough and GM)	2,044	2,027	(18)
	Strategic Customer Service	470	243	(228)
	Chief Executive Management	1,997	2,027	30
	Communications and Research	997	999	2
	Customer Services	2,163	1,724	(438)
	ICT	5,449	5,484	35
	Executive Support	566	506	(60)
	Audit	3,665	3,576	(89)
	Commissioning and Procurement	588	357	(231)
	External Funding	59	(12)	(71)
	Finance	2,748	2,360	(388)
	Housing Benefit Payments	1,793	1,432	(362)
	Revenues and Benefits	4,466	4,250	(216)
	Transformation and Reform	654	6	(647)
	HR Strategy	3,126	2,550	(576)
	Organisational Development	665	527	(138)
	Democratic and Civic Services	1,729	1,845	116
	Elections	425	522	97
	Legal	1,749	2,449	700
	Registrars	31	(199)	(231)
	Strategy and Performance	1,007	866	(142)
Corporate Services Total		36,392	33,539	(2,853)
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting	Corporate Expenses	21,300	7,589	(13,711)
	Interest and Investment Expenditure and Income	10,269	10,397	129
	Corporate and Democratic Core	1,003	1,003	0
	Parish Precepts	373	373	(0)
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting Total		32,946	19,363	(13,582)
Financing		0	0	1,474
Grand Total		306,837	315,518	10,155

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2024/25 OUTURN MONITORING REPORT Month 12 – March 2025

1 Background

- 1.1 The original Capital Programme for 2024/25 reflected the priorities outlined in the Capital Strategy as approved at Cabinet on 12 February 2024 and confirmed at the Council meeting on 28 February 2024.
- 1.2 The outturn position as at 31 March 2025 is highlighted in this report.

Current Position

- 2.1 Table 1 below shows the Capital Programme for 2024/25 and a further four years to 2028/29, and reflects the priorities outlined in the Capital Strategy.

Table 1 – 2024/29 Capital Strategy

Directorate Budget	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	Total £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	4,443	1,000	-	-	-	5,443
Children's Services	4,724	5,058	3,188	2,000	-	14,970
Communities	100	173	-	-	-	273
Place and Economic Growth	83,226	68,621	26,601	17,859	1,000	197,307
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	628	95	-	-	-	723
Corporate/Information Technology (IT)	2,919	2,809	2,039	3,661	1,000	12,428
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	2,600	-	125	10,120	-	12,845
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,043	3,318	2,885	2,000	-	9,246
Total Expenditure	99,683	81,076	34,838	35,640	2,000	253,237
Funding	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	Total £000
Grant & Other Contributions	(43,834)	(28,633)	(6,494)	(4,054)	-	(83,015)
Prudential Borrowing	(49,638)	(51,646)	(27,851)	(31,494)	(2,000)	(162,629)
Revenue Contributions	(630)	(95)	-	-	-	(725)
Capital Receipts	(5,581)	(702)	(493)	(92)	-	(6,868)
Grand Total	(99,683)	(81,076)	(34,838)	(35,640)	(2,000)	(253,237)

- 2.2 Following the 2024/25 Month 10 report which was approved at Cabinet on 24 March 2025, the 2024/25 Capital Programme was revised to reflect anticipated reprofiling. Forecast expenditure consequently decreased to £87.460m.

Table 2 – 2024/25 Capital Outturn

Portfolio	2024/25 Original Budget £000	2024/25 Revised Budget M10 £000	2024/25 Actual £000	2024/25 Year End Variance £000
Community Health & Adult Social Care	4,443	2,906	2,696	(210)
Children's Services	4,724	6,770	4,603	(2,167)
Communities	100	186	40	(146)
Heritage, Libraries and Arts	-	460	11	(449)
Place and Economic Growth	83,226	69,040	67,714	(1,326)
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	628	200	1	(199)
Corporate/Information Technology	2,919	3,298	3,510	212
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	2,600	4,600	3,216	(1,384)
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,043	-	-	-
Total Expenditure	99,683	87,460	81,791	(5,669)

- 2.3 The Summer review of the programme and continued monitoring of the Capital Programme resulted in a reduction in forecast expenditure from £99.683m to £87.460m at Month 10 and reflected a re-phasing of projects that had not progressed as much as originally forecast in March 2024.
- 2.4 As highlighted above, the Council spent £81.791m against the revised Capital Programme in 2024/25, resulting in a variance of £5.669m when compared to the revised budget as reported at Month 10.
- 2.5 The variance was primarily due to school-based projects being deferred to 2025/26 and not requiring the anticipated level of support for the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts, under Section 16(2)(b) and 20 of the Local Government Act 2003 with regards to the Council's Voluntary Redundancy programme.
- 2.6 The table below details the financing of the 2024/25 capital expenditure.

Financing	2024/25 Original Budget £000	2024/25 Revised Budget M10 £000	2024/25 Actual £000	Variance To Revised Budget £000
Government Grants & Contributions	(43,834)	(32,783)	(29,875)	2,908
Capital Receipts	(49,638)	(47,566)	(46,961)	605
Revenue Contributions	(630)	(233)	(28)	205
Prudential Borrowing	(5,581)	(6,878)	(4,927)	1,951
Total Financing	(99,683)	(87,460)	(81,791)	5,669

3 **Appendices**

- 3.1 Appendix A - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Community Health and Adult Social Care
- Appendix B - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Children’s Services
- Appendix C - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Communities
- Appendix D - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Heritage, Libraries and Arts
- Appendix E - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Place and Economic Growth
- Appendix F - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)
- Appendix G - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Corporate/Information Technology
- Appendix H - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Capital Treasury and Technical
Accounting
- Appendix I - SUMMARY – Month 12 - Funding for Emerging Priorities

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) - Community Health and Adult Social Care**APPENDIX A**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Adult Services	4,443	2,906	2,696	(210)
Community Health and Adult Social Care Total	4,443	2,906	2,696	(210)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) – Children’s Services**APPENDIX B**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Children, Young People and Families (CYPF)	-	1,847	1,469	(378)
Schools - General Provision	3,545	2,517	1,267	(1,250)
Schools – Primary	1,084	1,602	1,400	(202)
Schools – Secondary	85	772	333	(439)
Schools – Special	10	31	122	91
Schools – New Build	-	-	11	11
Children’s Service Total	4,724	6,770	4,603	(2,167)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) – Communities**APPENDIX C**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Local Investment Fund	100	186	40	(146)
Communities Total	100	186	40	(146)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) – Heritage, Libraries and Arts**APPENDIX D**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Heritage, Libraries and Arts	-	460	11	(449)
Heritage, Libraries and Arts Total	-	460	11	(449)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) – Place and Economic Growth

APPENDIX E

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Asset Management – Corporate Premises	5,705	3,527	2,752	(775)
Asset Management - Education Premises	2,869	667	108	(559)
Boroughwide Developments	18,868	15,965	18,471	2,506
Boroughwide District Projects	17	10	-	(10)
Cemeteries and Crematorium	-	-	-	-
Countryside	91	148	189	41
Parks	235	925	593	(332)
Playing Fields & Facilities	-	617	569	(48)
Parks & Playing Fields	-	-	-	-
Private Housing	150	528	1,052	524
Strategic Acquisitions	4,669	911	637	(274)
Town Centre Developments	34,244	28,179	32,822	4,643
Accident Reduction	516	742	363	(379)
Bridges & Structures	3,926	5,474	1,817	(3,657)
Fleet Management	370	1,283	1,209	(74)
Highway Major Works/Drainage schemes	11,188	8,678	6,193	(2,485)
Minor Works	227	779	399	(380)
Miscellaneous	151	606	538	(68)
Place and Economic Growth Total	83,226	69,040	67,714	(1,326)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**APPENDIX F**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Housing Revenue Account	628	200	1	(199)
HRA Total	628	200	1	(199)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) – Corporate/Information Technology (IT)**APPENDIX G**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Information Technology	2,919	3,298	3,510	212
Information Technology Total	2,919	3,298	3,510	212

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) – Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting**APPENDIX H**

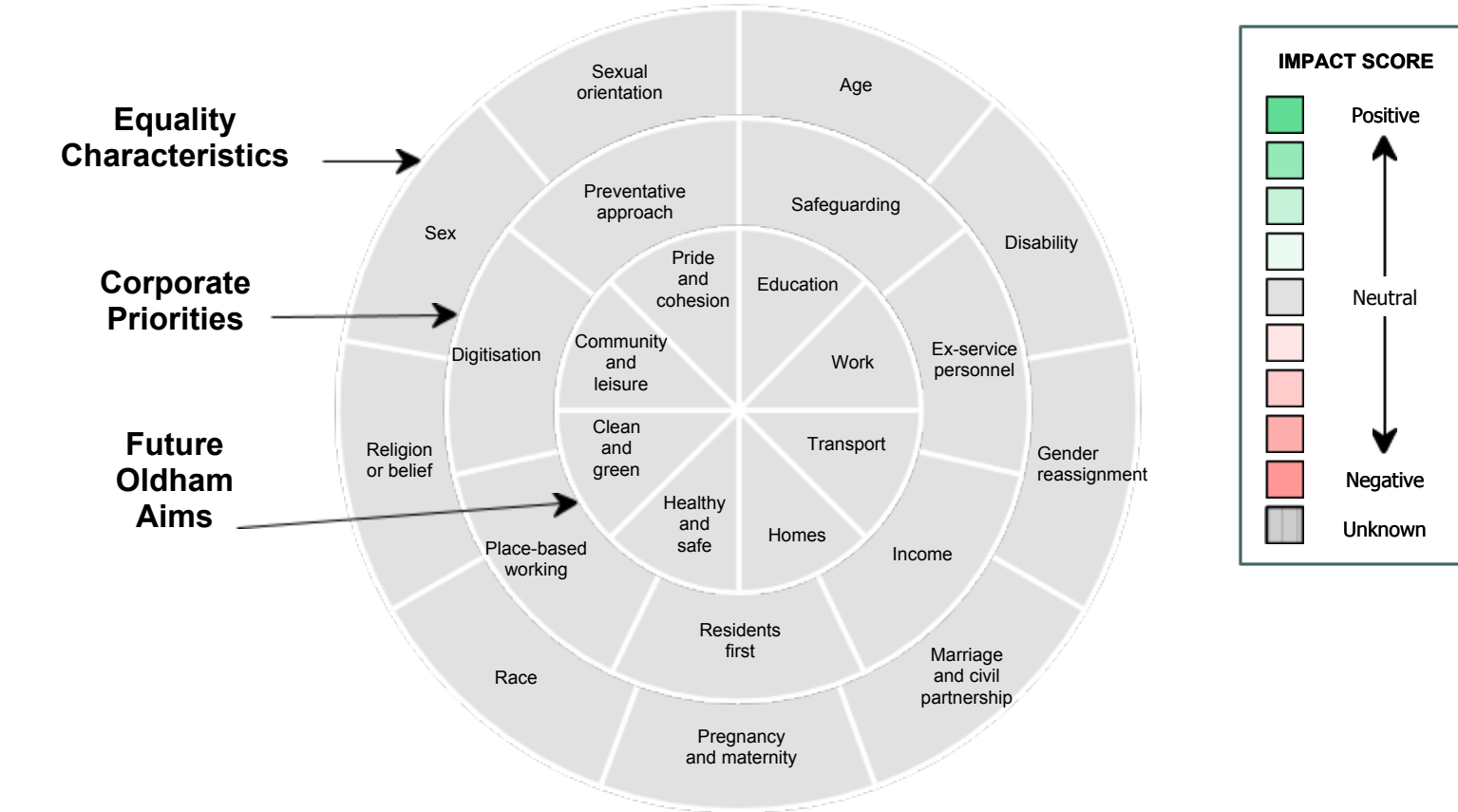
Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Cross Cutting /Corporate	2,600	4,600	3,216	(1,384)
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting Total	2,600	4,600	3,216	(1,384)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Month 12 (March 2025) - Funding for Emerging Priorities**APPENDIX I**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Revised Budget (M10) £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,043	-	-	-
Funding for Emerging Priorities Total	1,043	-	-	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)



Annex 3- EIA: Financial Monitoring 24/25 (Outturn)				
	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Equality Characteristics				
Age	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	The report considers the 2024/25 financial position of the Council at Month 12 (31 March 2025) and as such, in isolation has no direct impact on Equality
Disability	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Race	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Religion or belief	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Sex	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Corporate Priorities				
Safeguarding	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	The report considers the 2024/25 financial position of the Council at Month 12 (31 March 2025) and as such, in isolation has no direct impact on Equality
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Income	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Residents first	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Place-based working	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Digitisation	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Preventative approach	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Future Oldham Aims				
Education	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	The report considers the 2024/25 financial position of the Council at Month 12 (31 March 2025) and as such, in isolation has no direct impact on Equality
Work	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Transport	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Homes	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Healthy and safe	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Clean and green	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Community and leisure	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Pride and cohesion	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above

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Report to CABINET

Oldham Live Well Implementation

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Officer Contact: Mike Barker, Deputy Chief Executive

Report Author: Rebecca Fletcher, Director of Public Health

21st July 2025

Reason for Decision

Implementing Live Well presents an opportunity to accelerate and intensify the work already started in Oldham to shift to a preventative approach where residents get the support they need, in the way they need it, in their own communities.

Executive Summary

Launched in May 2024, Live Well is Greater Manchester's (GM) movement for community-led health and wellbeing. It aims to support healthier, happier and fairer communities by growing opportunities for everyone to Live Well, providing everyday support in neighbourhoods. Oldham has been using a similar approach for some time, through building and supporting a strong Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector, developing our place-based approach to public services and range of activities intended to support strong, resilient communities. This paper outlines an Oldham Live Well approach and the governance to implement this locally utilising the implementation funding from Greater Manchester, a total of £844,000.

Recommendations

Cabinet is requested to

1. Accept the Live Well Implementation Funding, including the conditions of funding outlined in this report and agree that the grant funding is allocated to Public Health to enact.
2. Delegate authority for the execution of all decisions regarding utilisation of the funding from the Live Well Implementation Fund 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 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.
5. Agree to the formation of the Live Well Partnership Board to support the implementation of a Live Well approach in Oldham to accelerate and intensify the existing focus on supporting residents in our communities in partnership with a resilient VCFSE sector.

