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CABINET
Agenda

Date	Monday 19th January 2026
Time	6.00 pm
Venue	JR Clynes Building, Council Chamber, Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham, OL1 1AL
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. The 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, 14th January 2026. 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 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 - 16)

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet, held on 15th December 2025, are attached for approval.

6 Council Tax Base and Non-Domestic Rates Tax Base Forecast 2026/27 (Pages 17 - 30)

A report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability that presents the Council Tax Base which will underpin the forthcoming Council Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy scheduled for consideration at Budget Council on 4th March 2026.

7 Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan Consultation (Pages 31 - 1870)

Report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods seeking approval, from the Council of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan for publication and consultation.

8 Yew Tree Community School - Capital Works (Pages 1871 - 1876)

A report of the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills seeking approval for a capital project that will offer additional places and enhance provision for pupils with additional needs at Yew Tree Primary School. The report also seeks approval for the allocation of funding from High Needs Provision Capital Allocations and Basic Need Grant towards the scheme.

9 Property Management Programme Update (Pages 1877 - 1892)

A report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth that provides information about the School Backlog Maintenance programme and which seeks approval of funds to be provided by the School Condition Allocation (SCA) to proceed with the identified prioritised work.

10 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.

11 Property Management Programme Update (Pages 1893 - 1900)

To consider confidential recommendations.

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CABINET
15/12/2025 at 6.00 pm

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

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Fida Hussain.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

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

5 **MINUTES**

Resolved:
That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 1st December 2025 be approved, as a correct record.

6 **EXTENSION OF A SECTION 75 AGREEMENT WITH NHS NORTHERN CARE ALLIANCE**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Public Health which advised members that Oldham Council and the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust (NCA) had an established working arrangement to deliver integrated children and family services under a Section 75 agreement. This agreement has been in place since 1st April 2022 and was set to run until 31st March 2026. All elements of the integrated children's and families service were funded through the Public Health settlement.

The Cabinet was recommended to approve the extension of the section 75 agreement with the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust, to enable the continued deliverance of the clinical elements of the integrated children's and families' service.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) - to approve the recommendations outlined in the submitted report.
Option 2 - Do not continue with a mandated Public Health function of the Healthy Child programme.
Option 3 - To go out to the market and procure a service, via a tendering process.

Resolved
That the Cabinet approves:

1. The extension of the Section 75 Partnership Agreement with the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust, to deliver the clinical elements of the integrated children's and families service for a period of 2 years with an option to extend by a further 1 year.
2. To delegate authority to the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to approve any future extensions to the Section 75 agreement where there is budget available.
3. To delegate authority to the relevant officers to negotiate and execute any revisions of the Section 75 agreement.
4. To delegate authority to the relevant officers to harmonize the 0-19 specification with Bury and Rochdale to allow for greater consistency, whilst ensuring that an appropriate locality schedule reflects the current delivery model in Oldham.

7 **PROPERTY PLANNED AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS**

The Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive which sought approval to establish new contracts to deliver and facilitate various Planned and Preventative Maintenance requirements. The previous framework (Construction and Highways Works and Services Framework) ended in October 2024.
A review of the delivery of the Construction and Highways Works & Services Framework had identified that new agreements should be established.
The proposal, detailed in the report was to establish a mix of new contracts that would be required to cover the Council's Planned and Preventative Maintenance requirements. The Council needed to ensure that all procurement activity was compliant with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 - To approve the recommendations in the report thereby allowing Oldham Council's Procurement team to establish new contracts to cover all Property related Planned and Preventative Maintenance. This will ensure that delivery complies with Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023, whilst also delivering the best value for money.
Option 2 – Not to approve the report, which was not considered to be viable, as, a consequence of this, would leave the Council in breach of Oldham Council Contract Procedure Rules, unless each scheme is individually quoted or tendered for, which is considered an inefficient procurement method, and would not provide best value.

Resolved:
That the Cabinet approves the report, thereby allowing Oldham Council's Procurement team to establish new contracts to cover all Property related Planned and Preventative Maintenance.

8 **CONFIRMATION OF THE ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION FOR**

HOUSES OF MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive which advised members that at an earlier meeting on 22nd September 2025, Cabinet had agreed to introduce a non-immediate, borough-wide Article 4 Direction to remove the permitted development right allowing the conversion of dwelling houses (Use Class C3) into Houses of Multiple Occupation for up to six residents (Use Class C4). A period of public consultation on the introduction of the Article 4 Direction was to follow for a period of 6 weeks – the consultation ran from 6th October to 16th November 2025. The Cabinet had also agreed that a further report be brought back to a future meeting at the earliest opportunity to allow Members to consider the outcome of the consultation and thereafter to determine if the Article 4 Direction should be confirmed and come into effect on 1st January 2026 or such other later date as considered appropriate.

The submitted report therefore sets out the outcome of the public consultation, summarising the available evidence and, as a result, sought confirmation of the Article 4 Direction, to come into effect on 1st January 2026.

In considering the report, Cabinet Members were remined that a report detailing the consultation outcome and outlining the next steps involved to seek confirmation of the Article 4 Direction (this report), was presented to and approved by the Council on 10th December 2025.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) - to confirm the Article 4 Direction
The available evidence has shown that there is a need for smaller units of accommodation in the borough, which HMOs can provide. However, there is also a need for larger family homes. The majority of the borough's existing HMOs are smaller HMOs (C4 use) (only 19% are larger HMOs for 6 people and above). Also, almost half of the borough's identified HMOs have been converted from C3 Dwellings (single household). This means that family homes have been lost to HMOs. Also, there may be issues of overcrowding and amenity when smaller properties are converted to HMOs, which currently we cannot control with the existing permitted development right.
Option 2 - Do not confirm the Article 4 Direction/No Article 4 Direction
Should the Article 4 Direction not be confirmed, the permitted development right for the change of use from C3 Dwelling house to C4 Small HMO would remain in place. This means that small HMOs would continue to come forward as they do at present as permitted development. The council would therefore have limited control as to how and where these come forward, with the exception of those that are for more than 5 people, which would need to have an HMO Licence.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the evidence presented in the submitted report, including the outcome of the public consultation; and
2. That the Cabinet confirms the Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights for the change of use from Use Class C3 (dwelling houses) to Use Class C4 (small houses in multiple occupation) on a borough-wide basis to come into effect on the 1 January 2026, in line with the details set out in the report and the Article 4 notice presented at Appendix 3, to the submitted report.

9 **GET OLDHAM WORKING - DIGITAL INNOVATION FUND**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years that sought approval for Oldham Council to formally accept £266,084 awarded by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), under the Digital Inclusion Innovation Fund, thereby enabling the delivery of the Oldham Digital Futures: Scaling Skills, Access, and Opportunity project.

The funding had to be utilised and delivery completed by 31st March 2026, and it was operated on a payment-by-results and milestone-based schedule, requiring Cabinet approval being due to the financial and operational implications.

The delivery window was extremely limited — from November 2025 to 31st March 2026 — meaning only 5 months to fully deliver all funded activity. The funding is payment-by-results, requiring Get Oldham Working (GOW) to deliver at risk ahead of receiving the final tranche of grant payment.