Oldham Live Well development

1 Background

- 1.1 Launched in May 2024, Live Well is Greater Manchester's movement for community-led health and wellbeing. It aims to support healthier, happier and fairer communities by growing opportunities for everyone to Live Well and providing everyday support in neighbourhoods. Oldham has been using a similar approach for some time, through building and supporting a strong Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector, developing our place-based approach to public services and range of activities intended to support strong resilient communities.
- 1.2 Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and NHS Greater Manchester (NHSGM) have now announced a Live Well Local Implementation Support Fund for 25/26 totaling £10m. This will be made available to each Locality based on the size of their population to invest in the local roll out of Live Well and its key components (detailed later in the report). For Oldham this investment equates to £844k.
- 1.3 Live Well is also described as Greater Manchester's 'Prevention Demonstrator' to Central Government, intended to prove how working differently in neighbourhoods with a focus on prevention can deliver change and in turn gain more powers in GM for public service reform.
- 1.4 Oldham has to date been part of several aspects of Live Well work, including a 'trailblazer' scheme focused on addressing economic inactivity. The next phase of funding for Live Well comes with specific requirements about how the funds are directed, based around four key components of Live Well.

2 What is Live Well and what does it look like in Oldham?

- 2.1 Our vision for Oldham Live Well is for a thriving and resilient community where each individual has access to the support they need to lead a healthy and fulfilling life, where they live.
- 2.2 To achieve this, we will focus on a whole-system approach that prioritises prevention, collaboration, and our vibrant VCFSE sector. By building on our strong partnerships, and harnessing our local assets, we will create a sustainable model of health creation, that reduces health inequalities, enhances social connections, and ensuring every resident has the opportunity to flourish. Our approach will champion community-led initiatives, strengthen local capacity, and ensure that prevention is at the heart of everything that we do.
- 2.3 The rationale behind the GM Live Well approach is one which is familiar in Oldham – that integrated support, built around residents' needs, delivered at the right time and in the right place is critical to improving outcomes across the board. This means bringing together the very best of formal and informal support across the system. Collaborating with communities to design and deliver these interventions can reduce health, social and economic inequalities across Oldham and GM.
- 2.4 There are four key components to the Live Well approach and these should be delivered in all ten boroughs:
 - i. **A network of Live Well centres**, spaces and offers. These will see public services and community-based support working together to provide a consistent everyday support offer from recognisable places in the community.

- ii. **A resilient VCFSE eco-system.** Ensuring a resilient and connected local VCFSE offer from a sector resourced to respond to what matters to people, with community-led approaches at the heart.
- iii. **An optimised integrated neighborhood model.** This will see multi-agency teams working on common geographical footprints of 30-50k population towards shared outcomes and purpose alongside local people and communities.
- iv. **A culture of prevention.** Where the workforce and organisational development is geared towards prevention, with an emphasis on person-centred and relational ways of working across all systems of support

2.5 We will undertake an internal benchmarking exercise, with key partners, to understand how well developed each of these components is already in Oldham, and what actions are required to fully meet all aspects of this feature. This piece is urgent and will be completed before the end of August 2025.

2.6 We are already well placed and have many of the Live Well building blocks in place in Oldham, as described in diagram 1 below. Our primary challenge is describing a single programme that brings it all together as a vision for the borough that everybody can understand and connect the ambition to the delivery and results.

Diagram 1: Summary of current Oldham position against Live Well features

Live Well feature	Oldham position
Live Well Centre & Spaces	<p>Centres: Oldham has five districts, or neighbourhoods, four of which have a building and infrastructure which can be considered a Live Well Centre e.g. Chadderton Health and Wellbeing Centre (see supporting slides).</p> <p>Spaces: There are numerous spaces in Oldham which can be described as Live Well Spaces including our Family hubs, libraries, sports centres and other community spaces.</p>
Resilient VCFSE Eco-system	<p>We have strong track record of working with and developing the VCFSE in Oldham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action Together, infrastructure organisation working with and across VCFSE ▪ One Oldham fund ▪ Extensive social prescribing model in place ▪ VCFSE Strategy in development ▪ Public sector-VCFSE forum established this year
Optimised integrated neighbourhood model	<p>We have embedded a multi-agency approach through the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Family hubs and integrated children and families service ▪ Development of district hubs as the focal point for residents to access the range of support from the council, putting the resident at the centre. ▪ Community Explorers Networks ▪ Development of social care Target Operating Model ▪ Population Health Management approach delivered by Primary Care Networks on neighbourhood/district footprints

Culture of prevention	<p>We have a strong culture of prevention in Oldham which can be further deepened through this programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Live Well Accelerator is taking a community-led approach ▪ Prevention Framework developed and guiding our approach ▪ Focus of investments and interventions are guided by strength-based approaches as well as trauma informed responses
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2.7 In making an assessment of where we are now and recognising the strengths and gaps in our existing offer, we must also consider the approach required in Oldham which will enable us to deliver our vision for Live Well. It is proposed that we focus on supporting and investing in activity, which;

- I. **Accelerates progress** – rapidly building on what is working in Oldham to roll this out further
- II. **Grows capacity and capability** – we must develop the capacity in Oldham to work in a different way, alongside the capabilities across individuals and organisations to work in an integrated, community-led way
- III. **Fosters culture of prevention** – building a shared culture of prevention across the whole of our workforce, ensuring services are joined up and working together
- IV. **Tests, learns and innovates** – testing new approaches, with a focus on community-led prevention and embedding this way of working across the system
- V. **Tackles system barriers** – identify the barriers to delivering our Live Well ambition and work together to tackle these

3 GM funding and requirements

3.1 The GMCA and GMICB have set out a number of expectations for each locality to meet in order to receive the 25/26 funding allocation. We are confident based on the summary provided in Section 2 above that Oldham can fulfill these criteria in FY25/26.

3.2 We will need to describe and deliver the following for Oldham;

- a) Our vision for Live Well and Neighbourhood working in Oldham.
- b) How we will use the funds, based on the principle that at least 50% will go directly to the local VCFSE sector.
- c) Identify a district hub to be designate as Oldham's flagship Live Well Centre and any specific projects or initiatives that will additionally be supported through the funding.
- d) A clear timeline for implementing the above by the end of 25/26.
- e) How we will measure, monitor and govern this work in the Oldham system.

Through the governance described in the next section, we plan to organize our activities which will deliver these features.

4. Proposed Oldham 'Live Well' Governance

4.1 As described above, governance is required to provide system leadership for us to co-ordinate the delivery of this major transformation approach. It is therefore proposed that an Oldham Live Well Programme Board is established, which will be accountable to existing

partnership governance within the Council, Integrated Care Partnership and Oldham Partnership.

- 4.2 The membership of the Live Well Programme Board will be constituted of key leaders from across the Council, NHS and VCFSE and will be chaired by Mike Barker, Deputy Chief Executive of the Council and Oldham Director of Health and Care Integration for NHS Greater Manchester.
- 4.3 A Live Well Working Group has already been established to be the engine room for this programme and is undertaking a readiness assessment and diagnostic to understand what features of the Live Well approach are already embedded in Oldham. This working group, as well as the existing Live Well Accelerator Working Group, will report into the Programme board.
- 4.4 While a project team is being formulated from colleagues working within the system, there is a need to ensure dedicated project management capacity. The system has identified funding for the next 2 years from the partners to achieve this and that resource will be hosted by the Council on behalf of the Oldham system

5. Benefits to Oldham

- 5.1 An outcomes framework will need to be developed, however, we know based on the evidence that exists for these community based approaches, the following benefits and outcomes are expected;

For residents:

- Increased access to VCFSE services by residents
- Improvement in residents' overall health and wellbeing
- Reduction in social isolation for key groups
- Potentially increased satisfaction with public sector

For the system:

- Reduction in proportion of population economically inactive
- Reduction in demand for high-cost services e.g. reduced need for adult social care, acute hospital interventions
- Better outcomes through 'health creation'
- Thriving VCFSE sector in Oldham

- 5.2 Measuring and attributing the outcomes of these interventions will require a longer-term approach, and therefore the development of intermediate indicators, which allow us to understand whether the Live Well approach is becoming embedded and functioning in Oldham, will be identified.

6. Options/Alternatives

- 6.1 **Option 1:** accept the implementation funding and conditions to roll out Live Well in Oldham. This option is preferable as it enables Oldham to build upon the range of work developed over previous years (see section 2) and our strong desire to move towards a system with prevention and community empowerment at its heart. The funding made available will enable both investment in the VCFSE, and consolidate our district approach through the strengthening of key hubs and spaces. This would broaden the approach neighbourhood

teams can collaborate to support residents. This would also align with our wider reform agenda.

A key disadvantage to accepting the Live Well funding and its requirements is that currently this funding is non-recurrently available for one financial year only. Future non-recurrent or recurrent investment is unclear and is predicated on Localities and Greater Manchester demonstrating the value proposition for Live Well.

- 6.2 **Option 2:** decline the implementation funding made available to roll out Live Well in Oldham. The advantage to this option would be reducing the demands on council capacity to enact the initiative, however, the disadvantages far outweigh this advantage. Live Well is a flagship approach for Greater Manchester which has funding attached to it. Oldham could be reputationally damaged should it decline this opportunity to test approaches to community led wellbeing.

7. **Preferred Option**

- 7.1 The preferred option which is recommended to Council is Option 1. This option would include Council agreeing to the following steps;
- a. Accepting the Live Well Implementation Funding, including the conditions of funding outlined in this report and agree that the grant funding is allocated to Public Health to enact.
 - b. Delegating authority for the execution of all decisions regarding utilisation of the funding from the Live Well Implementation Funding to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and subject to contract procedure rules.
 - c. Delegating authority to the Director of Public Health, in conjunction with the Borough Solicitor and Director of Finance (or their nominees), to vary existing contracts subject to the right to extend (and any associated collaborative commissioning agreements), issue grant agreements or award contracts stemming from a compliant procurement process.
 - d. Delegating authority 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.
 - e. Agreeing to the formation of the Live Well Partnership Board to support the implementation of a Live Well approach in Oldham to accelerate and intensify the existing focus on supporting residents in our communities in partnership with a resilient VCFSE sector.

8 **Consultation**

- 8.1 Our approach to Live Well has been developed through discussions with our Health and Well Being Board and Integrated Care Partnership Committee, both of which include a range of internal and external stakeholders. Key leads for districts, economic development and those involved in the Live Well Accelerator in Oldham have also been engaged, as has the VCFSE strategic representation.

9. **Financial Implications**

- 9.1 The preferred option as detailed in the recommendations above is to accept £844k 'Live Well Implementation Funding' from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to support the roll out the Live Well programme in Oldham.
- 9.2 The paper also seeks approval of the proposed governance arrangements set out in points 2 to 5 of the recommendations. These include delegated authority of the decision-making process, and the creation of a Live Well Partnership Board. A diagram of the proposed Live Well governance structure can be found in paragraph 4.

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- 9.3 The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and the Greater Manchester integrated Care Board (GMICB) have set out several expectations for each locality to meet in order to receive their 2025/26 funding allocation.

These conditions are detailed in paragraph 3 and include the principle that at least 50% of the funding will go directly to the local VCFSE sector and that a clear timeline has been set for implementing its roll out by the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

- 9.4 Failure to meet these grant conditions may result in the withdrawal of funding or a claw back of any grant received.

- 9.5 The commissioning of spend against the grant will be subject to further delegated reports.

(Matthew Kearns – Finance Manager)

10 Legal Implications

- 10.1 The report proposes accepting grant funding from GMCA. Once available, the grant agreement will need to be reviewed to ensure that the Council's obligations are clearly defined and manageable, to identify any conditions that may trigger clawback (such as failure to meet delivery milestones), and to check for any onward funding restrictions or reporting requirements.

- 10.2 As at least 50% of the funding is expected to be distributed to VCFSE partners, formal funding agreements will be required. These should set out the permitted use of funds, delivery and monitoring requirements, and include appropriate repayment or clawback provisions.

- 10.3 Where elements of the programme involve the procurement of goods or services, the Council must ensure compliance with all applicable procurement legislation and its internal Contract Procedure Rules

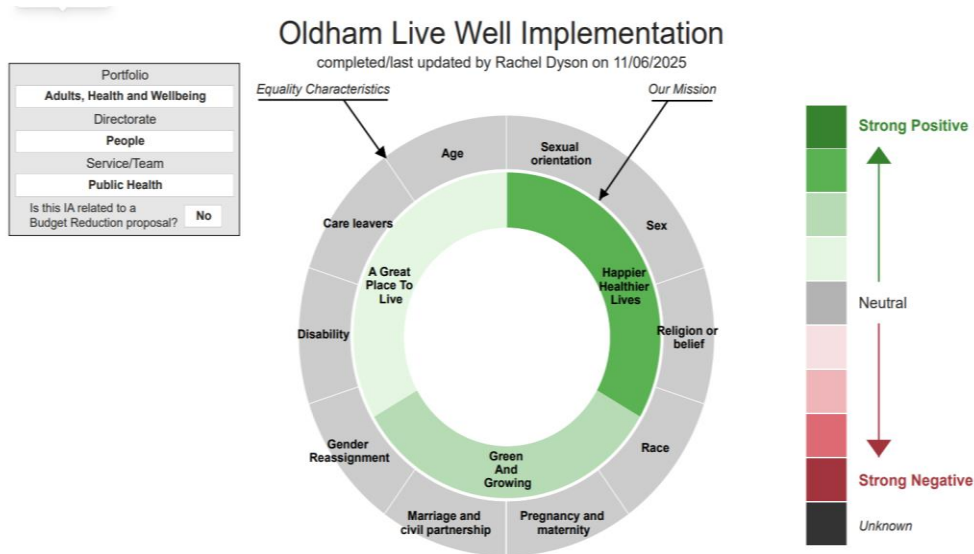
- 10.4 There may also be subsidy control considerations. If the funding is used solely to support non-economic activity, such as public health outreach or community engagement, it is unlikely to amount to a subsidy. However, a formal screening should be undertaken in each case, with support from Legal Services.

Pamela Nsofor (Solicitor)

11 Procurement Implications

- 11.1 There are no Procurement implications to accepting the grant, or where the money is passed on as a grant, although there may need to be a discussion with legal around state aid where money is given as a grant. Where this funding is then used to commission a service then the organisation's CPRs would apply regardless of any decision making authority approved, to ensure the Council remain compliant with the obligations of the Procurement Act 23. Where this is the case then a DDR would be required on a case by case basis to consider the spend and requirements on the organisation related to that spend, giving legal, procurement, finance and other departments opportunity to comment. At present specific spend has not been identified in this report, and it is not possible to make generic statements around how this may be spent. James England – Procurement Manager

12 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People



12.1

13 Key Decision

13.1 Yes

14 Key Decision Reference

14.1 HSC-10-25

15 Background Papers

15.1 None

16 Appendices

16.1 None

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Report to CABINET

Infant Feeding Peer Support Service – new contract

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

Officer Contact: Dr Rebecca Fletcher, Director of Public Health

Report Author: Muzamil Khan, Public Health Commissioning Officer

21st July 2025

Reason for Decision

To ensure that Oldham residents have access to comprehensive infant feeding support, including a dedicated Infant Feeding Peer Support Service from 1 April 2026.

Executive Summary

Breastfeeding is an important public health priority to provide every child with the best possible start in life and provides short and long-term health benefits for both the mother and baby. Whilst breastfeeding rates are improving in Oldham, they remain significantly below national rates. It is important that there is provision for a community Infant Feeding Peer Support Service.

The current contract for the current Infant Feeding Peer Support Service is due to expire on 31 March 2026, with no further options to extend. We are seeking permission to continue to maintain and build on the successful partnership with Tameside Council to commission a high-quality Infant Feeding Peer Support service that meets the needs of local residents. Tameside will be the lead commissioner and there will be a new contract which will commence on 1 April 2026 for a period of 3 years, with an option to extend for up to 2 further years.

There will be an additional report submitted for approval by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health, in consultation with the Director of Public Health, following completion of the tender process (subject to Cabinet Member approval for delegated

authority) which will include actual costs. The budget will be review and based on the current service model for 2025 to 2026.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet approves the continuation of the collaborative commissioning agreement with Tameside Council, by providing approval to:

- a. Continue to work with Tameside Council and delegate authority to Tameside Council to commission an Infant Feeding Peer Support Service on our behalf, through STAR Procurement.
- b. Delegate authority to the Cabinet Member of Adult Social Care and Health and the Director of Public Health to approve the outcome of the Procurement Tender exercise, on behalf of Oldham.
- c. Give authority to Tameside Council to award the contract to provider with the most advantageous tender following STAR's procurement exercise.
- d. Entering into a new collaboration agreement with Tameside council for the new service to commence on 01 April 2026, for a period of three years with the option to extend for an additional two years.

Infant Feeding Peer Support Service – Request to collaborative commission**1 Background**

- 1.1 Breastfeeding is a global and national priority. Recommendations from The World Health Organisation are for infants to be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life, and thereafter for as long as the mother and baby wish with gradual introduction to a more varied diet from six months of age. Encouraging more mothers to breastfeed is a key area of focus for the Council and partners in tackling health inequalities as evidence indicates that breastfeeding saves lives and protects the health of mothers and babies both in the short and long-term.
- 1.2 Oldham has some of the lowest breastfeeding rates across England. In 2023/24, 56.3% of newborns received breast milk as their first feed which is lower than the England's average of 71.9% ¹. By 6 to 8 weeks after birth, 43.3% of mothers were still breastfeeding, which also is lower than the England's average of 52.7%.
- 1.3 There are many reasons why people are unable or choose not to breastfeed, including lack of emotional and practical support. Evidence suggests that mothers living within deprived areas are least likely to start breastfeeding, particularly those who are on lower incomes, young and early school leavers, routine and manual workers; thereby adding to health inequalities.
- 1.4 Breastfeeding peer support is an evidence-based intervention, recommended by NICE, for increasing breastfeeding rates, and offers support to help parents make informed choices around feeding their baby.
- 1.5 Oldham Council is party to a collaborative commissioning agreement with Tameside Council (STAR Procurement) for the provision of an infant feeding peer support service, currently delivered by Home-Start Oldham, Stockport, and Tameside. The service commenced on 1 April 2022 with the initial term ending on 31 March 2025. The contract was approved by the cabinet member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing in September 2024 to extend for a further period of 12 months in line with the extension clause. The contract is due to expire on 31 March 2026 with no further extensions.
- 1.6 In addition to the 12 months extension, the contract was modified to develop the service to offer comprehensive Infant Feeding support to all parents and carers across our communities and within the hospital post-natal wards. The service provides specialist support and advice around breastfeeding, early diagnosis of issues such as tongue-tie, and help with formula feeding where that is more appropriate.
- 1.7 The Infant Feeding Peer Support Service makes breastfeeding easier for mothers by removing some of the practical, emotional, and cultural barriers that prevent them

¹ <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/3/gid/1938133228/ati/502/iid/93932/age/309/sex/4/cat/-1/ctp/-1/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1/page-options/cardo-0>

from breastfeeding. The service includes a combination of paid, and volunteer peer supporters with support and advice from local infant feeding coordinators and advisors and delivers:

- Support at antenatal clinics
- Support on the Hospital Wards
- Family support through home visits and phone calls, including culturally appropriate support to people who do not speak or read English.
- Weekly Breastfeeding Peer Support Groups held at Family Hubs including other community venues.
- Collaborative working with midwifery services and other health professionals to embed a system wide pathway of care
- Supporting the achievement and maintenance of the UNICEF UK's Baby Friendly Initiative – full accreditation, in both acute and community settings.
- Online Breastfeeding Basics Workshops
- Supporting local businesses and organisations to be more breastfeeding friendly through the promotion of a breastfeeding and baby welcome scheme whilst achieving recognition that the borough of Oldham is a 'Breastfeeding Welcoming' local authority.
- Promoting clear and consistent messages around infant feeding and links in with the wider work to promote breastfeeding/ healthy child nutrition.

1.8 The Infant Feeding Peer Support Service delivers a universal and targeted offer across Oldham and Tameside to ensure that parents and carers have access to support, encouragement and understanding in their community. It has adopted a 'proportionate universalism' approach, promoting the provision of universal services which are delivered at scale and intensity to proportionate need (Marmot). This ensures that intensive support is provided for families who are deprived or have greater need with the aim is to reach those in most need of support and be inclusive to their needs.

1.9 The service has had a positive impact on promoting breastfeeding in Oldham. The performance activity data for the financial year 2024/2025 demonstrates positive outcomes towards increasing the borough's breastfeeding rates. This includes dedicated breastfeeding support groups and peer networks, with referrals pathways embedded with Tameside General Hospital, Royal Oldham Hospital, and other health professionals. Recent activity data includes:

- a total of 874 referrals were received from Tameside General Hospital, Royal Oldham Hospital, community midwives, other health professionals including parents
- a total of 815 mothers were provided with support and advice, with 361 living within the target wards
- There were 18 antenatal zoom sessions with a total of 46 attendees
- There were 31 antenatal one to one home visits
- There are currently 7 active volunteers living in Oldham to support the weekly breastfeeding support group within the Family Hubs and other group settings.
- 76 breast pump loans were delivered as part of Oldham's breastfeeding equipment loan service.
- There are a total of 85 Breastfeeding Friendly venues in Oldham all of which are promoting breastfeeding and improving access to environments that support mothers to breastfeeding.

-
- Ongoing awareness raising campaigns via social media with activities delivered during National Breastfeeding Week

- 1.10 Moreover, since November 2023 and as part of the Family Hubs development, Home-Start staff members have been attending the antenatal clinics at the Royal Oldham Hospital to introduce the service to expectant parents and support the initiation of breastfeeding. There were 490 conversations with additional support offered. This included antenatal 1 to 1 home visits with an additional online support offer, which includes the Breastfeeding Basics Workshops. The feedback from the Infant Feeding Satisfaction survey demonstrates the value the service brings to support breastfeeding mothers who would otherwise have found breastfeeding challenging
- 1.11 There has recently been a significant increase in the number of referrals to the service. This is due to new referral processes which now sees discharge information being shared by the Royal Oldham Hospital along with the support from community midwifery services. The Q4 performance activity data for 2024/25 highlights a total of 225 referrals were received by HOST, which is substantial increase in comparison with Q4 in 2023/24. It is anticipated that referrals are likely to increase as more awareness is raised around the importance of breastfeeding and the service offers through the Family Hubs and Integrated Families Services.
- 1.12 UNICEF UK recognises the importance of breastfeeding in improving health, saving lives, and reducing demands on healthcare services. The Infant Feeding Peer Support Service in Oldham was recognised for good practice in 2023 as part of UNICEF UK Baby Friendly re-accreditation for Oldham Right Start. The re-assessment report stated that “many appreciative compliments were made about this excellent service” (UNICEF 2023). This demonstrates the contribution of the service towards ensuring that Oldham was accredited, with staff members being verbally commended for their good practice.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The collaboration agreement with Tameside Council and the contract between Tameside Council and Homestart (HOST) for the Infant Feeding Peer Support Service are both due to expire on 31 March 2026. The contract does not have provision for any further extension periods.
- 2.2 It is important that Oldham continues to have a dedicated community Infant Feeding peer support service to ensure that advice and support is in line with local needs. This service specification has recently been updated to reflect the findings and recommendations following the recent ‘Parents and Carers’ panel within the Family Hubs. This includes engagement activities focused on breastfeeding prevalence across the borough. It highlighted the importance of a breastfeeding support service to offer education, support on the hospital wards and within the community, peer support groups including breastfeeding friendly venues. These are important factors in determining a parent’s decision to breastfeed and the current service model is built around these recommendations

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 Options and alternatives are detailed in the Confidential Part B version of the report, to be considered later in the private part of the meeting.

4 Consultation

- 4.1 The Director of Public Health, in her statutory capacity, and the Cabinet Member of Adults, Health and Social Care have been consulted on the performance of the service.

Regular performance monitoring meetings are held with the service and led by the Tameside commissioners.

Consultation has taken place with Tameside Council about the next steps for the collaborative commissioning arrangements through the dedicated working groups.

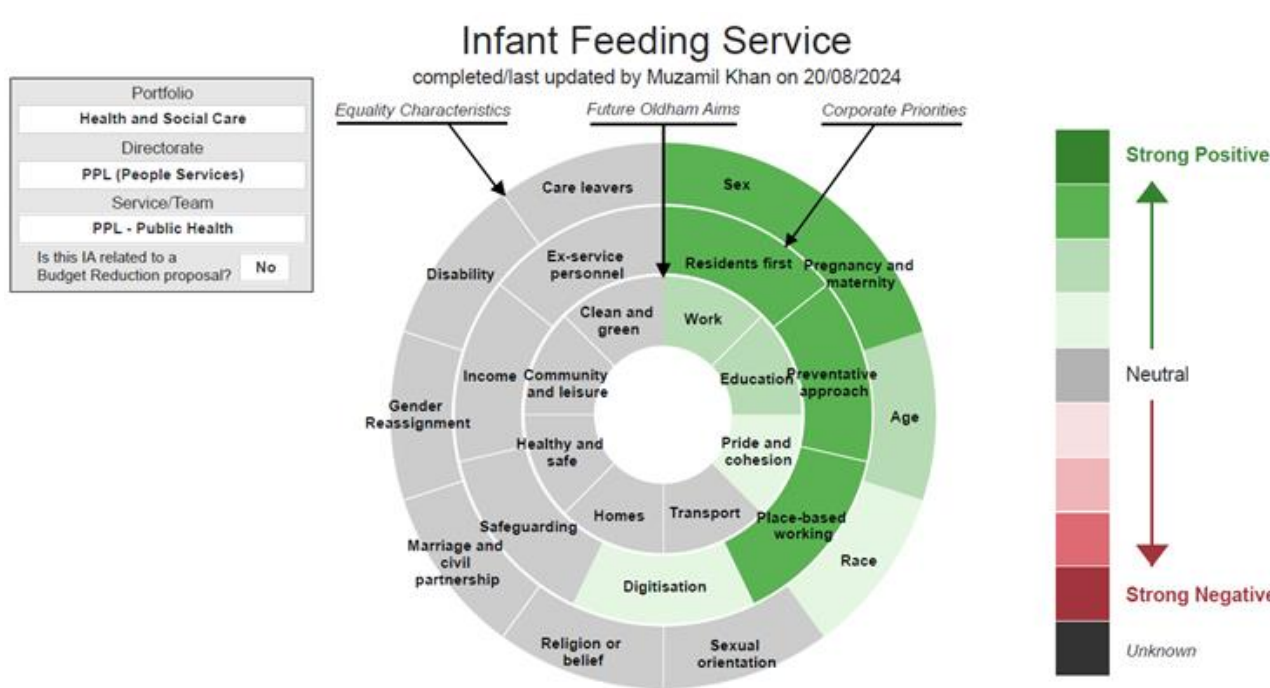
5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The financial implications are detailed in the Confidential Part B version of the report, to be considered later in the private part of the meeting.

6 Legal Implications

- 6.1 The legal implications are detailed in the Confidential Part B version of the report, to be considered later in the private part of the meeting.

7 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People



The service is for parents who have just had a baby, and the specification will be inclusive and designed to meet the needs of parents across the borough, aimed particularly at those in areas of low breastfeeding rates.


8 Key Decision

8.1 Yes

9 Key Decision Reference

9.1 HSC-07-25

10 Background Papers

Title	Available from
Public Health Budget Settlement 2025/26 (07/04/2025)	https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5410
Infant Feeding Peer Support Service – Contract Extension (September 2024)	https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5270
Variation to Infant Feeding Peer Support Contract to support Family Hubs Delivery Plan (Feb 2023)	https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=4612
Infant Feeding Peer Support (June 2021)	 Infant Feeding Peer Support Service - 202

11 Appendices

11.1 None

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Report to CABINET

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

Cabinet 21 July

Reason for Decision

To seek approval from Cabinet 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.

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 its 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

Following the approval in principle by Council to 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, Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Subject to recommendation 3 below, 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.
2. Note that the following **are the sole responsibility of the Council**:
 - a) Responsibility for giving of instructions to the Cabinet to reconsider the draft plan submitted by the Cabinet for the authority's consideration.
 - b) The amendment of the draft joint development plan document submitted by the Cabinet for the Council's consideration.
 - c) The approval of the joint development plan document for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.
 - d) The adoption of the joint development plan document.
3. Note that the item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the matter will be considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 24th July 2025.
4. Grant delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods to take the final decision on the delegation to AGMA Executive Board, having considered any comments made by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 24th July.

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

- 4.1 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. A report went to Council on 16 July 2025 approving this.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 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

- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 As with previous joint plans, there are significant budgetary savings in preparing the plan jointly across GM.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 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

- 4.8 The Government is in the process of reforming the plan-making system and the GMJMWPs 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).
- 4.9 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

- 1.1 **Option 1:** Following the approval in principle of the above recommendation by Council to 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, Cabinet is recommended to:

1. 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.