Oldham Council had been successful in securing £266,084 through the national Digital Inclusion Innovation Fund. This short-term, high-impact funding enables GOW and partners to deliver a programme addressing digital exclusion across Oldham, including:

- Establishing two fixed digital hubs
- Creating a mobile digital hub for neighbourhood outreach
- Delivering 150 digital inclusion workshops
- Recruiting and training 30 Digital Champions
- Distributing 300+ devices to digitally excluded residents

Despite the tight delivery schedule, this presents a major opportunity to:

a. Equip residents with essential digital skills
b. Reduce device and data poverty
c. Improve access to online public services
d. Support people closer to the job market
e. Build a longer-term digital inclusion offer for Oldham

In considering the report, the Cabinet noted that the Chair of the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board had permitted consideration of the submitted report, at this meeting of the Cabinet, under Rule 13 of the Council's Constitution. The report had not been placed on the Key Decision Document, but

it was still possible to give 5 clear days-notice of the report and the proposed decision to be made. Rule 13 allowed that the decision may be made where the permission had been obtained, in writing, from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, of the matter about which the decision is to be made.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) was to accept the grant funding.
Option 2 was to decline the funding.

Resolved:
That the Cabinet –

1. Approves acceptance of the £266,084 DSIT Digital Inclusion Innovation Fund award.
2. Approves Get Oldam Working (GOW) to deliver the "Oldham Digital Futures" project within DSIT conditions, including the requirement for delivery by 31 March 2026.
3. Notes the payment-by-results nature of the grant and the requirement for GOW to deliver at risk until DSIT milestone payments are released.
4. Delegates authority to the Head of Service – Get Oldham Working to manage delivery, reporting, and compliance with DSIT conditions.
5. Notes the short timeframe and endorse accelerated recruitment, procurement, and neighbourhood engagement to enable delivery.
6. Notes the actions of the Chair of the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board, in permitting this report to be considered, at this Cabinet meeting, pursuant to Rule 13 of the Council's Constitution.

10 **BEAL VALLEY BROADBENT MOSS MASTERPLAN AND SPATIAL DESIGN CODE**

The Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive that sought consideration of the Beal Valley and Broadbent Moss Masterplan and Spatial Design Code, that had been prepared in accordance with Places for Everyone, criteria 1 of JPA 10 Beal Valley and criteria 1 of JPA 12 Broadbent Moss, in light of the Motion agreed at the Council meeting on 10th December, ("Ensuring Statutory Scrutiny and Enforceability for Places for Everyone Masterplans"), that necessitated the requirement of the preparation of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) incorporating this Masterplan and Spatial Design Code.

Given the agreement of the Motion "Ensuring Statutory Scrutiny and Enforceability for Places for Everyone Masterplans" at the Council meeting on 10th December 2025, there was a need to reconsider the recommendations made to Cabinet on the proposed Masterplan and Spatial Design Code in the report on the agenda, and revised recommendations have been proposed in a supplementary report that had been published, to the Council's website, on 15th December 2025 and which were now considered by members.

Before officers were able to proceed to prepare the SPD for public consultation, there was a need to seek endorsement from Cabinet that the Masterplan and Spatial Design Code, as prepared by the Developer Consortium with input from council officers, was a suitable basis for the SPD.

The endorsement of the Masterplan in this way was necessary to indicate the suitability of the masterplan as the basis for an SPD to not only avoid consulting on an SPD that the council could not support, but also to inform decision-making should a planning application(s) be submitted for development on parts of the allocations before an SPD has been adopted.

This would not constitute a non-statutory agreement of the Masterplan (as referred to in resolution 2 of the Motion), but there was a need to provide some kind of basis for officers and Planning Committee to consider planning applications against or else applications could come forward that do not fit together within a wider masterplan of the sites, leading to fractured developments that do not fully meet the infrastructure requirements. In any event, the fact that there was a masterplan that had been submitted by the Developer Consortium meant that the masterplan would have to be a material consideration in any planning application decision.

The Masterplan and Spatial Design Code were be considered at Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board at the appropriate time in the new year, where members on that Scrutiny Board would be encouraged to provide feedback on what has been prepared by the Developer Consortium so that this can be incorporated into a draft SPD for public consultation.

Resolution 4 of the Motion also agreed for a report on timelines for consultation and adoption of the SPD to be brought to the Cabinet in January 2026. A timetable for the preparation, consultation and adoption of the SPD was considered by the Cabinet.

This timetable was going to be affected by the pre-election period, given that the council would not hold public consultations during the pre-election period, and so the consultation could not take place until after the local elections in May 2026 (although the agreement of Cabinet to proceed to consultation could be made in March 2026).

Given the time required to then have the minimum 4-week public consultation, consider the feedback, make any necessary amendments and then bring the final SPD back to Cabinet for adoption, the SPD could not be adopted until September 2026.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) – to approve the recommendations detailed in the revised and updated report (that was published on 25th December 2025).
Option 2 – to reject the report.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet endorses the Beal Valley and Broadbent Moss Masterplan and Spatial Design Code and, in accordance with the Motion agreed at the Council meeting on 10th December, authorise officers to prepare a Supplementary Planning Document incorporating this Masterplan and Spatial Design Code.
2. That the Cabinet notes the timetable for the preparation of the SPD included in this addendum report.
3. That the Cabinet notes that the report will be considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board at the appropriate time in the new year, and should therefore be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Constitution, and the Executive Director Place (Deputy Chief Executive) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods be given delegated authority to respond to any feedback from Scrutiny as the Masterplan is taken forward to become a Supplementary Planning Document.

11 **SADDLEWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive that was seeking approval to publicise the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan and following this, to submit the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan for examination in line with The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012), as outlined in the amended timeline within the submitted report.

Given approval of the Motion "Ensuring Statutory Scrutiny and Enforceability for Places for Everyone Masterplans" at the Council meeting on 10th December, there was therefore a need to reconsider the recommendations made to Cabinet on the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan in the report on the agenda, and revised recommendations were proposed in a supplement to the published agenda (supplement was published on 15th December 2025).

This was due to the capacity within the team responsible for preparing the Local Plan, the Article 4 Direction for HMOs, and now the Supplementary Planning Document required for the Beal Valley and Broadbent Moss Strategic Location. Therefore, the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan would take longer to progress in readiness for consultation and examination. In this regard, a revised timetable now replaced that within the previously published cabinet report and was detailed in the supplementary report, which the Cabinet considered.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) – to approve the recommendations detailed in the revised and updated report.
Option 2 – to refuse the report.

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet notes the amended timetable outlined in the addendum report.
2. That the Cabinet agrees to the publicising of the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan, in line with Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (at the appropriate time); and following this,
3. Submit the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan for examination in line with Regulation 17 of The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations;
4. Grant delegated authority to the Executive Director Place (Deputy Chief Executive) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, to consider the recommendations made in the Inspectors Report following independent examination of the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan and, in liaison with the Peak District National Park Authority, approve what action to take in response to each recommendation in said report in line with Regulation 17A (4) of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, and approve publication of the examiner's report, plan proposal and decision statement as soon as possible after the decision.
5. That the Cabinet notes that the report will be considered by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board at the appropriate time in the new year, and should therefore be exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Constitution, and the Executive Director Place (Deputy Chief Executive) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods be given delegated authority to respond to any feedback from scrutiny as part of their consideration of the Inspectors Report referred to in 3 above.

12 **OLDHAM'S BROWNFIELD LAND REGISTER 2025**

The Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive that sought approval for the publication of Oldham's 2025 Brownfield Land Register.

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

The Brownfield Register update for 2025 includes 190 sites. Further information on which sites are included within the Register were set out in the background to the submitted report.