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.

- 1.2 **Option 2:** To not 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. This will mean that the minerals and waste plan is unable to be delegated to the AGMA Executive Board by all ten districts, which will put at risk the timely progression of the minerals and waste plan.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 The preferred option is Option 1. Following the approval in principle of the above recommendation by Council to 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, Cabinet is recommended to:
1. 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.

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.

As this matter is a key decision, the proposal will be considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 24th July, which is after the Cabinet meeting. It is therefore proposed that the Cabinet Member for Decent Homes be granted delegated authority to take the final decision on the delegation, having considered any comments made by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 24th July.

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. Consultation will be carried out 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**

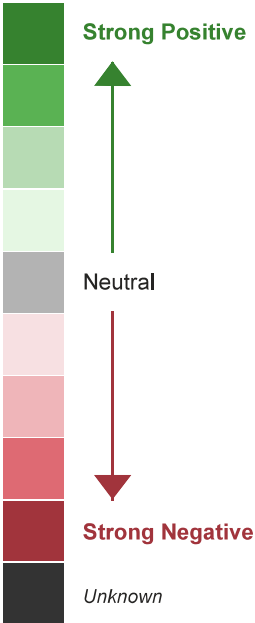
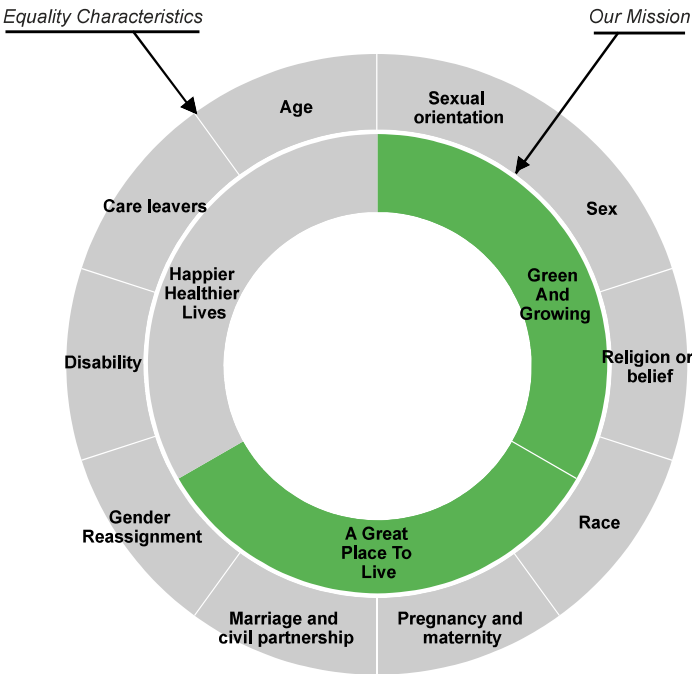
- 13.1 N/A

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Commencement of Joint Minerals and Waste Plan

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

Portfolio
Decent Homes
Directorate
Place
Service/Team
Economy
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?
<input type="button" value="No"/>



Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Age	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Care leavers	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Disability	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Race	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Religion or belief	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Sex	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	

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)
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Report to CABINET

Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Elaine Taylor, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

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

Report Author: Lauren Hargreaves, Senior Planning Policy Officer
Ext. 3843

21 July 2025

Reason for Decision

To approve the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of existing planning policies in Oldham's Local Plan.

Executive Summary

The Interim Planning Position Paper supports the implementation of policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' within Oldham's Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document, adopted November 2011. This paper supersedes the previous 'Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper' published by the council in March 2012.

The paper sets out the council's updated position in relation to open space policy, including the threshold for policy application, the seeking of new and enhanced open space and playing pitches and outdoor sports provision.

It must be read alongside the Local Plan as a whole, but in particular - Local Plan Policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports'. It must also be read alongside Places for Everyone (PfE) policy JP-P7 'Sport and Recreation'.

This paper is informed by the council's Open Space Study (2022) and the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) (2025) as key evidence base documents.

This paper provides updated evidence to inform the interpretation and implementation of the policies in Oldham's Local Plan. It is a material consideration and should be used in decision making as appropriate.

The council's approach to updated national guidance and local evidence will be considered further and inform policy preparation as part of the Local Plan Review.

Recommendations

Cabinet to:

- i. Approve the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of existing planning policies in Oldham's Local Plan.
- ii. Note that the item will be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Constitution, as the matter will be considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 24th July 2025.
- iii. Grant delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods to take the final decision on approval of the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication, having considered any comments made by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 24 July 2025.

Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper

1 Background

- 1.1 The Interim Planning Position Paper supports the implementation of policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' within Oldham's Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document, adopted November 2011. This paper supersedes the previous 'Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper' published by the council in March 2012.
- 1.2 The paper sets out the council's position in relation to open space policy - including the gathering of developer contributions towards open space provision (including playing pitch and outdoor sports provision).
- 1.3 The paper will be used when assessing planning applications and development proposals relating to open space provision and developer contributions for open space provision (including contributions required as part of new residential development) in line with Local Plan Policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports'. It must also be read alongside Places for Everyone (PfE) policy JP-P7 'Sport and Recreation'.
- 1.4 This paper is informed by the council's Open Space Study (2022)¹ and the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) (2025)² as key evidence base documents. Further detail on these evidence base documents is provided in the paper.
- 1.5 The paper provides updated evidence to inform the interpretation and implementation of the policies in Oldham's Local Plan. It is a material consideration and should be used in decision making as appropriate. The positions set out within this paper are summarised below.
- 1.6 In terms of new or enhanced open space, the paper sets out that residential development of 10 homes and above should contribute towards the provision of new or enhanced open space, unless it can be demonstrated by the developer that it is not financially viable for the development proposal or that this is neither practicable nor desirable. In line with National Planning Policy the policy threshold for seeking new or enhanced open space has been updated from 'all residential development' to major development (of 10 homes and above). However, where the loss of an open space is proposed, the policy requirements set out within policy 23 remains as is published in the Local Plan. The policy requirements for

¹ Open Space Study (2022):

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022

² Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2025):

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/3270/playing_pitch_and_outdoor_sports_strategy_2025

replacement provision or contributions towards new or enhanced open space provision to account for any loss of open space continue to apply to all levels and types of development.

- 1.7 In determining the appropriate location for or contribution to new or enhanced provision, the council will have regard to the proposed development and the open space surpluses and deficiencies in the area, as determined by the Open Space Study (2022). Where an area (ward) within which a site is located is deficient in at least one of the standards of open space provision (accessibility, quality and quantity) the area is classed as deficient and onsite provision or a developer contribution towards off-site new or enhanced existing open space provision will be required.
- 1.8 Developer contributions will be used as appropriate to secure the provision and maintenance of new, or enhanced, open space provision. Contributions should go towards at least one of the deficient typologies within the area and considering the accessibility and quality assessment (carried out as part of the Open Space Study 2022).
- 1.9 The current local standards of open space provision set out in table 11 of the Local Plan is superseded by table 1 'Open Space Standards' within the paper (see below), as updated evidence. New or enhanced open spaces should aim to meet the open space standards set out within this table.

Table 1 - Open Space Standards (derived from Open Space Study 2022)

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population)	Quality Standard	Accessibility Standard
Allotments and Community Gardens	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Amenity Greenspace	0.46	At least 70%	720 metres (15-minute walk)
Cemeteries and Churchyards	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Civic Spaces	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Green Corridors	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1.95	At least 70%	Natural and Semi-Natural - 720 metres (15-minute walk) Strategic Natural and Semi-Natural over 20ha - 7.85km (20-minute drive time)
Outdoor Sports Facilities (excluding Golf Courses)	1.35	At least 70%	720 metres (15-minute walk)
Parks and Gardens	0.40	At least 70%	Local Parks and Gardens - 720 metres (15-minute walk) Strategic Parks and

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population)	Quality Standard	Accessibility Standard
			Gardens of 15ha and above - 7.85km (20-minute drive)
Provision for Children and Young People	0.25	At least 70%	480 metres (10 minute walk)

- 1.10 In terms of playing pitches and outdoor sports provision, the PPOSS provides updated evidence in relation to the borough's playing pitch and outdoor sports provision. It identifies the current and future needs for particular sports and sets out an Action Plan³ for future investment and improvement. The PPOSS should be used to inform where and what type of new or enhanced playing pitch and outdoor sports provision is provided.
- 1.11 In terms of new residential development, Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator⁴ should be used to inform contributions towards new or enhanced provision as part of new residential development. The calculator considers the provision needs identified by Oldham's PPOSS.
- 1.12 Informed by the outcomes of the Playing Pitch Calculator, the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to identify potential sites for offsite enhancement or where new provision may be needed, based on the identified deficiencies/ need.
- 1.13 Any enhanced or replaced playing pitch or outdoor sports provision provided to account for the loss of such provision should also be informed by the PPOSS, considering need and the Action Plan.
- 1.14 The council's approach to updated national guidance and local evidence will be considered further and finalised as part of the Local Plan Review. Further details about the Local Plan Review can be found online⁵.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper supports the interpretation and implementation of policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' within Oldham's Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document (Local Plan), adopted November 2011. It sets out evidence of open space need and standards for provision, including evidence relating to playing pitch and outdoor sport's needs, to assist in planning application decision-making. The paper sets out the council's current position until relevant policies are reviewed as part of the new Local Plan.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 Option 1 - To approve the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' in Oldham's Local Plan.

³ PPOSS Action Plan: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/8144/oldham_pposs_action_plan

⁴ Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator for further information: <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/playing-pitch-calculator>

⁵ Oldham's Local Plan Review: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review

Advantages – approving the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication will ensure effective and consistent decision-making which is in line with local evidence and local and national planning policy. It will provide guidance to developers and planning officers on the interpretation and implementation of open space policy within the current Local Plan.

Disadvantages – there are no disadvantages to approving the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication.

- 3.2 Option 2 – To not approve the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website.

Advantages – there are no advantages to not approving the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication.

Disadvantages – not approving the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication could lead affect consistent decision-making and impact the effective implementation of local planning policy.

4 **Preferred Option**

- 4.1 Option 1 is the preferred option - to approve the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper for publication on the council's website, to assist in the interpretation and implementation of existing planning policies in Oldham's Local Plan. This will support consistent decision-making and the effective implementation of local planning policy.

5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 Formal consultation on Interim Planning Position Papers is not required, however relevant internal officers have been consulted as part of the preparation of the paper.

6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper will be published on the council's website. Therefore, no additional revenue costs will be charged to the service.

(Mohammed Hussain)

7 **Legal Implications**

- 7.1 Interim Planning Papers provide further advice and guidance on applicable planning policy matters which may have arisen since the relevant statutory planning document was adopted by the Council. They are not part of the statutory Local Plan but they are a relevant material consideration in the determination of planning applications, albeit with limited weight.

(A Evans)

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

- 8.1 The completed Oldham Impact Assessment can be found below:



Open Space IPPP
Oldham Impact Asse

-
- 8.2 In terms of equality characteristics the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper was found to have moderate positive impact on age. With regards to the council's missions the paper was found to have strong positive impacts on all three – green and growing; a great place to live; and happier healthier lives.

9 **Key Decision**

- 9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

- 11.1 ESR-08-25

12 **Background Papers**

- 12.1 There are no background papers for this report.

13 **Appendices**

- 13.1 Appendix 1 – Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper (2025)

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4. Playing Pitches and Outdoor Sports	20
5. Conclusion	22
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This Interim Planning Position Paper supports implementation of policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' within Oldham's Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document, adopted November 2011¹. This paper supersedes the previous 'Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper' published by the council in March 2012.
- 1.2. The paper sets out the council's position in relation to open space policy - including the gathering of developer contributions towards open space provision (including playing pitch and outdoor sports provision).
- 1.3. The paper will be used when assessing planning applications and development proposals relating to open space provision and developer contributions for open space provision (including those required as part of new residential development) in line with Local Plan Policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports'. It must also be read alongside Places for Everyone (PfE) policy JP-P7 'Sport and Recreation'.
- 1.4. This paper is informed by the council's Open Space Study (2022) and the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) (2025) as key evidence base documents. Further detail on these evidence base documents is provided in the following sections of this paper.
- 1.5. This paper provides updated evidence to inform the interpretation and implementation of the policies in Oldham's Local Plan. It is a material consideration and should be used in decision making as appropriate. The positions set out within this paper are summarised below.
- 1.6. In terms of new or enhanced open space, the paper sets out that residential development of 10 homes and above should contribute towards the provision of new or enhanced open space, unless it can be demonstrated by the developer that it is not financially viable for the development proposal or that this is neither practicable nor desirable. In line with national planning policy the threshold for seeking new or enhanced open space has been updated from 'all residential development' to major development (of 10 homes and above). However, where the loss of an open space is proposed, the policy requirements set out within policy 23 remains as is published in the Local Plan. The policy requirement for replacement provision or contributions towards new or enhanced open space provision to account for any loss of open space continues to apply to all levels and types of development.
- 1.7. In determining the appropriate location for or contribution to new or enhanced provision, the council will have regard to the proposed development and the open space surpluses and deficiencies in the area, as determined by the Open Space Study (2022). Where an area (ward) within which a site is located is deficient in at least one of the standards of open space provision (accessibility, quality and quantity), the area is classed as being deficient. In this circumstance, onsite provision or a developer contribution towards off-site new or enhanced existing open space provision is required.

¹ Oldham's Local Plan:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201229/current_local_planning_policy/978/joint_core_strategy_and_development_management_policies_development_plan_documents_dpds

- 1.8. Developer contributions will be used as appropriate to secure the provision and maintenance of new, or enhanced, open space provision. Contributions should go towards at least one of the deficient typologies within the area and considering the accessibility and quality assessment (carried out as part of the Open Space Study 2022).
- 1.9. The current local standards of open space provision set out in table 11 of the Local Plan is superseded by table 1 'Open Space Standards' within this paper, as updated evidence. New or enhanced open spaces should aim to meet the open space standards set out within table 1.
- 1.10. In terms of playing pitches and outdoor sports provision, the PPOSS provides updated evidence in relation to the borough's playing pitch and outdoor sports provision. It identifies the current and future needs for particular sports and sets out an Action Plan for future investment and improvement. The PPOSS should be used to inform where and what type of new or enhanced playing pitch and outdoor sports provision is provided.
- 1.11. In terms of new residential development, Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator should be used to inform contributions towards new or enhanced provision as part of new residential development. The calculator considers the provision needs identified by Oldham's PPOSS.
- 1.12. Informed by the outcomes of the Playing Pitch Calculator, the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to identify potential sites for offsite enhancement or where new provision may be needed, based on the identified deficiencies/ need.
- 1.13. Any enhanced or replaced playing pitch or outdoor sports provision provided to account for the loss of such provision should also be informed by the PPOSS, considering need and the Action Plan.
- 1.14. The council's approach to reflecting updated evidence will be considered further and finalised as part of the Local Plan Review. Further details about the Local Plan Review can be found [online](#)².

² Oldham's Local Plan Review: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review

2. Background

2.1. This section provides a summary of the national and local planning policy context and evidence that has helped to inform the approach taken within this Interim Planning Position Paper.

National Planning Policy Framework

2.2. A revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in December 2024, which sets out several policy considerations that are relevant to this paper.

2.3. Paragraph 88 sets out that to provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should plan positively for the provision and use of shared spaces, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, open space, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments.

2.4. Paragraph 103 emphasises the importance of access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity for the health and well-being of communities, recognising that open spaces can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change. It states that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities (including quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses) and opportunities for new provision. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision is needed, which plans should then seek to accommodate.

2.5. Paragraph 104 sets out that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

2.6. Paragraph 156 sets out where major development involving the provision of housing is proposed on land released from the Green Belt through plan preparation or review, or on sites in the Green Belt subject to a planning application, the contributions (or 'Golden Rules') that should be made. This includes the provision of new, or improvements to existing, green spaces that are accessible to the public. New residents should be able to access good quality green spaces within a short walk of their home, whether through onsite provision or through access to offsite spaces.

Planning Practice Guidance

2.7. Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) 'Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space' is relevant to this paper.

- 2.8. The PPG sets out that open space should be taken into account in planning for new development and considering proposals that may affect existing open space. Open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks. It can provide health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby; have an ecological value and contribute to green infrastructure as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development, and an important component in the achievement of sustainable development.
- 2.9. The PPG states that it is for local planning authorities to assess the need for open space and opportunities for new provision in their areas.
- 2.10. It goes onto provide guidance on how to carry out assessments and emphasises the need for appropriate consultation in relation to planning decisions affecting open space and sports provision, in particular with Sport England.

Places for Everyone (PfE) Joint Development Plan Document

- 2.11. Places for Everyone (PfE) was adopted on 21 March 2024, becoming part of Oldham's development plan.
- 2.12. JP-P7 'Sport and Recreation' sets out that a network of high quality and accessible sports and recreation facilities will be protected and enhanced, supporting greater levels of activity for all ages, including by:
- creating a public realm that provides frequent opportunities for play;
 - where appropriate setting out more comprehensive and detailed recreational standards and standards for provision for designated play areas in district local plans, having regard to existing and future needs;
 - requiring new development to provide new and/or improved existing facilities commensurate with the demand they would generate. The provision of sports facilities will be determined by individual local authorities through an evidence-based approach; and
 - encouraging the incorporation of a sports facilities mix in all education settings, that meet both curriculum and local community sport needs as identified by an up-to-date Local Authority Sports Needs Assessment, and made available for community use where possible;
- 2.13. JP-D2 sets out the policy for gathering developer contributions as part of new development. It states that developers should provide, or contribute to, the provision of mitigation measures to make the development acceptable in planning terms. These will be secured through either planning conditions, Section 106 planning obligations, Section 278 agreements or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (where it is in place). If an applicant wishes to make a case that a development is not viable, they should provide clear evidence at the planning application stage. The Local Planning Authority should determine the weight to be given to a viability assessment alongside other material considerations.

Oldham's Local Plan – the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (2011)

2.14. Oldham's existing Local Plan (The Core Strategy) was adopted 9 November 2011.

2.15. Policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' sets out requirements for protecting and enhancing open space, including seeking new or replacement open space provision (or developer contributions) as part of development. The policy is set out in figure 1 below.

Figure 1 – Oldham's Local Plan Policy 23 Open Spaces and Sports

Policy 23 Open Spaces and Sports

Open space can contribute to people's quality of life. It has a key role to play in the protection of the environment, enhancing the biodiversity of the borough and creating habitats for flora and fauna. Access to quality open space is essential to health and well-being, encouraging increased physical activity and exercise and contributing to improved mental health. Quality open space provision can contribute to social inclusion and community cohesion in Oldham and can support and enhance the image and appeal of the borough for residents and visitors. Open spaces are defined in Policy 6 on Green Infrastructure.

Protection of Open Spaces

The council will protect, promote and enhance existing open space in the borough, and will seek to secure new and improved well-designed open spaces where appropriate.

New Open Spaces

All residential developments should contribute towards the provision of new or enhanced open space, unless it can be demonstrated by the developer that it is not financially viable for the development proposal or that this is neither practicable nor desirable. The council will have regard to the proposed development and the open space surpluses and deficiencies in the area to determine whether on-site or off-site new provision, enhanced existing provision or a financial contribution will be required. Open space surpluses and deficiencies will be defined through the Annual Monitoring Report.

The required type and amount of provision in any instance shall be calculated in accordance with the council's current local standards of provision and the surplus and deficiencies of open space provision identified in the Open Space Study (Open Space Study, PMP consultants and Oldham Council, 2006 – 2010). These will be monitored and reviewed over the lifetime of the LDF.

Table 11 Current Local Standards of Provision

Type of Open Space	Quality - The required quality of open spaces measured as a percentage. Good quality is measured as 70%	Quantity The number of hectares required per 1,000 population.	Accessibility The required walk time in minutes or metres from residential development to open spaces
Parks and Gardens	At least 70%	0.26	15 minutes/ 720 metres
Natural/ Semi-Natural	At least 70%	1.95	15 minutes/ 720 metres
Amenity Greenspace	At least 70%	0.46	15 minutes/ 720 metres
Allotments	At least 70%	No standard provided	No standard provided
Provision for Children	At least 70%	0.37	10 minutes/ 480 metres
Provision for Young People	At least 70%	0.10	10 minutes/ 480 metres
Outdoor Sports Facilities	At least 70%	1.35 (excluding golf courses)	15 minutes/ 720 metres (all outdoor sports facilities excluding golf courses) 20 minutes/ 12.63 kilometres (for golf courses)
Cemeteries and Churchyards/ Green Corridors / Civic Spaces	At least 70%	No standard provided	No standard provided

Where new, replacement or enhanced provision or a financial contribution is provided, the developer will be required to enter into a planning obligation with the council for the provision and maintenance of the open space. This will be in accordance with the national circular on planning obligations and the council's Good Practice Guide (Oldham Council, 2008).

Loss of Open Spaces

The loss of an open space will be permitted where:

- land is allocated for built development; or
- proposals relate to cleared sites on previously developed land, including those that have been landscaped, where there is a clear intention by the council for future development; or
- proposals relate to a masterplan, policy, programme, strategy or action plan approved by the council or Oldham Partnership; or
- proposals comprise of a small-scale development which is ancillary or complementary to the open space function of the site, and the quality and character of the site is maintained; or
- proposals are for a new outdoor or indoor sport or recreation facility which is of sufficient benefit to the development of sport and recreation, or to the open space function, to outweigh the harm resulting from its loss, and it could not be reasonably located elsewhere, and does not create or worsen an existing deficiency of open space in the area; or
- in the case of playing fields only, the development only affects land which is incapable of forming a playing pitch or part of one.

Development of a site that is currently or was most recently used as open space or for sport or recreation will be permitted provided it can be demonstrated the development brings substantial benefits to the community that would outweigh the harm resulting from the loss of open space; and

- g. a replacement facility which is at least equivalent in terms of usefulness, attractiveness, quality and accessibility, and where appropriate quantity, to existing and future users is provided by the developer on another site prior to the development commencing; or
- h. if replacement on another site is neither practicable nor desirable, an agreed contribution is made by the developer to the council for new provision or the improvement of existing open space or outdoor sport and recreation facilities and its maintenance within an appropriate distance from the site, or within the site; or
- i. a mixture of both g. and h; and
- j. in the case of playing fields, the development is approved by Sport England.

The LDF proposals map shows strategic open spaces and Green Flag parks in Oldham. Strategic open spaces include strategic parks and gardens (sites of 15 hectares and above) and strategic natural and semi-natural open spaces (sites of 20 hectares and above). This policy applies to all open spaces, whether or not shown on the proposals map. The council will provide further advice and guidance on this policy. The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD (Oldham Council, 2008) sets out guidance and costs and will be reviewed to provide an update once this joint DPD has been adopted.

2.16. Policy 23 refers to the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision SPD (published in 2008). This was superseded by the Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper published in 2012, following the completion of the Open Space Study in 2010.

Evidence Base

Open Space Study

2.17. An updated Open Space Study was published in 2022. The 2022 Study updates the previously published Open Space Study (2006, 2010).

2.18. The updated Open Space Study (2022) comprised an assessment³ of the quantity, accessibility, quality and value of Oldham's open spaces⁴.

2.19. It also identified open space deficiencies based on current (2021) and anticipated future needs (2037)⁵ (based on population projections) and set out recommended standards for quantity, accessibility, quality and value, based on national benchmarks and guidance⁶, for provision of open space. In some instances, due to the nature and characteristics of some types of open space provision it was considered that it was not appropriate to set a standard.

³ Appendix C of the Open Space Study (2022) provides the full breakdown of the open space site assessment data, available at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022

⁴ The following open space typologies were not included in the site audits, for the reasons set out below: sites smaller than 0.2 ha (except for Provision for Children and Young People). Smaller sites have limited usage compared to larger sites and have limited multi-functionality (however it is recognised they may serve some quantitative/ landscaping function); sites larger than 10 ha as these sites are too large to record accurate information; Indoor Sports Facilities as these are not freely accessible; outdoor spaces associated with education sites as these are also not publicly accessible; and inaccessible or 'land-locked' sites.

⁵ At the time the Open Space Study (2022) was prepared the anticipated Local Plan period was up to 2037 (in line with the PfE Publication Plan 2021). Modifications presented during the Examination in Public of PfE resulted in a change to the PfE plan period to 2039. In any case, the Study represents a comprehensive assessment of open space needs over the long term, capable of informing existing Local Plan policy and policy preparation for the new Local Plan.

⁶ See section 7 'Setting Standards' of the Open Space Study (2022) for further information on the identification of the open space standards.

- 2.20. The Study identified that there were 1,159 open space sites with a total area of 1,578 hectares (ha) within the borough⁷. The current population of Oldham is estimated at 238,984 people (as of 2021), as such the amount of open space equates to 6.61ha per 1,000 population. In 2037, Oldham's population is projected to increase to 254,829 people.
- 2.21. Natural and semi-natural open space accounts for the majority of the boroughs open space provision - 42.33% of the total open space provision – whilst provision for children and young people accounts for the least – 0.74% of the total open space provision. The amount of provision identified within each typology (type) of open space provision is set out within Appendix 1 – Table A.
- 2.22. The Study proposed open space standards for quantity, quality, accessibility and value based on a review of existing open space provision and using best practice guidance⁸. A standard was not identified for some types of provision where the type and nature of provision would make it inappropriate or impractical, for example not applying a quantity or accessibility standard to cemeteries and churchyards. In these cases, the provision needs for these types of spaces will be considered separately, as appropriate. A quality standard is applied to all types of open space provision, however, as it is considered that this is beneficial to the user.
- 2.23. Table 1 shows the identified open space standards, as set out within the Open Space Study.

Table 1: Open Space Standards (Open Space Study 2022)

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population)	Quality Standard	Accessibility Standard
Allotments and Community Gardens	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Amenity Greenspace	0.46	At least 70%	720 metres (15-minute walk)
Cemeteries and Churchyards	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Civic Spaces	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Green Corridors	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1.95	At least 70%	Natural and Semi-Natural - 720 metres (15-minute walk) Strategic Natural and Semi-Natural over 20ha - 7.85km (20-minute drive)

⁷ See Appendix 1 – Figure A for a map of the borough's open spaces.

⁸ See Section 7 of the Open Space Study (2022) for further information on the identified open space standards and how they were devised.

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population)	Quality Standard	Accessibility Standard
			time)
Outdoor Sports Facilities (excluding Golf Courses)	1.35	At least 70%	720 metres (15-minute walk)
Parks and Gardens	0.40	At least 70%	Local Parks and Gardens - 720 metres (15-minute walk) Strategic Parks and Gardens of 15ha and above - 7.85km (20-minute drive)
Provision for Children and Young People	0.25	At least 70%	480 metres (10 minute walk)

2.24. The Study assessed open space provision within the borough against the identified standards (table 1 above).

2.25. In terms of quantity, the Study found that there is a deficiency within the current (2021) and future (2037) quantity of open space provision for amenity greenspace and provision for children and young people. Indeed, there is expected to be a decrease in all types of provision per 1,000 population over the next 15 years, as population is expected to increase by around 6.36%⁹.

2.26. In terms of the quality of open space provision, the Study assessed open space provision against the following assessment bandings:

- Excellent - 90% to 100%
- Very Good - 80% to 89%
- Good - 70% to 79%
- Fair - 50% to 69%
- Poor - 0% to 49%

2.27. A total of 455 sites were assessed for quality¹⁰. The Study found that the majority of the borough's open spaces (56.7%) met the proposed quality standard of 70% (8.55% scored 'excellent', 18.46% scored 'very good' and 29.67% scored 'good').

⁹ See Appendix 1 – Table B of this document for the quantity of provision assessment compared to the identified quantity standards.

¹⁰ See Appendix 1 – Table C of this document for a summary of the quality assessment.