A Brownfield Register comprised two parts, with Part 2 being a subset of Part 1:

- Part 1 consists all brownfield sites that the Council has assessed as appropriate for residential development and could include sites with or without planning permission.

- Part 2 identifies sites that the local authority has decided should be granted (planning) permission in principle (PiP) for residential development. PiP is an alternative route to obtaining planning permission which separates "in principle" matters, such as use and location, from technical details, which are left to be agreed later. The theory is that this will provide greater certainty earlier on in the planning process, making it easier for developers to commit resources to a scheme in the knowledge that the principle of development has already been established and they only need to agree the details.

As with previous updates of Oldham's Brownfield Register, it was not proposed to include sites on Part 2 of the Register at this time. Further details regarding this position were provided in the background papers associated with the submitted report. The decision not to progress Part 2 would, however, be kept under review. This was particularly the case given that the Council may, in future, become obligated by the government to start granting PiP.

This was Oldham Council's 9th Brownfield Register.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) - to approve and publish Part 1 of Oldham's Brownfield Land Register 2025 in line with the Regulations. Part 2 is not proposed.
Option 2 - to not approve and publish an updated Brownfield Land Register as the 2025 SHLAA already contains all brownfield land considered suitable for housing development. This would not comply with the current Regulations.

Resolved:
1. That the Cabinet approves and authorizes the publication of Part 1 of Oldham's Brownfield Land Register 2025 in line with the Regulations.
2. That the Cabinet notes the approach to determining sites to include in Part 1 and 2 of the Brownfield Register: namely to approve a 2025 update of the Brownfield Land Register (Part 1 only) for publication; and to delegate authority to make minor amendments and updates to the register throughout the year, if required, to the Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive.

13 **OLDHAM'S STRATEGIC HOUSING LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT 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 Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2025.

The SHLAA was a technical document identifying land that might have potential for housing at some stage in the future. The requirement to undertake a SHLAA was set out in paragraph 72 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The SHLAA formed a key component of the evidence base underpinning housing policies and land allocations and would help to meet the area's housing needs.

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

The base date of this SHLAA was the 1st April 2025. It provided an update to the previous SHLAA (1st April 2024) published in December 2024. The SHLAA 2025 identified a total housing land supply of 12,848 homes (including allowances) over the short to long term.

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

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option 1 (preferred Option) – to approve and publish the SHLAA 2025 to provide evidence for the housing land supply position, Brownfield Register and Local Plan Review.
Option 2 – to not approve and publish the SHLAA 2025.

Resolved:
That the Cabinet approves the submitted Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) 2025, for publication.

14 **AZURE CLOUD CONTRACT**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Resources that sought authority to enter into a new call-off contract under a procurement compliant framework agreement in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules to support the ongoing use of Microsoft Azure Cloud for three years.

The Council's current Azure contract had been extended for 90 days pending approval of a new agreement. However, continued use of the cloud environment was considered essential, and therefore a long-term replacement contract should commence immediately upon approval of the confidential report, detailed at item 16.

The report also outlined the progress of the Council's cloud migration strategy, which aligns with Oldham's Corporate Plan "Ready for the Future" (2024-27) and Borough Plan "Pride, Progress, Partnership." These plans emphasised ambition through modernisation, inclusiveness by improving service delivery to all residents, and strength via enhanced resilience, sustainability, and supporting green initiatives like those highlighted in recent Greater Manchester Green City Region Board visits to Oldham.

Phase 1 of the migration was nearing completion, with significant progress in moving servers and storage to Azure.

Phase 2 was forthcoming and would be detailed in a separate paper that will complete the transition, allowing the Council to fully move away from on-premises server rooms, realising cost savings, improved cybersecurity, and operational efficiencies. This approach mirrored successful migrations by other UK local authorities, such as Manchester City Council, Oxford City Council, and Bury Borough Council, which had adopted Azure to modernise infrastructure, reduce costs, and enhance service delivery. Phase 2 would also incorporate the Microsoft Intelligent Data Platform, providing unified data management, real-time analytics, AI integration, and enhanced governance for better decision-making and service delivery.

Options/Alternatives considered:
Option1 – to do nothing
Option 2 – to approve the recommendations, as detailed in the confidential report, detailed at item 16.

Resolved:
That the Cabinet will consider the confidential recommendations, detailed in the report, at minute 16, below.

15 **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 item 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.

16 **AZURE CLOUD CONTRACT**

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to minute 14, above (Azure Coud Contract).

Resolved:

1. That the Cabinet approves a direct award Call-Off Contract under Crown Commercial Services, RM6098 Framework Technology Products and Services Lot 2 Software, for a 3-year term, largely on the call-off terms and conditions prescribed by the Framework Agreement and delegate authority to the Director of Legal Services, or his nominated representative, to formalise any relevant legal requirements, including the execution of the Call-Off Contract as a Deed.
2. That the Cabinet agrees to continue with the cloud migration to achieve full cloud adoption by 2027/28 and enable Microsoft Azure Sentinel.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.25pm

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Report to Cabinet

Council Tax Base and Non-Domestic Rates Tax Base Forecast 2026/27

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

Officer Contact: Vickie Lambert (Finance Manager)

Report Author: Lucinda Stansfield (Senior Accountant)

19 January 2026

Reason for Decision

This report presents to Cabinet the Council Tax Base which will underpin the forthcoming Council Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy scheduled for consideration at Budget Council on 4 March 2026.

The report also seeks delegated authority to determine the 2026/27 Non-Domestic Rates (Business Rates) forecast to reflect up to date Non-Domestic Rates details to be submitted to Central Government via the annual NNDR 1 return by the statutory deadline of 31 January 2026.

Executive Summary

This report sets out information on the Council Tax Base for 2026/27 using the most up to date valuation list and all other information and estimates available.

The total number of chargeable properties included in the Council Tax Base calculation in Oldham for 2026/27 is 99,072. This figure is reduced to 88,519.8 after allowing for discounts and exemptions and translates to the equivalent of 70,433.3 Band D properties. After applying adjustments for the Local Council Tax Support scheme offset by the additional charging for empty properties and an anticipated increase in the number of properties to be included in the valuation list over the forthcoming year, the number of Band D equivalent properties reduces to 61,950.4. The final Tax Base after the application of the anticipated collection rate of 96.75% is 59,937 which is an increase of 436 when compared to the Council Tax Base for 2025/26 of 59,501.

The 2026/27 Tax Bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils of 9,877 and 6,018 respectively, have been calculated using the same methodology.

It is important to highlight to Members that the preparation of Council Tax and Business Rates Tax Bases is being undertaken in a period of unprecedented uncertainty and volatility. There are fundamental national changes to Business Rates that will simultaneously take effect from 01 April 2026. A revaluation by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), introduction of three new multipliers, the National reset of the Business Rates system, a new Gross rates approach and the Fair Funding review are amongst the issues which make forecasting extremely challenging.

Statute requires local Billing Authorities to prepare and submit to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) a locally determined and approved Business Rates forecast through the NNDR 1 return by 31 January each year. This forecast will be used to determine the 2026/27 “demand” and payment schedule for Business Rates between Oldham Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). The Council remains a participant in the Greater Manchester 100% Rates Retention Scheme; this means the Council no longer pays a share of Business Rates to Central Government. Instead, Oldham currently retains 99% of the income with 1% being paid to the GMCA for Fire and Rescue services.

For 2026/27 the Business Rates System has undergone a full National Reset which has sat alongside the Fair Funding Review. Business Rates have not been reset for some time, and its aim has been to rebalance and simplify Business Rates with growth distributed across the whole system. There have been added complexities to this National Reset with some areas, like Oldham, being part of a 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme that retains growth within the local area rather than pay back the growth back to Central Government. The Greater Manchester (GM) Scheme has worked with Government to determine how any National Reset will impact on the city region and agreed that an element of growth generated by the GM scheme should be retained with the remaining growth to be redistributed across the system.

Regardless of the National Reset, the 100% Business Rates retention arrangements are continuing for GM meaning the Council can retain 75% of any benefit with the balance attributable to GMCA. As part of the National Business Rates Reset, a new Baseline Funding Level (BFL) for the authority has been set, which redistributes growth across the system meaning there is no retained benefit payable for 2026/27. For future years, the Council’s retained share of growth will be made available to support the revenue budget whilst the GMCA share will be held to be paid to the GMCA once the final position has been agreed. Current indications are that Business Rates could be reset in line with Spending Review periods and so growth previously retained by the region would be redistributed more often.

Due to the changes to this complex system and the statutory deadlines of necessary returns, delegation is sought to enable the Business Rates income forecast to be updated to take account of up-to-date Non-Domestic Rates information, enabling the submission to Central Government of the annual NNDR 1 return by the statutory deadline of 31 January 2026. Delegation is requested to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability in consultation with the Director of Finance.

The Collection Fund (combined) remains in a projected deficit position in 2025/26 resulting in additional pressure on the 2026/27 budget. This is largely the result of slower than anticipated growth in the Council Tax base during 2025/26.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1) Cabinet approves the Council Tax Base for 2026/27 at 59,937 Band D equivalent properties.

2) Cabinet notes the Tax Bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils of 9,877and 6,018 respectively.

3) Cabinet delegates the decision to agree the Business Rates forecast and hence the Business Rates Tax Base, if required, to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability in consultation with the Director of Finance.

Council Tax Base and Non-Domestic Rates Tax Base Forecast 2026/27

1 Background

1.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012) requires the Council as the Billing Authority to calculate and approve the Council Tax Base for 2026/27 by 31 January 2026, based on the valuation list and other information and estimates available. The method of calculation is contained in the regulations.

1.2 This report presents for approval Oldham Council's Council Tax Base for 2026/27 and the extracted Tax Bases for Saddleworth and Shaw & Crompton Parish Councils. This will enable Tax Base information to be made available to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) in relation to major precepting functions and the two Parish Councils in Oldham.

1.3 The Council will use the Council Tax Base for 2026/27 in setting the Council Tax and determining the level of Council Tax income for 2026/27.

1.4 Notification of the 2026/27 Council Tax Base must be provided to Major Precepting Authorities by the statutory deadline of 31 January 2026. The GMCA is responsible for determining the two major precepts, the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and the Mayoral General Precept (which incorporates precepts for both Mayoral General Service provision and the Fire and Rescue Service).

1.5 The Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013 set out a timetable for informing the Government and precepting Authorities of the Business Rates revenue calculation. The Council is required to submit a Government return (NNDR 1) by 31 January in the year prior to the financial year for which the calculation is being made. The return estimates the amount of Business Rates (Non-Domestic Rate (NDR)) that is expected to be collected in the following financial year.

1.6 Consequently, the Council must formally approve the NDR forecast in a manner similar to the Council Tax Base.

2 Current Position

Collection Fund Forecast Outturn Position for 2025/26

2.1 As explained later in this report, it is exceptionally challenging to accurately forecast both Council Tax and Business Rates revenues over the short to medium term.

2.2 For budget setting purposes and for the purpose of notifying the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) as major preceptor, the Collection Fund forecast outturn position for both Council Tax and Business Rates for

2025/26 will be an estimated deficit of £0.356m, the preceptor shares are shown below.

Estimated Collection Fund Forecast Position

Collection Fund Balance	Council Tax £000	NDR £000	Total £000
Balance Brought Forward	874	773	**1,646**
Contribution to deficit/distribution of surplus carried forward from 2024/25	(1,188)	(30)	**(1,219)**
Prior Year Balance Brought Forward	**(315)**	**742**	**428**
(Surplus) /Deficit for the Year	672	(744)	**(71)**
Net (Surplus)/Deficit Carried Forward	**358**	**(1)**	**356**

Collection Fund – 2025/26 Share of Balances; Forecast Position

Collection Fund Balance	Council Tax £000	NDR £000	Total £000
Share - Oldham Council	300	(1)	**298**
Share – Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	39	-	**39**
Share – Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)	19	(0)	**19**
Total (Surplus)	**358**	**(1)**	**356**

2.3 The deficit on Council Tax is largely due to the difference between the current tax base (59,411 as at October 2025) and the original forecast for 2025/26 of 59,501 used for budget setting purposes.

2.4 The preceptors will be notified of the 2025/26 Council Tax surplus/deficit by the statutory deadline.

Calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2026/27

2.5 The Council Tax Base determines the Council Tax revenue generated at a given collection rate, for each £1 of Council Tax levied. It is the estimated full year equivalent number of chargeable dwellings. This is expressed as the equivalent number of Band D dwellings with two or more liable adults in occupation.

2.6 In October each year the Government requires the submission of a return, the Council Tax Base 1 (CTB1), and a version of this is used as the basis for the calculation of the Tax Base. Using the CTB1 and up to date property information, Appendix A shows the total number of dwellings on the valuation list in Oldham is 99,072. Allowing for exemptions, demolitions and disabled relief dwellings, this number reduces to 96,699 chargeable dwellings which are then allocated across the nine Council Tax Bands. Some of these chargeable dwellings receive discounts from Council Tax (e.g., dwellings occupied solely by students) whilst single person households pay only 75% of the charge otherwise payable. The number of dwellings is therefore adjusted to reflect these discounts and exemptions, giving a figure of 88,519.8 dwellings.

2.7 The nine Council Tax Valuation bands provide the basis for the Tax Base calculation, with the number of chargeable dwellings in each band being calculated through to its 'Band D equivalent'. A bill for a Band A property is equivalent to 6/9 of that of a Band D property whilst a Band H property is equivalent to 2 times (18/9) of a Band D property. The application of the Band D equivalent calculation therefore reduces the Tax Base to 70,433.3.

2.8 A further adjustment is required to the Tax Base due to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS). The LCTRS is treated as a discount rather than a benefit and therefore reduces the Tax Base. The Council Tax base has been calculated under the prevailing LCTRS.

2.9 The summarised method of calculating the 2026/27 Tax Base is shown in Appendix A. This shows that, taking the above issues into account, the Tax Base would be 61,950.4 at a 100% collection level but would be 59,937 at a collection rate of 96.75%. The Tax Base has increased by 436 compared to the figure for 2025/26 (the Tax Base in 2025/26 was 59,501), largely reflecting an increase in the number of chargeable dwellings, and a reduction in the estimate for discounts and reliefs.

2.10 Included within the Policy Statement issued in November 2025 was a new High Value Council Tax Surcharge (HVCTS) policy which will be applied to properties valued at £2m or more from April 2028. Eligibility for this surcharge will be determined by a separate, targeted valuation exercise conducted by the VOA in 2026. Further details of the impacts of this new surcharge are awaited and will be communicated when available.