- 2.28. A detailed explanation of the quality findings is provided within section 5 of the Open Space Study (2022) and Appendix C of the Open Space Study contains the full assessment findings¹¹.
- 2.29. The Study assessed the accessibility of the borough's open spaces compared to the identified standard. Accessibility Maps were produced for each typology of open space¹².
- 2.30. In general, the assessment found that there is good access to open space across the borough, however some typologies are more accessible than others e.g. there are distinct gaps in provision for children and young people and parks and gardens, whilst there is extensive provision of outdoor sports facilities and natural/semi-natural spaces. This generally reflects that formal provision such as that for children and young people and parks and gardens is less common than more natural types of provision such as natural/ semi-natural. It also reflects the general size of provision, whereby outdoor sports facilities and natural/semi-natural spaces can be large in size compared to provision for children and young people.
- 2.31. The accessibility findings also reflect the topology and landscape of the borough with those areas which are more rural in nature (such as the eastern and northern parts of Shaw and western and northern parts of Saddleworth) having distinct gaps in several typologies of open space provision.
- 2.32. In these areas, access to formal open space provision may be limited however generally they tend to have better access to countryside sites (such as Tandle Hill, Crompton Moor and Daisy Nook) or open countryside and moorland (including the Peak District National Park) where there is an extensive Public Right of Way network.
- 2.33. The Study also assessed sites in terms of their value. Open space value is closely linked to quality and is an additional measure of functionality and usage by communities. The assessment scored sites as 'high (60-100%)', 'medium (40-59%)' and 'low (0-39%)' based on the value criteria¹³.
- 2.34. The Study recommended that a value standard of 60-100% (high value) be applied for destination or flagship sites¹⁹ and a standard of 40-50% (medium value) be applied for all other open space sites¹⁴.
- 2.35. The value assessment found that 41.7% of sites were high value, 31.6% were medium value and 26.5% were low value¹⁵. The greatest value scores range was for amenity greenspace.
- 2.36. As part of the Open Space Study a calculator was provided to the council to be used in the calculation of open space developer contributions as part of new development. It incorporates industry costings/ assumptions for the implementation and maintenance of types of open space provision (including assumptions for specific elements of

¹¹ Open Space Study (2022) – Appendix C – Site Audit Data:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7644/appendix_c_-_site_audit_data

¹² Open Space Study (2022) – Accessibility Maps (by open space typology):

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022

¹³ Sites were assessed against several value criteria including, context, historical/ heritage, contribution to local amenity, vitality and Sense of Place, recreation, play, ecological and biodiversity.

¹⁴ The value standard ensures that the borough's open spaces are meaningful and beneficial to the local community. It ensures locally important, or flagship open spaces, are protected and that investment towards existing provision is focused where it is most needed.

¹⁵ See Appendix 1 – Table D of this document for a summary of the value assessment.

spaces) having regard to the findings of the open space assessment (and application of identified standards).

Oldham's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2025)

- 2.37. In April 2025 Oldham's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) was published¹⁶. The PPOSS updates the previous (2015) PPOSS and builds on the assessment of outdoor sports facilities undertaken within the Open Space Study (2022).
- 2.38. 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.
- 2.39. 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 in the determination of planning applications. The PPOSS will also inform S106 developer contributions.
- 2.40. The preparation of the PPOSS has followed five stages, as recommended by Sport England, including an assessment of supply and demand. The assessment of supply and demand was undertaken over 2023-2024. A variety of consultation methods, including surveys, site visits, desktop assessments, and face-to-face meetings, have been used to collate supply and demand information about leagues, clubs, county associations and national/regional governing bodies of sport.
- 2.41. Where possible, sports were assessed in the season in which they are played (i.e. Summer/ Winter). The Assessment Report¹⁷ provides further detail on the context/ background to the PPOSS, the supply and demand assessment process and the sport-by-sport supply and demand findings.
- 2.42. The main findings from the supply and demand assessment are that:
- There are shortfalls for sports played on natural turf grass pitches (football, rugby, cricket).
 - There is a clear need to protect all existing playing pitch provision, in line with planning policy.
 - Demand is being met in the main for non-turf/ pitch sports (e.g. tennis, bowls, netball, athletics). However, this does not equate to a surplus of provision - any spare capacity should be considered as a solution to overcome identified shortfalls.
 - Most of the identified grass pitch shortfalls can be met by better utilising current provision - improving quality, additional sports lighting, improving ancillary facilities, increasing match play on 3G pitches, and enabling access to existing unused provision (e.g. unavailable school sites).
 - This means that new grass pitches are not generally required, although such a need will increase if other methods of reducing deficits are not possible.

¹⁶ Oldham's PPOSS:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/3270/playing_pitch_and_outdoor_sports_strategy_2025

¹⁷ PPOSS Assessment Report:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/8145/oldham_pposs_assessment_report

- Despite this, there is a clear quantified shortfall of 3G pitches (mainly for training) that can only be rectified through the installation of new facilities. This could also alleviate turf pitch issues.

2.43. The Assessment findings underpin the Strategy¹⁸ and Action Plan¹⁹ documents.

2.44. The Strategy and Action Plan provide a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitch and accompanying ancillary facilities up to 2041 (in line with the Local Plan review). It has been developed to provide:

- 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;
- Aims to help deliver the recommendations and actions – based around the notions of ‘protect’, ‘enhance’ and ‘provide’;
- 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; and
- A prioritised area-by-area Action Plan to address key issues on a site-by-site basis.

2.45. The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the Supply and Demand Assessment and Strategy. It provides actions based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It is organised by Analysis Area (North, South, East, West and Central) and includes information on expected timescales, costs, partners, priority etc. Each action is linked to one or more of the Strategy Aims (protect, enhance, provide) and Strategic Recommendations.

¹⁸ PPOSS Strategy Report: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/8146/oldham_pposs_strategy_report

¹⁹ PPOSS Action Plan: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/8144/oldham_pposs_action_plan

3. Open Space Policy

- 3.1. Policy 23 of the Local Plan (see figure 1) sets out policy for the protection of open space, provision of new open spaces and the loss of open spaces.

Policy Threshold

- 3.2. Policy 23 states that “all residential development should contribute towards the provision of new or enhanced open space.”. NPPF Annex 2: Glossary defines major developments as ‘development where 10 or more homes will be provided, or the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more’. Annex 1 of NPPF makes clear that ‘policies in this Framework are material considerations which should be taken into account in dealing with applications ...existing policies should not be considered out-of-date simply because they were adopted or made prior to the publication of this Framework. Due weight should be given to them, according to their degree of consistency with this Framework (the closer the policies in the plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).’
- 3.3. Therefore, having regard to Annex 1 it is considered appropriate that the council should give less weight to the threshold in Policy 23 in relation to new or enhanced open space provision as part of new residential development²⁰. As having regard to the significant changes in national planning policy over the last 14 years, since the publication of the current Local Plan, it is clear that these amendments to NPPF have limited the thresholds for gathering developer contributions, to all major schemes (as per the definition of major development set out NPPF Annex 2: Glossary).
- 3.4. In light of the above it is considered that the policy requirement for seeking new or enhanced open spaces should only apply to major residential development (10 homes and above) in line with NPPF.
- 3.5. The exception to this is where an application (for residential or other development) would involve the loss of open space provision. Any replacement provision or contributions towards new or enhanced open space provision to account for any loss of open space continues to apply to all levels and types of development, in line with policy 23 and wider aims of NPPF, to ensure that development does not have an adverse impact on the local environment. The policy requirements relating to the loss of open space remain as published in policy 23 of the Local Plan.

Open Space Standards

- 3.6. Policy 23 states that “The council will have regard to the proposed development and the open space surpluses and deficiencies in the area to determine whether on-site or off-site new provision, enhanced existing provision or a financial contribution will be required. Open space surpluses and deficiencies will be defined through the Annual Monitoring Report.”. It goes on to state that “the required type and amount of provision in any instance shall be calculated in accordance with the council’s current local standards of provision and the surplus and deficiencies of open space provision identified in the Open Space Study (Open Space Study, PMP consultants and Oldham

²⁰ This threshold does not apply to the loss of open space provision.

Council, 2006 – 2010). These will be monitored and reviewed over the lifetime of the LDF.” and that “the council will provide further advice and guidance on this policy”.

3.7. The local standards of provision and the surplus and deficiencies have been reviewed by the Open Space Study (2022). As such, in line with the policy, the reviewed evidence from the Open Space Study (2022) should be used to inform the implementation of new open spaces, and guide developer contributions towards new or enhanced provision by identifying deficiencies in provision (in terms of quantity, quality, accessibility). It has not been possible to monitor the surpluses and deficiencies of open space through the Annual Monitoring Report, however the 2022 Open Space Study provides an updated position of the borough’s open space provision in this regard.

3.8. As such, the updated standards of open space provision set out overleaf (table 1) should be used, replacing the existing standards set out within table 11 - policy 23 of the Local Plan.

Table 1 – Open Space Standards (Open Space Study 2022) (repeated)

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population)	Quality Standard	Accessibility Standard
Allotments and Community Gardens	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Amenity Greenspace	0.46	At least 70%	720 metres (15-minute walk)
Cemeteries and Churchyards	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Civic Spaces	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Green Corridors	No standard	At least 70%	No standard
Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace	1.95	At least 70%	Natural and Semi-Natural - 720 metres (15-minute walk) Strategic Natural and Semi-Natural over 20ha - 7.85km (20-minute drive time)
Outdoor Sports Facilities (excluding Golf Courses)	1.35	At least 70%	720 metres (15-minute walk)
Parks and Gardens	0.40	At least 70%	Local Parks and Gardens - 720 metres (15-minute walk) Strategic Parks and

Type of Open Space	Quantity Standard (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population)	Quality Standard	Accessibility Standard
			Gardens of 15ha and above - 7.85km (20-minute drive)
Provision for Children and Young People	0.25	At least 70%	480 metres (10 minute walk)

3.9. Compared to table 11 of policy 23 (Local Plan), as shown in table 1 above, the standards for most types of open space provision remain the same. The accessibility standard has not changed for any types of open space provision, although clarification has been added in terms of non-strategic (local) and strategic open spaces where relevant. The quality standard is also unchanged from the standards set out in table 11 of policy 23. Quantity standards have been updated for Parks and Gardens and Provision for Children and Young People only.

3.10. In addition to the table above, the Open Space Study identified an open space value standard of 60-100% (high value) be applied for destination or flagship sites¹⁹ and a standard of 40-50% (medium value) be applied for all other open space sites²¹. Adding value to open space is important as it enables them to provide multi-functional benefits, maximising the positive impacts of open space for communities. Providers can add value to open spaces in various ways, through for example, adding street furniture, planting, improving signage and accessibility, and promoting spaces for events or sports use, to promote or improve their contextual, heritage, local amenity, sense of place, recreation, play and ecological value.

3.11. Whilst the standard is not enforced through policy 23 at this time, value should be considered in the designing of new open spaces and added where possible to ensure open spaces can provide multi-functional benefits and maximise user experience. Further detail on value is provided within the Open Space Study. The value standard will be considered in future policy making as part of the Local Plan Review.

3.12. In line with policy 23 the council will have regard to the proposed development and the open space surpluses and deficiencies in the area to determine whether on-site or off-site new provision, enhanced existing provision or a financial contribution will be required. Open space provision against the identified standards (see appendix 1) should be used to inform where new or improved spaces are needed in line with the identified surpluses and deficiencies. Contributions should go towards at least one of

²¹ The value standard ensures that the borough's open spaces are meaningful and beneficial to the local community. It ensures locally important, or flagship open spaces, are protected and that investment towards existing provision is focused where it is most needed.

the deficient typologies within the area and considering the accessibility maps²² and quality assessment²³.

- 3.13. Where an area within which a site is located is deficient in at least one of the standards of open space provision (accessibility, quality and quantity) it will be classed as deficient and onsite provision or a developer contribution towards new or enhanced existing open space will be required.
- 3.14. The council's Parks and Greenspaces team will assist in identifying opportunities for new or enhanced open space provision based on the assessment findings.
- 3.15. New open spaces should aim to meet the standards set out within table 1 (and considering adding value where appropriate).
- 3.16. A developer contributions calculator, produced as part of the Open Space Study (2022) will assist the council in determining deficiencies affecting proposed development sites based on their location (ward). It will identify appropriate developer contribution figures that will be used to create new or enhance existing open spaces based on the type of provision, relevant industry costings and the number of bedrooms/ bedspaces proposed in the development.
- 3.17. This is a similar approach to that which has been previously used to determine open space developer contributions, however the industry cost estimates used have been updated (as part of the Open Space Study) using SPON'S industry estimating cost guides (2023) and professional judgement.

²² Open Space Study (2022) – Accessibility Maps (by open space typology):
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022

²³ Open Space Study (2022) – Appendix C – Site Audit Data:
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7644/appendix_c_-_site_audit_data

- 3.18. In terms of outdoor sports facilities, the open space standards provide a guide as to the quantity, quality and accessibility that provision should achieve. However, the assessment of outdoor sports provision, particularly in terms of quality, carried out by the Open Space Study has been updated and supplemented by the more detailed supply and demand assessment²⁴ carried out as part of the PPOSS. This should be used as evidence when considering outdoor sport's needs as part of new development. This will be discussed in more detail in section 4.

Policy Position – New or Enhanced Open Space Provision

Residential development of 10 homes and above should contribute towards the provision of new or enhanced open space, unless it can be demonstrated by the developer that it is not financially viable for the development proposal or that this is neither practicable nor desirable.

The council will have regard to the proposed development and the open space surpluses and deficiencies in the area, as determined by the Open Space Study (2022), to determine whether on-site or off-site new or enhanced provision will be required. Where an area (ward) within which a site is located is deficient in at least one of the standards of open space provision (accessibility, quality and quantity) the area will be classed as deficient and onsite provision or a developer contribution towards off-site new or enhanced existing open space provision is required.

Developer contributions will be used as appropriate to secure the provision and maintenance of new, or enhanced, open space provision. Contributions should go towards at least one of the deficient typologies within the area and considering the accessibility and quality assessment (Open Space Study 2022).

The current local standards of open space provision set out in table 11 of the Local Plan is superseded by the open space standards set out in table 1 above, as updated evidence. New or enhanced open spaces should aim to meet the open space standards set out within table 1.

Loss of Open Spaces

- 3.19. The Open Space Study (2022) identifies the borough's existing open space provision²⁵. In line with policy 23 any loss of provision will only be permitted where the proposed development would meet criteria a-f.
- 3.20. The policy goes on to state that development of a site that is currently or was most recently used as open space or for sport or recreation will be permitted provided it can be demonstrated the development brings substantial benefits to the community that would outweigh the harm resulting from the loss of open space; and meets criteria g-j.
- 3.21. This policy remains as is published in the Local Plan, although the Open Space Study (2022) and PPOSS (2025) provide updated evidence in terms of open space need and

²⁴ Oldham PPOSS Assessment Report:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/8145/oldham_pposs_assessment_report

²⁵ See 'Green Infrastructure' web map for identified open spaces:

<https://map.oldham.gov.uk/map?name=Green%20Infrastructure>

will be considered when assessing the appropriateness of any loss of open space provision.

- 3.22. The existing policy criteria relating to the loss of open spaces set out within policy 23 applies to the loss of *all* open spaces, whether it is proposed to be lost as part of minor or major residential development, or by non-residential development.

4. Playing Pitches and Outdoor Sports

- 4.1. As set out in section 3, new or enhanced open space (including through the use of developer contributions) will be sought as part of major residential development (10 homes and above) in line with policy 23 of the Local Plan.
- 4.2. The council's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2025) provides updated evidence in relation to the borough's playing pitch and outdoor sports provision.
- 4.3. The PPOSS identifies the current and future needs for particular sports and sets out an Action Plan for future investment and improvement.
- 4.4. The PPOSS has considered the needs of several types of sporting provision, including pitches/ courts/ facilities associated with football, rugby, cricket, hockey, netball, golf, athletics, tennis, bowls. It has also considered outdoor provision of multi-use games areas (MUGAs), which can be used for informal sports and recreation.
- 4.5. Building on the PPOSS Assessment, the PPOSS Strategy and Action Plan provide a clear, strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing playing pitches and accompanying ancillary facilities up to 2041.
- 4.6. The Action Plan sets out actions to address key issues identified by the Assessment. It includes information for each identified action on expected timescales (short, medium, long)²⁶, costs (high, medium, low)²⁷, partners (i.e. sports club/ national governing body/ council), site hierarchy²⁸ and priority (high, medium, low)²⁹, as a guide to support delivery of the action.
- 4.7. In terms of delivering the actions in the context of planning policy, the PPOSS Strategy sets out that Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC)³⁰ should be used to inform contributions towards new or enhanced provision as part of new residential development. Sport England's PPC helps local authorities estimate the demand that may be generated for the use of playing pitches by a new population.
- 4.8. Access to the PPC is currently restricted to local authorities with an up-to-date assessment of the need for playing pitches in their area. The council have access to the Sport England PPC - data from Oldham's PPOSS directly feeds into the calculator to generate the results.

²⁶ Short = 1-2 years; medium = 3-5 years; long = 6+ years.

²⁷ High = 750k and above; medium = £150-£750k; low = less than £150k.

²⁸ The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a regional context i.e., they accommodate the majority of demand, or the recommended action has the greatest impact on addressing shortfalls (either on a sport-by-sport basis or across the borough as a whole. The hierarchy is hub sites (high-quality, district important, multi-sport sites), key centres (community/ sport focused, although some are still likely to service a wider analysis area) and local sites (primarily sites with one pitch/facility or a low number of pitches/facilities that service just one or two sports). See PPOSS Action Plan for more information.

²⁹ Priority is based on strategic importance or the potential impact the action will have on addressing key issues identified by the assessment. High priority actions are usually related to hub sites given their potential reach and impact on sporting needs. Medium priority actions have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions. Low priority actions tend to be for single pitch or single sport sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment for specific users. See PPOSS Action Plan for more information.

³⁰ See Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator for further information: <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/playing-pitch-calculator>

- 4.9. Informed by the outcomes of the PPC, the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to identify potential sites for offsite enhancement or where new provision may be needed, based on the identified deficiencies/ need.

Loss of Playing Pitches or Outdoor Sports Provision

- 4.10. As set out in section 3, the loss of open space, including any loss of playing pitches or outdoor sports provision, will continue to be considered in line with the criteria (a-j) set out within policy 23 of the Local Plan and considering the updated need evidence set out within the Open Space Study (2022) and PPOSS (2025). This part of the policy applies to the loss of all open spaces, whether it is proposed to be lost as part of minor or major residential development, and also by non-residential development.
- 4.11. Any enhanced or replaced playing pitch or outdoor sports provision provided to account for the loss of such provision should be informed by the PPOSS documents, considering need and the Action Plan.

Policy Position – Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Provision

The PPOSS provides updated evidence in relation to the borough's playing pitch and outdoor sports provision. It identifies the current and future needs for particular sports and sets out an Action Plan for future investment and improvement.

The PPOSS should be used to inform where and what type of new or enhanced playing pitch and outdoor sports provision is provided.

In terms of new residential development, Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator should be used to inform contributions towards new or enhanced provision as part of new residential development. The calculator considers the provision needs identified by Oldham's PPOSS.

Informed by the outcomes of the Playing Pitch Calculator, the PPOSS Action Plan should be used to identify potential sites for offsite enhancement or where new provision may be needed, based on the identified deficiencies/ need.

Any enhanced or replaced playing pitch or outdoor sports provision provided to account for the loss of such provision should also be informed by the PPOSS, considering need and the Action Plan.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1. This Interim Planning Position Paper supports implementation of policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports' within Oldham's Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document, adopted November 2011.
- 5.2. This paper supersedes the previous 'Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper' published by the council in March 2012.
- 5.3. The paper sets out the council's position in relation to open space policy - including the gathering of developer contributions towards open space provision (including playing pitch and outdoor sports provision).
- 5.4. The paper will be used when assessing planning applications and development proposals relating to open space provision and developer contributions for open space provision (including contributions required as part of new residential development) in line with Local Plan Policy 23 'Open Spaces and Sports'. It must also be read alongside PfE policy JP-P7 'Sport and Recreation'.
- 5.5. This paper is informed by the council's Open Space Study (2022) and the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2025) as key evidence base documents.
- 5.6. This paper provides updated evidence to inform the interpretation and implementation of policy 23 of Oldham's Local Plan. It is a material consideration and should be used in decision making as appropriate.
- 5.7. The council's approach to updated local evidence will be considered further and inform policy preparation as part of the Local Plan Review.

Appendix 1

Table A: Open space provision, by typology, within the borough (Open Space Study 2022)³¹

Open Space Typology	Description	Number of sites	Current amount of provision (ha)
Allotments and Community Gardens	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion.	36	14.93
Amenity Greenspace	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.	383	90.14
Cemeteries and Churchyards	Cemeteries and churchyards including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.	78	83.94
Civic Spaces	Hard surfaced areas usually located within town or city centres.	22	2.18
Green Corridors	Linear natural infrastructure, such as trees and plants, that link up other green and open spaces to form a green urban network.	26	38.07
Natural and Semi-natural Greenspace	Includes country parks, nature reserves, publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, wetlands and wastelands.	217	667.97
Outdoor Sports Facilities	Usually in the form of pitches or other sports provision, such as football, rugby or cricket pitches as well as tennis courts or bowling greens.	253	478.81
Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks and formal gardens. Parks usually contain a variety of facilities and may have one of more of the other types of open space within them.	49	192.52
Provision for Children and Young People	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people, such as equipped play areas, multi-use games areas and skateboard parks.	95	9.54

³¹ This table includes all identified open space provision – including provision which was excluded from the quality assessment. See section 3 of the Open Space Study 2022 for further information on excluded sites and the assessment methodology.

Open Space Typology	Description	Number of sites	Current amount of provision (ha)
Total provision		1,159	1,578.09

Table B - Existing Quantity of Provision against the Identified Quantity Standard (Table 28 – Open Space Study 2022)

Open Space Typology	Existing Provision (ha/1,000)	Proposed Standard (ha/1,000)	Current (2021) Surplus/Deficiency (ha)
Allotments and Community Gardens	0.06	No standard	n/a
Amenity Greenspace	0.38	0.46	-0.08
Cemeteries and Churchyards	0.35	No standard	n/a
Civic Spaces	0.01	No standard	n/a
Green Corridors	0.16	No standard	n/a
Natural and Semi-Natural Areas Greenspace	2.80	1.95	0.85
Outdoor Sports Facilities	2.00	1.35	0.65
Parks and Gardens	0.81	0.4	0.41
Provision for Children and Young People	0.04	0.25	-0.21
Total	6.61	-	-

Table C - Open Space Quality Assessment Summary (Table 8 - Open Space Study 2022)

Quality Banding	No. of Open Space Sites	Percentage of Sites
Excellent	39	8.55%
Very Good	84	18.46%
Good	135	29.67%
Fair	162	35.60%
Poor	35	7.69%
Total	455	100%

Table D – Open Spaces by Value Score (Table 11 of Open Space Study 2022)

Value Banding	No. of Open Space Sites	Percentage of Sites
High	190	41.76%
Medium	144	31.65%
Low	121	26.59%
Total	455	100%

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Report to CABINET

Transport Capital Programme 2025/26 – City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB)

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Chris Goodwin – Cabinet member for Transport & Highways

Officer Contact:

Emma Barton – Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Report Author:

Gordon Anderson – Head of Highways & Engineering

21st July 2025

Reason for Decision

With the strategic approach for the 5-year City Region sustainable transport settlement (CRSTS) programme approved in March 2022 (appended to this report), this report seeks approval for formal acceptance of the CRSTS funding, as well as the acceptance of the Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB), and approval of the programmes recommended for delivery utilising these funds in full, for 2025/26.

Recommendations

That cabinet approve:

- The allocation of CRSTS, Vision Zero, Additional Funding, Incentive Funding & ITB Maintenance funding as shown in the tables below:

Funding

ITB	CRSTS	CRSTS Drawdown	Vision Zero	DfT Additional Funding	DfT Incentive	Total
£ 707,000	£3,067,000	£ 2,250,000	£ 200,000	£ 973,000	£ 324,000	£ 7,521,000

Scheme Delivery

£ Drainage	£ Footway	£ Structures	£ Carriageway	£ Road Safety	Total
£ 100,000	£ 400,000	£ 3,905,000	£ 2,209,000	£ 907,000	£ 7,521,000

- The proposed programme of schemes, which would fully utilise the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) highway maintenance, Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations available for 2025/26 as per the formal grant notification from GMCA.
- That all tender award decisions are approved by the Authorised Officer (as per Departmental Scheme of Delegation) (Up to £99,999) and where applicable (£100k+) by the Executive Member, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and Director(s) (as relevant). This is necessary to meet delivery timescales.
- That Cabinet delegate approval and authorisation to the Director of Legal Services or their nominated representative to sign and/or affix the Common Seal of the Council to all contracts/agreements/documents and associated or ancillary paperwork to give effect to the recommendations in this report.
- That any underspend generated as the attached programme progresses (as per Appendices) be used to deliver additional schemes in priority order (although lower priority schemes may be selected depending on available budget, value for money and type of treatment) until the budget is fully expended in year. This approach to utilising underspend means there is no need to gain further approvals to deliver additional schemes, ensuring they can be delivered as soon as practically possible.

Transport Capital Programme 2025/26 – City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB)**1 Background**

- 1.1 Funding previously received for Core Highways Maintenance and Integrated Transport Block (ITB) has been consolidated into the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) funding settlement, with effect from 2022/23, and for the subsequent 5 financial years.
- 1.2 On 1 April 2022, Great Manchester (GM) was notified of its final CRSTS allocation of £1.07bn, based upon the CRSTS prospectus, which had been submitted to Government in September 2021, and the draft Programme Case submitted on 31 January 2022.
- 1.3 This allocation includes an amount of £175m for core highways maintenance and £82m for ITB funding for the period 2022/23 to 2026/27

2 Current Position**2.1 Core Highways Maintenance Funding**

A core highway maintenance allocation of £35m (covering the first year of the £175m) will be made available to local authorities based on an allocation process agreed with the GM Delivery Group, the GM Highways Group and the GM Treasurers.

In an effort to maintain the progress made as part of the recently completed Highway Investment Programme (HIP), the proposal is to prioritise funds going forward in the same manner. Ensuring scheme selection is carried out in the same manner will allow for prioritising the correct intervention on the highway at the correct time.

Prioritising the programme using the most recent condition data from the range of condition surveys undertaken annually, and cross referencing those against claims and enquiry data, has allowed the Council to target the worst roads across the borough, but also continue to reduce highway claims and revenue repairs throughout Oldham.

Appendix 1 details the highway schemes to be funded from CRSTS, DfT Additional Funding & DfT Incentive Funding, which will enable delivery of a resurfacing programme alongside the preventative maintenance programme.

2.2 Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Funding

ITB is capital funding granted to local authorities for expenditure on their local transport plans. Following the confirmation of the final CRSTS award by DfT, the proposal for allocating ITB in 2025/26, that has been agreed by the GM Delivery Group and GM Highways Group, is as follows:

- There is no requirement for ITB to be used as part of the funding strategy for Bus Franchising in 2025/26, and therefore, it can be released, in full, for funding local transport. However, the potential requirements for ITB to be applied as a funding mitigation for Bus Franchising will need to be reviewed on an annual basis.

-
- For 2025/26, it is proposed that the allocation basis for ITB returns to the 'historic' 50:50 split between the GM local authorities and public transport investment via GMCA. Therefore, the proposal is that £16.3m of ITB is released on a 50:50 basis between the GM local authorities and GMCA.

Following discussions with local authorities via the GM Delivery Group and the GM Treasurers, it is proposed that the allocations of ITB funding per local authority will follow the same as that used when ITB was last allocated to the GM local authorities in 2010/11.

A programme of works has been compiled by highways officers based on the following factors:

- Commitments to road safety, traffic management and minor works schemes established as part of the previous programmes which are still a priority for delivery.
- Council priorities, including accident reduction schemes, and pedestrian safety improvements, Oldham along with all other Manchester Boroughs have signed up to Vision Zero which commits to reducing all killed or seriously injured collisions on the highway to zero by 2040.
- Scheme requests received throughout the year, including from Councillors, members of the public and other organisations, which are all recorded for consideration as part of this process.
- The authority's statutory duties in relation to highways, including:
 - acting to reduce the likelihood of accidents occurring at known accident locations.
 - promoting safe and sustainable travel to school.
- Ensuring the programme is consistent with the Council's Asset Management Plan (AMP).

Appendix 2 sets out a proposed programme of schemes which would fully utilise the expected ITB allocation and is recommended for delivery in 2025/26.

Appendix 3 details the approved 5-year Structures Programme, which is now in its Fourth year of delivery.

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 Option 1 – Members agree:

- The proposed programme of schemes which would fully utilise the expected City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations available for 2025/26 as per the formal grant notifications from GMCA.

3.2 Option 2 – Members do not agree:

- The proposed programme of schemes which would fully utilise the expected City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS), Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations available for 2025/26 as per the formal grant notifications from GMCA.

- 3.3 Option 1 is recommended to progress delivery of the Transport Capital Programme 2025/26 and deliver improvements and infrastructure across the borough's highway assets.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 4.1 Option 1 – Members agree:

- The allocation of CRSTS, ITB & Advanced Pothole funding to the figures shown below.