Estimated Collection Rate

2.11 A recent review of collection levels has been undertaken to inform the 2026/27 budget process. This review has been informed by:

- The impact of the LCTRS on Council Tax revenues.
- The inflationary pressures on households impacting on their ability to manage their finances is beginning to result in an increased number of Council Taxpayers falling into arrears in the future.

2.12 In view of the above uncertainty and potential volatility it is considered appropriate to maintain the anticipated collection rate at 96.75%. The Council will continue to closely monitor the collection rate and Tax Base position to determine whether the changing environment around the wider economic outlook has any impact on the Council Tax collection rate and Collection Fund position.

Parish Council Tax Bases

2.13 The Tax Base calculated for 2026/27 for the Parish Councils of Saddleworth and Shaw & Crompton are 9,877 and 6,018 respectively. This represents an increase for Saddleworth of 387 Band D equivalent properties and for Shaw & Crompton an increase of 112 Band D equivalent properties when comparing totals to the Parish Tax Bases for 2025/26. The Tax Bases have been calculated on a basis consistent with those for the Borough as a whole.

2.14 The Council provides grant compensation to the two local Parish Councils for losses associated with the introduction of Local Council Tax Reduction Schemes in 2013/14. The amount of grant payable to each Parish for 2026/27 is detailed in the table below.

	2025/26 £000
Saddleworth Parish Council	13
Shaw & Crompton Parish Council	5
Total Parish Grant Payable	**18**

Business (Non-Domestic) Rates

2.15 Local billing authorities are required to prepare and submit to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) a locally determined and approved Business Rates forecast through the NNDR 1 return by the statutory deadline of 31 January each year. This forecast is used to determine the 2026/27 “demand” and payment schedule for Business Rates revenues between Oldham Council and the GMCA. The GMCA determines the Mayoral General Precept which covers general Mayoral service provision as well as Fire and Rescue functions for which it receives 1% of all Business Rates Revenues collected across Greater Manchester. Under the 100% Business Rates Retention scheme arrangements, Central Government does not receive a share of Business Rates revenues.

2.16 In 2026/27 there will be a full Business Rates Retention Reset, the purpose of which is to bring the Baseline Funding level (BFL) in line with the Business Rates Baseline (BRB). This will result in setting each Authority a new BRB, which is the target business rates collection. This will be on the basis of a gross

rates approach, resulting in a lower top-up (or higher tariff) for all authorities as a result. We know from the Policy statement that our BFL is guaranteed in 2026/27 due to the 100% Safety Net level.

2.17 Over the past few years, the Government has introduced a series of Business Rates reliefs. This has meant the Council has received Grant in Lieu of Business Rates as compensation for the Business Rates not billed due to the reliefs given to businesses. In previous years, the Council forecast its allocation for Grant in Lieu of Business Rates for the following financial year as part of the NNDR1 return. The change to a gross rates approach means that all Business Rates reliefs will now be funded by s.31 grants, with local discretionary reliefs being the exception.

2.18 2024/25 saw radical changes to the Business Rates Retention System (BRRS), with the introduction of the Non-Domestic Rating Act 2023 giving central government the power to set the small and standard business rating multipliers separately from one another. Until 2023/24 these two multipliers had to be increased by the same percentage.

2.19 The change, while allowing the flexibility to support small businesses, has added additional complexity to an already intricate system, this is particularly relevant when forecasting future business rates income. In the 2024 Autumn Statement the Chancellor again used the new power and froze the Small Business Rates Multiplier at 49.9p while indexing the Standard Multiplier by the September CPI figure (1.6%) to from 54.6p to 55.5p.

2.20 The new Small / Standard multipliers for 2026/27 have been adjusted for Revaluation by 19.38%, adding a 3.75% Appeal allowance and indexing both by the October 2025 CPI figure (3.6%) which results in a 43.2p Small multiplier and 48.0p Standard multiplier.

2.21 The 2025 Autumn Statement also confirmed the introduction of a permanently lower tax rate for Retail, Hospitality and Leisure (RHL) properties with rateable values below £500,000. These are set to 5p below both the Small and Standard multipliers, at 38.2p and 43.0p respectively. In order to fund these changes, the new higher value multiplier for all properties with a rateable value at or above £500,000 is set to 2.8p above the Standard multiplier, at 50.8p. The intention is to level the playing field for the high street, however the introduction of three new multipliers adds to the complexity of the system as a whole.

2.22 Business Rates are a highly complex and volatile tax, and it is increasingly difficult to forecast movements over the short to medium term with great accuracy. Since the change to the Business Rates regime in 2013/14 and the revaluation exercises undertaken by the Valuation Office Agency (most recently 1 April 2023 and then next effective 1 April 2026), much more uncertainty has been introduced into the setting of Council budgets as the Tax Base is prone to significant changes and can fluctuate for many reasons; the most common of which are listed below:

- Changes in liability resulting from a change in occupancy.

- Appeals against rating decisions, the length of time it takes to conclude appeals and the requirement to make an assessment of the cost of appeals prior to settlement;
- Demolitions and the point at which properties are removed from the rating list;
- New builds and the point at which rateable occupation is triggered;
- Changes in building use and alterations to building size or layout;
- Changes in entitlement to mandatory and/or discretionary reliefs;
- Action taken by property owners/occupiers to avoid full liability and maximise relief; particularly empty property and charitable relief;
- Changes in Council policy in relation to discretionary rate relief; and
- Changes in the requirement to provide for doubtful debts.

2.23 Fluctuations in the amount of Business Rates income collected are also strongly influenced by the performance of the wider economy. In an economic downturn there is a heightened risk of properties being left empty and lower levels of development activity. Conversely, when the economy is more buoyant, business activity and thereby rating income can increase. As the economy is still recovering from a recession and experiencing a cost of living crisis then this creates even greater uncertainty in projecting Business Rates income for 2026/27.

2.24 The level and timing of appeals against a rateable value are perhaps the most significant factors that can have an impact on variability in yield. Appeals are dealt with by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) and can date back many years. Recent information highlights that appeals covering around £15m of rateable value remain unresolved. Total rateable value for the Oldham Billing Area is around £166m meaning appeals currently impact on approximately 9% of the overall Business Rates Tax Base. The Council assess data provided by the VOA around the appeals lodged in order to provide for possible losses through the appeals processes.

2.25 Recognising the challenges that this volatility presents, the Council has put in place arrangements to monitor Business Rates liability on a monthly basis. The output from these monitoring arrangements shows that net liability tends to reduce as the year progresses from the start of each financial year in April. These reductions are the result of:

- Reductions in gross rates payable as outstanding appeals are settled.
- Increases in mandatory and empty property relief as more claims are submitted and processed as the year progresses.

2.26 These trends/movements set against the base position form the basis of the forecast business rates outturn position for 2025/26 and forecast for 2026/27.

<u>Greater Manchester (GM) 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme</u>

2.27 On 1 April 2017, the GMCA, Oldham Council and the nine other GM districts commenced a pilot scheme for the 100% local retention of Business Rates. Under the pilot scheme, additional Business Rates income was initially offset by reductions in other funding streams such as Revenue Support Grant and

Public Health Grant in exchange for the local retention of all future growth in Business Rates revenue (rather than just 50% as is the case with the national scheme of business rates retention).

2.28 The pilot scheme has delivered year on year financial benefits for its participants. Greater Manchester, through the Trailblazer deeper devolution deal, published on 15 March 2023, has secured an agreement from Central Government ensuring the 100% business rates retention will continue in the area to at least the 2033/34 financial year.

2.29 Regardless of the National Reset, the 100% Business Rates retention arrangements are continuing for GM meaning the Council can retain 75% of any benefit with the balance attributable to GMCA. As part of the National Business Rates Reset, a new Baseline Funding Level (BFL) for the authority has been set, which redistributes growth across the system meaning there is no retained benefit payable for 2026/27. For future years, the Council's retained share of growth will be made available to support the revenue budget whilst the GMCA share will be held to be paid to the GMCA once the final position has been agreed. Current indications are that Business Rates could be reset in line with Spending Review periods and so growth previously retained by the region would be redistributed more often.

Grants in Lieu of Business Rates

2.30 The Council receives significant sums from Central Government as compensation for loss of Business Rates revenue resulting from previous national policy changes such as multiplier caps and the introduction of new business rates reliefs and discounts. These grants are awarded under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. The change to a gross rates approach means that the reduction in top up will be offset by the majority of reliefs now being funded through s.31 compensation grants. The regulation to support this change is expected to be passed by Government in early January 2026. This change will impact on the 2026/27 budget as reflected in the new NNDR1 form, s.31 grants have been added to NDR Income, and will now pass through the Collection Fund in the same way. This means that the grants will no longer be shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) as they have previously. The change intends to improve stability, as any increase in relief will increase the grants to compensate, rather than increasing any deficit.

2026/27 Business Rates Forecast – Conclusion

2.31 It is important to highlight to Members that the preparation of Council Tax and Business Rates Tax Bases is taking place in an uncertain and volatile economic environment. Slower growth and other economic challenges have the potential to reduce both the Council Tax and Business Rates income collected in 2026/27. Business Rates for 2026/27 has also been subject to a full scale National Reset which has impacted on the system as a whole.

2.32 In addition, April 2026 will signify the start of a new Business Rates Revaluation list with all properties reassessed to identify new rateable values. A property's rateable value is an assessment of the annual rent the property

would generate if it were available on the open market at a fixed valuation date. From 1 April 2026, the rateable values are based on the valuation date of 1 April 2024. Revaluations are undertaken to maintain fairness in the system by redistributing the total amount payable in Business Rates, reflecting changes in the property market. They are not carried out to generate extra revenue. The draft Valuation list for April 2026 estimates the total rateable value for the Oldham Billing Area at £197m. This is an 18.7% increase on the 2023 list, compared to 19.4% for England.

2.33 Having considered the issues above, many factors are outside the control of the Council. Central Government confirmation that Local Government will continue to be fully compensated for implementing policy announcements made within previous Budgets provides assurance for short-term forecasting. Over the long term, the switch to more frequent revaluations and the on-going results of Business Rates Retention are extremely difficult to assess. Forecasts for 2026/27 have been prepared based on trends emerging from the monthly monitoring of Business Rates liability during 2025/26 and information available from the sector.

2.34 For the purposes of formal decision making, delegation for the Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability in consultation with the Director of Finance to vary the Business Rates Tax Base is sought as the final Business Rates forecast for 2026/27 will only be confirmed when preparing the submission of the Council's NNDR 1 return in late January 2026.

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 The Council has little discretion in the calculation of the number of properties incorporated into the Council Tax Base given the legislative framework that is in place. There is some discretion in estimating the number of new properties that will be included on the Council Tax register during 2026/27 and the change to the number of claimants of Council Tax Reduction. A prudent view has been taken in this regard. The main area for an alternative approach is over the level of assumed collection rate. An increase in the collection rate would boost the anticipated Council Tax income and a decrease in the rate would decrease income. The Council has chosen to maintain its 2026/27 collection rate at 96.75%. This decision has been influenced by prevailing economic circumstances and current trends in collection rates.

3.2 The NNDR1 return generates the figures upon which the Business Rates Tax Base is prepared. It is not therefore appropriate to consider an alternative approach.

4 Preferred Option

4.1 It is recommended that Members approve the Council Tax Base of 59,937.Delegation to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services and Sustainability in consultation with the Director of Finance is however sought for the final Business Rates Tax Base decision, the final estimated net business rate yield and ultimately the Council's retained Business Rate income for 2026/27.

5 Consultation

5.1 Indicative Tax Base information has been shared with precepting Authorities to assist them in the budget projections, subject to confirmation by this report.

5.2 The Council will advise the preceptors of the approved Council Tax and Business Rates Tax Bases (as appropriate) by the statutory deadline of 31 January 2026 and will submit the final NNDR1 also by that date.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 These are dealt with in full in this report.

(Vickie Lambert – Finance Manager)

7 Legal Implications

7.1 It is necessary for the Cabinet to set the Council Tax Base having regards to the appropriate Regulations and to notify that to the relevant precepting bodies. Additionally, it is now required that the Business Rates Tax Base is approved by Cabinet.

8 Procurement Implications

8.1 None.

9 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People

9.1 No

10 Key Decision

10.1 Yes.

11 Key Decision Reference

11.1 FCR-11-25

12 Background Papers

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

File Ref: Background Papers are contained in Appendix A
Officer Name: Lucinda Stansfield

13 Appendices

13.1 Appendix A Calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2026/27

APPENDIX A

Calculation of Council Tax Base 2026/27 (Based on all properties)

Bands	A reduced	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Total
Total number of Dwellings on the Valuation List		51,101	17,710	16,735	7,318	3,548	1,635	942	83	99,072
Total number of Exempt and Disabled Relief Dwellings on the Valuation List	200	(1,585)	(284)	(407)	(164)	(67)	(24)	(22)	(20)	(2,373)
No. of Chargeable Dwellings	200	49,516	17,426	16,328	7,154	3,481	1,611	920	63	96,699
Less: Estimated discounts, exemptions and disabled relief	(10.0)	(5,019.8)	(1,407.5)	(1,102.8)	(391.0)	(152.8)	(63.0)	(30.0)	(2.5)	(8,179.3)
Total equivalent number of dwellings after discounts, exemptions and disabled relief	190.0	44,496.3	16,018.5	15,225.3	6,763.0	3,328.3	1,548.0	890.0	60.5	88,519.8
Factor stipulated in regulations	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9	
Band D equivalent	105.6	29,664.2	12,458.8	13,533.6	6,763.0	4,067.9	2,236.0	1,483.3	121.0	70,433.3
Net effect of Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) and other adjustments – reduction in Band D Equivalents										(9,026.6)
Increase in Band D equivalents in 2025/26 based on estimates of changes in discounts & exemptions and the acceleration of planned housing/ regeneration schemes										544
Total after LCTSS and other adjustments										61,950.4
Multiplied by estimated collection rate										96.75%
Band D Equivalents										**59,937**

For information: Parish Council Tax Bases – Saddleworth 9,877 Shaw & Crompton 6,018

Report to CABINET

Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan Consultation

Portfolio Holder:
Councillor Elaine Taylor, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

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

Report Author: Elizabeth Dryden-Stuart, Strategic Planning and Information
Email: elizabeth.dryden-stuart@oldham.gov.uk

19 January 2026

Reason for Decision
The purpose of this report is to approve the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan for publication and consultation.

Executive Summary

Following its adoption in March 2024 the Places for Everyone Joint Plan (PfE) now forms part of Oldham's Local Plan. PfE sets the strategic policies for the Borough, but there is still a need for local policies that support the implementation of PfE across Oldham and deliver the Council's regeneration objectives and priorities.