Funding

ITB	CRSTS	CRSTS Drawdown	Vision Zero	DfT Additional Funding	DfT Incentive	Total
£ 707,000	£ 3,067,000	£ 2,250,000	£ 200,000	£ 973,000	£ 324,000	£ 7,521,000

Scheme Delivery

£ Drainage	£ Footway	£ Structures	£ Carriageway	£ Road Safety	Total
£ 100,000	£ 400,000	£ 3,905,000	£ 2,209,000	£ 907,000	£ 7,521,000

- The proposed programme of schemes which would fully utilise the expected City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) highway maintenance, Vision Zero, DfT Additional Funding, DfT Incentive Funding & Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations available for 2025/26 as per the formal grant notifications from GMCA.
- That all tender award decisions are approved by the Authorised Officer (as per Departmental Scheme of Delegation) (Up to £99,999) and where applicable (£100k+) by the Executive Member in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and Director(s) (as relevant). This is necessary to meet delivery timescales.
- That Cabinet delegate approval and authorisation to the Director of Legal Services or their nominated representative to sign and/or affix the Common Seal of the Council to all contracts/agreements/documents and associated or ancillary paperwork to give effect to the recommendations in this report.
- That any underspend generated as the attached programme progresses (as per Appendices) be used to deliver additional schemes in priority order (although lower priority schemes may be selected depending on available budget, value for money and type of treatment) until the budget is fully expended in year. This approach to utilising underspend means there is no need to gain further approvals to deliver additional schemes, ensuring they can be delivered as soon as practically possible.

5 **Consultation**

5.1 N/A

6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 The Council has been awarded £7,521,000 of CRSTS funding, Vision Zero funding, DfT Additional funding, DfT Incentive funding, and Integrated Transport Block funding to deliver the 2025/26 transport capital programme, which will be allocated as follows:

£ Drainage	£ Footway	£ Structures	£ Carriageway	£ Road Safety	Total
£ 100,000	£ 400,000	£ 3,905,000	£ 2,209,000	£ 907,000	£ 7,521,000

Capital cost centres have already been set up for these schemes, and the budgets will be monitored against expenditure on a monthly basis. In the event that any overspends are identified, the service will be required to identify schemes where the original budget allocation can be reduced to offset it.

This allocation is an increase of £2,969,000 compared to 2024/25 and an increase of £324k over the Capital Strategy for 2025/30 due to the inclusion of the incentive funding.

Leonnie Wharton-Brown, Senior Accountant

7 **Legal Implications**

7.1 None (Alan Evans)

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

8.1 Yes. Appendix 4

9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

11.1 NEI-03-25

12 **Background Papers**

12.1 None

13 **Appendices**

13.1 Appendix 1 – CRSTS Maintenance Programme 2025/26
Appendix 2 – Local Transport Plan Programme 2025/26
Appendix 3 – CRSTS Structures Programme
Appendix 4 - IAReport_Transport_Capital_Programme_2025-26

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Ref	Scheme Name	Extents
Carriageway Resurfacing		
1	B6197 Buckstones Road	Milnrow Road to St Saviours Mission Church
2	A669 Middleton Road	Chadderton Park Road to Hunt Lane
3	Wellmeadow Lane	Full Length
4	Chadderton Park Road	York Road to Middleton Road
5	Eton Avenue / Thorncliffe Avenue	Full Length
6	B6189 Foxdenton Lane	Broadway to Matthew Fold
7	Platting Road	A62 Huddersfield Road to Wood Brook Lane
8	B6175 Well-I-Hole Road	Oaklands Road to Manchester Road
9	Wildmoor Avenue	Full Length
10	A663 Broadway	Shell Garage to A671 Rochdale Road
11	Props Hall Drive	Full Length
12	Richmond Road	Woodford Road to Hampton Road
13	Lowe Green	Full Length
14	Great Gable Close	Full Length
15	Wash Brook / Block Lane	Stanley Road to Suffolk Street
16	Cheetham Street	Full Length
17	Kenton Street	Full Length
Footway Resurfacing		
Boroughwide Footway Resurfacing		
		Schemes to be prioritised from latest condition data
Highway Drainage		
Boroughwide Minor Highway Drainage		
		Schemes to be prioritised from latest condition data

Treatment	Ward	2025/26 Allocation
		£2,209,000
Resurfacing	Shaw	£329,584
Resurfacing	Chadderton North	£237,218
Resurfacing	Saddleworth South	£186,591
Resurfacing	Chadderton North	£174,700
Resurfacing	Medlock Vale	£173,106
Resurfacing	Chadderton South	£169,762
Surface Dressing	Saddleworth North	£162,415
Surface Dressing	Saddleworth South	£157,600
Surface Dressing	Alexandra	£103,675
Resurfacing	Royton South	£94,425
Surface Dressing	Failsworth West	£83,873
Resurfacing	Failsworth East	£73,229
Resurfacing	Royton South	£64,583
Resurfacing	St Mary's	£55,198
Surface Dressing	Chadderton South	£52,965
Resurfacing	Shaw	£45,119
Resurfacing	Alexandra	£44,957
		£400,000
		£400,000
		£100,000
		£100,000

Scheme Name	Ward	Budget 2025/2026	Measures	Justification
Accident reduction duties under Section 39 of the Road Traffic Act 1988	Boroughwide	70,000	(i) Preparation and delivery of a programme of measures designed to promote road safety (ii) The undertaking of studies into accidents arising out of the use of vehicles (iii) In light of those studies, the promotion of interventions appropriate to prevent such accidents.	Obligations under Section 39 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 - Legal Requirement. This is not covered by the Unity core fee and would otherwise be a pressure on the revenue budget if not included in the capital programme.
Minor Traffic Management & Safety	Boroughwide	120,000	Minor traffic signing/lining and highway	Requests are received on a regular basis from Councillors and residents requesting minor traffic/safety improvements.
Disabled Access Improvements	Boroughwide	20,000	Various small scale improvements to aid and assist pedestrians, wheelchair and mobilityscooter users when crossing the road at locations without adequate provision.	The measures will be tailored to the individual requirements of the site usually taking the form of dropped kerbs, tactile paving and footway improvements along recognised desire lines.
Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Improvements	Boroughwide	65,000	Improving the PRoW across the Borough	Statutory requirement to manage Borough's PRoW .
Vision Zero projects, including residential 20mph speed limits	Boroughwide	382,000	Collision prevention schemes across the Borough including various trial 20mph speed limits and works outside schools.	The Council has signed up to Vision Zero which aims to reduce KSI injuries to 9 by 2040.
Replacement of worn and missing parking restriction signs	Boroughwide	25,000	Bring existing parking restrictions up to enforceable standards	Missing plates mean that existing restrictions can't be enforced which leads to vehicles parking on restrictions that can lead to delays on the network and also road safety problems.
Boroughwide	Speed Cushions	25,000	Enhancement/replacement of defective existing safety barriers on a priority basis across the borough.	Ageing Speed cushions within the borough coming to the end of their serviceable life with some speed cushions not complying with current standards. Speed cushions will be replaced on a priority basis.
	TOTAL	707,000		

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Structure Name	Street Name
Minor Structures (Highway Retaining Walls and Bridges)	Various
Principal Inspections (Highway Retaining Walls and Bridges)	Various
Assessment of Structures (Highway Retaining Walls and Bridges)	Various
Denshaw Bridge / Retaining walls	A6052 Delph Road, Denshaw
Manchester Street Viaduct	A627 Oldham Way, Oldham
Dunham Street Bridge	Dunham Street, Lees
Warlow Brook Culvert	A635 Manchester Road, Greenfield
Cop Road Embankment (in the vicinity of traffic signals)	Cop Road, Shaw

Appendix 3 - Structures Proposed Programme

Ward	Treatment /comments
Boroughwide	Minor works to highway structures
Boroughwide	Routine Principal Inspections of existing stock of highway structures
Boroughwide	Assessment of existing structures stock to comply with statutory requirements
Saddleworth North	Strengthening and refurbishment works to retaining walls and masonry arch bridge
Werneth & Coldhurst	CRSTS Major Strategic Maintenance Scheme (Estimated Council contribution required as match funding)
Waterhead, Saddleworth West & Lees and Saddleworth North	Either a full replacement or major refurbishment works involving masonry repairs and waterproofing
Saddleworth South	Either a full replacement or major refurbishment works involving masonry repairs and waterproofing
St James'	Landslip stabilisation works adjacent to highway
	Total Estimated Budget for 5 Years

Total Es

	Spend Profile	
Estimated Budget per Scheme	2025/26	2025/26 - adjusted
£730,000	120,000	120,000
£250,000	50,000	50,000
£375,000	75,000	75,000
£1,020,000	410,000	410,000
£2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
£525,000	150,000	
£1,100,000	500,000	
£300,000	130,000	
£8,735,000		
Estimated Budget Spend per Year	£2,435,000	£1,655,000
Agreed funding level per year for structures maintenance (Assuming no additional funding secured)	£1,160,000.00	£1,160,000.00
Shortfall forecast per Year	-£1,275,000.00	-£495,000.00

2026/27	Next round of budget allocations
120,000	
50,000	
75,000	
1,000,000	
325,000	150,000
500,000	500,000
130,000	130,000
£2,200,000	£780,000
£1,160,000.00	
-£1,040,000.00	-£780,000.00

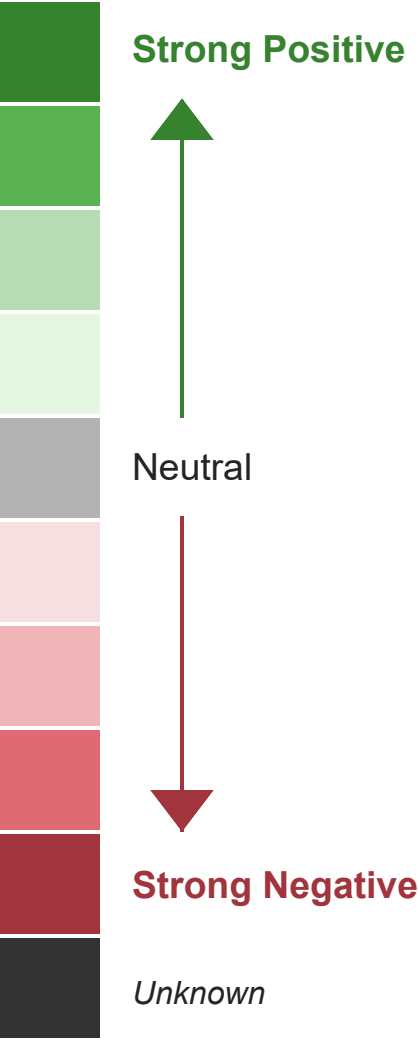
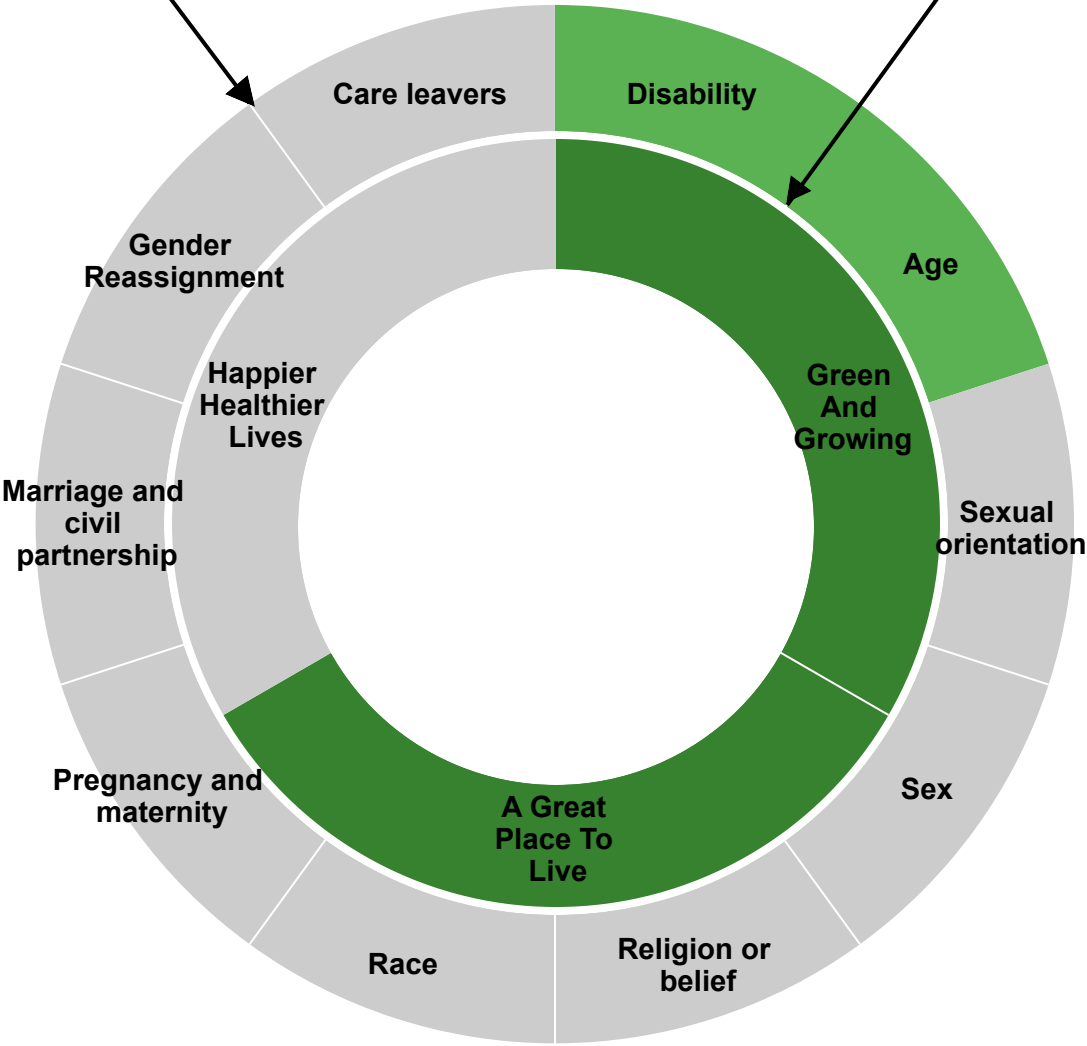
Transport Capital Programme 2025/26

completed/last updated by Nigel Molden on 16/04/2025

Portfolio	
Don't Trash Oldham	
Directorate	
People	
Service/Team	
Environment	
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	<input type="button" value="No"/>

Equality Characteristics

Our Mission



Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Care leavers	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	
Age	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Improves mobility.
Disability	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Improved carriageways which aids mobility.

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	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Well maintained Highways promote nice places for the community and promote business growth.
Green And Growing	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Well maintained Highways encourage business growth.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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