The Government are in the process of reforming the current system for preparing Local Plans. In the meantime, for plans progressing to adoption under the current plan-making legal framework (which includes the review of the Oldham Local Plan) there is a requirement for these to be submitted for examination by 31 December 2026. The Oldham Local Plan is therefore being prepared under The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 ('the Regulations').

There are various stages in the production of a Local Plan and Oldham Council is now at the Regulation 19 (or Publication Plan) stage.

This report seeks approval of Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan for publication and consultation, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for a six-week period for representations to begin no earlier than 28 January 2026.

The 'Publication Plan' stage is a formal 'statutory' consultation that provides an opportunity for organisations, and individuals, to submit their final views on the content of the Plan. Following consultation the Publication Plan, representations received, and other relevant supporting documentation, will be sent to the Secretary of State. This is called the 'Submission stage', pursuant to Regulation 22 and requires approval at Council. A separate report seeking approval to submit the Publication Plan for examination will be brought to Council, prior to submission May / June 2026.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Approve the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan, Policies Map and supporting documentation for publication and consultation, pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for a six-week period for representations to begin no earlier than 28 January 2026.

2. Delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Executive Director – Deputy Chief Executive (Place) to approve the Statement of Common Ground required pursuant to the National Planning Policy Framework.

3. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Housing Delivery to make any minor non-material amendments to the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan, Policies Map and supporting documentation ahead of its publication and consultation. These amendments will be limited to correcting minor errors and formatting text.

4. Note that following consideration by the Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board on 12 January 2026 the report is exempt from call-in, under Rule 14 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Constitution.

Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan Consultation

1 Background

1.1 The Council must prepare a Local Plan to provide an up-to-date and positive planning framework for the area, that will help to meet our housing needs and address the Borough's other economic, environmental and social objectives, as per the National Planning Framework (NPPF).

1.2 Following its adoption in March 2024 the Places for Everyone Joint Plan (PfE) now forms part of Oldham's Local Plan. PfE sets the strategic policies for the Borough, but there is still a need for local policies that support the implementation of PfE across Oldham and deliver the Council's regeneration objectives and priorities.

1.3 The Government are in the process of reforming the current system for preparing Local Plans, to ensure that going forward plans are faster to prepare and simpler for end users to access and understand. Guidance on how plans are to be prepared under the new plan-making system is still to be published. In the meantime, for plans progressing to adoption under the current plan-making legal framework (which includes the review of the Oldham Local Plan) Government are continuing to require these to be submitted for examination by 31 December 2026.

1.4 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 ('the Regulations') set out the requirements for local authorities producing and consulting on Local Plan's under the current plan-making system. There are various stages in the production of a Local Plan and Oldham Council is at the Regulation 19 (or Publication Plan) stage.

1.5 Before this point, to help shape the content of the Plan informal consultation has been carried out, pursuant to Regulation 18, as follows:

- Issues and Options – Summer 2021
- Draft Plan – January to February 2024

1.6 Details of these earlier stages in the review of Oldham's Local Plan can be found at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review, whilst more information on the outcome of the Draft Plan consultation can be found in paragraph 2.7 and Table 1 below.

1.7 The 'Publication Plan' stage is a formal consultation on the draft Oldham Local Plan pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Regulations. It is a statutory stage that provides an opportunity for organisations, and individuals, to submit their final views on the content of the Plan.

1.8 Following consultation the Publication Plan, representations made at the Regulation 19 stage, and other relevant supporting documentation will be sent to the Secretary of State. This is called the 'Submission stage', pursuant to Regulation 22 and requires approval at Council. A separate report seeking approval to submit the Publication Plan for examination will be brought to Council, prior to submission May / June 2026.

1.9 In terms of the purpose of this report the legal, financial and procurement implications are considered in sections 6, 7 and 8. With regards to other implications:

(a) Community Cohesion Implications, including crime and disorder implications under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 – not applicable

(b) Risk Assessments – not applicable

(c) If relevant, Co-operative Implications, Human Resource Implications, IT implications, Property Implications, and Environment and Health and Safety Implications – Publicising and consulting on the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan will involve updating our website to make the documents available. Oldham Council assets may fall within designations proposed as part of the Local Plan, however, planning policies are consistent with national and PfE. No sites are being allocated for development.

1.10 In terms of how the Local Plan links to the Corporate Plan and priorities, as explained further in paragraphs 2.12 and 2.13 below, it provides an opportunity to bring together and express spatially those parts of The Oldham Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan that can be shaped and delivered through the planning system. Their aspirations and priorities are the golden thread that runs through the Local Plan, along with supporting and facilitating delivery of the Council's Building a Better Oldham agenda.

2 Current Position

Oldham's current Local Plan

2.1 Oldham's current Local Plan comprises a series of documents which together provide the statutory development plan for the Borough and are:

- Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan for Bury, Bolton, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan, adopted March 2024
- The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD), adopted in November 2011
- Proposals Map
- The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan, adopted in April 2012
- The Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan, adopted in April 2013

2.2 Places for Everyone (PfE) provides the strategic framework for the Oldham Local Plan. It sets out our housing land requirement in Policy JP-H1, and our industry and warehousing and office supply in policies JP-J3 and JP-J4, as well as the spatial strategy for future growth. It allocates sites for employment and housing across the Borough - at JPA2 Stakehill (cross-boundary allocation with Rochdale), JPA10 Beal Valley, JPA11 Bottom Field Farm, JPA12 Broadbent Moss, JPA13 Chew Brook Vale, JPA14 Cowlishaw, JPA15 Land south of Coal Pit Lane' and JPA16 South of Rosary Road. The Plan also identifies important environmental assets across the Borough that will be protected and enhanced, defines a new Green Belt for the Borough and supports the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities.

2.3 With the Core Strategy being over 10 years old there is therefore a need for a succinct and up-to-date plan that:

- Accords with PfE and supports its implementation at a local level;
- Meets the latest national planning policy and guidance where relevant; and
- Reflects the changes in the Council's regeneration ambitions and Building a Better Oldham.

2.4 The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not repeat the strategic policies set out in PfE. The focus of our revised Local Plan is instead on development management policies, which will help to implement PfE at an Oldham level whilst helping to deliver our

regeneration ambitions and priorities for the Borough. For this reason, the Local Plan does not allocate sites for future development – either housing or employment related, and it has been prepared to align with the plan-period of PfE, that is 2022-2039.

Progress to date

2.5 To begin preparation of the Local Plan the Council carried out a Regulation 18 Notification between July and August 2017. At this stage we asked the local community and other interested parties what the Local Plan should contain, the key planning issues for Oldham, and what the main aims of the Local Plan should be.

2.6 Following on from the Regulation 18 Notification stage, Issues and Options were prepared and consultation was carried out on these from 5 July to 29 August 2021. This again formed part of the Regulation 18 stage. The Issues and Options document set out questions on a range of topics to gather views about the future of the Borough. These included questions on homes, economy and employment, our centres, addressing climate change, the natural environment and open land, green infrastructure, the built environment, transport and improving connectivity, communities and infrastructure. In total around 100 individuals and organisations submitted over 850 comments to the consultation. These comments were considered in the formulation of the Draft Local Plan. Details of these comments can be found online[1].

2.7 Consultation on the Draft Local Plan was then carried out from 10 January to 25 February 2024. Details of the comments received at Draft Local Plan stage can be found in the Draft Local Plan Comments and Response Schedule which will be published alongside the Publication Plan. Representations received to the Draft Local Plan and additional evidence undertaken have then helped to shape the Publication Plan. The main changes that have taken place between Draft Local Plan and Publication Plan stage are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of main changes to Local Plan between Draft Local Plan and Publication Plan stage

Theme	Summary of main changes
Homes	Policy H3 Housing Mix – amended to allow more diversity and flexibility whilst being based on Local Housing Need evidence. Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs – a combined policy that addresses the needs of older people, disabled persons and children and care leavers. Policy H8 Vacant Building Credit, Policy H9 Rural Exception Sites, and Policy H11 Custom/ Self-Build and Community-led Housing deleted. Policy H13 Housing Allocations has been deleted.
Economy and Employment	Policy E4 Office, Industry and Warehousing Allocations has been deleted.
Our Centres	Local shopping parades have been identified and added to the retail hierarchy under Policy C1 Centres.

[1]The Issues and Options Comments and Response Schedule can be found at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7824/issues_and_options_-_comments_and_response_schedule

Theme	Summary of main changes
Oldham Town Centre	Policies updated to reflect latest position of Oldham Town Centre Development Framework. Policy OTC5 Parking in Oldham Town Centre has been deleted.
Addressing Climate Change	Policy CC1 Sustainable Construction, Energy Efficiency and Retrofitting has been deleted as covered by PfE.
Natural Environment and Open Land	Policy OL2 now called Protecting Oldham's Green Belt and repetition with PfE removed. Policy OL3 Extensions and Alterations to Existing Buildings within the Green Belt – the % of size of extension unlikely to be approved has been increased from 30% to 'more than 40%'.
Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency	Policy N2 Restoring Nature has been amended to focus on how the Council will have regard to the GM Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through Development has been amended to include Urban Greening Factor targets. Policy N4 Trees now provides a broad approach including the need to demonstrate how trees have been retained and contribute to increasing tree canopy cover.
Oldham's Historic Environment	Policy H4 Oldham's Mills has been updated to reflect changes on the ground to any mills and mill clusters since publication of the Mill Strategy.
Achieving High-Quality Design	Draft Plan policies D1 to D4 have been combined and condensed into one overarching design policy – Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design.
A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham	Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities has been reworded with a section on supporting Oldham's role in the economy and to more clearly reflect the priorities of our Transport Strategy. Policy T2 Creating Sustainable Streets deleted to avoid repetition with PfE and replace with new policy focusing on how we will support Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities across the Borough. Policy T3 Car Parking Standards in Oldham – amended to be more criteria based rather than setting specific standards.
Communities	Policy CO1 Protection of Existing Open Spaces amended to reflect Playing Pitch Strategy. Previous policies on new and enhanced open spaces, and standards, have been combined into a new CO2 New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision. New Policy CO6 New Development and Health has been expanded to set out when proposals for new health facilities will be supported, what will be required as part of the Health Impact Assessment and how health facilities will be sought as part of new residential development. Policy CO7 Hot Food Takeaways and Fast Food Outlets. Amended to state that planning permission will not be granted where they are within 400m of a primary and secondary school or in locations where children congregate in line with NPPF.

Theme	Summary of main changes
Protecting our Local Environment	Policy LE1 broadened out and retitled 'Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development'.
Infrastructure, Delivery and Monitoring	New Policy M1 - Monitoring Framework added which sets out how the council will assess the implementation and effectiveness of the Local Plan.

Oldham's Publication Plan

2.8 Oldham's Local Plan will guide development in the Borough up to 2039 to reflect the plan-period of PfE, that is 2022 to 2039. Underpinning the Plan will be the principles of sustainable development, and it will meet the needs of Oldham and its residents whilst also achieving high quality design, addressing climate change and increasing accessibility for all.

2.9 The Local Plan will cover the whole Borough except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park.

2.10 The main purposes of the Plan are to:

- Set out the policies through which the Council will management development coming forward and use to determine planning applications;
- Identify designations for the protection of the Borough's environmental and historical assets, our town centres, employment areas and infrastructure; and
- Enable the development of supporting infrastructure, such as transport, health, education, open space, sport and recreation facilities and utilities.

2.11 The policies contained in the Publication Plan are organised by theme – Homes; Economy and Employment; Our Centres; Oldham Town Centre; Addressing Climate Change; Natural Environment and Open Land; Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency; Oldham's Historic Environment; Achieving High Quality Design; A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for OIdham; Communities; Protecting our Local Environment; Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham; and Monitoring.

2.12 The Local Plan provides an opportunity to bring together and express spatially those parts of The Oldham Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan that can be shaped and delivered through the planning system. Their aspirations and priorities are the golden thread that runs through the Local Plan, along with supporting and facilitating delivery of the Council's Building a Better Oldham agenda. A myriad of other plans and strategies such as Oldham's Green New Deal Strategy, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Cultural Strategy and Green Infrastructure Strategy have also been reflected in the Plan.

2.13 Underneath the overarching theme of Building a Better Oldham there also sit several thematic priorities for Oldham that policies within the Local Plan seek to address, such as the creation of healthy communities, tackling the climate emergency, and responding to the housing crisis we currently face across the Borough. For example, policies will:

- Encourage and facilitate development in the Borough that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contribute to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities through:
  - Creating healthy, inclusive and well-designed places that are well connected to key services and facilities, with access to high-quality open spaces and green infrastructure;
  - Promoting opportunities for active travel and access to sustainable and accessible transport; and

- Supporting the provision of health facilities, requiring the completion of health impact assessments for new development where appropriate, and promoting healthy food choices through restricting the location of hot food takeaways.

- Mitigate the impact of climate change and increase resilience through:
  - Ensuring that development is located having regard to flood risk and is designed to increase water efficiency, reduce demand on water resources and protect water quality.
  - Encouraging the use of decentralised, renewable and low carbon energy and sustainable construction techniques to minimise energy consumption.

- Ensure the delivery of quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing stock by:
  - Providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 11,560 homes in line with PfE.
  - Delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled persons,
  - Ensuring the delivery of high-quality, sustainable and well-designed homes at appropriate densities, and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.

Green Belt, Local Green Space and Oldham's Publication Plan

2.14 The Borough's Green Belt has been established through PfE. As such, the Publication Plan does not propose any strategic Green Belt boundary revisions. A 'tidy up' of Oldham's Green Belt has however been carried out to identify minor changes of a technical cartographical nature that have arisen primarily from the move to GIS mapping. These minor technical boundary revisions proposed to the Green Belt are set out within Appendix 8 of the Publication Plan.

2.15 The Publication Plan proposes to designate areas as 'Local Green Spaces' (LGS) in line with national planning policy. LGS are spaces that are important to local communities due to their proximity to the community and because they are demonstrably special and hold local significance due to beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, or richness of its wildlife. Most LGS are already designated Other Protected Open Land (OPOLs). A review of the current OPOL has been undertaken against LGS criteria to ensure the policy approach is robust and up to date. As a result of this updated evidence there have been boundary changes to some LGS, five have been de-designated (either because they do not meet the new LGS criteria or they have been allocated for development as part of PfE), and a new LGS has also been identified in Sholver.

Integrated Assessment

2.16 The Publication Plan is supported by an Integrated Assessment (IA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), attached at Appendices 4 to 6 to this report. The IA incorporates the following:
- Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
- Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA);
- Oldham Impact Assessment Tool (incorporating the Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA); and
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

2.17 The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where

significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

2.18 The purpose of a Habitat Regulations Assessment of land use plans is to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at the local level. The findings of the HRA have been integrated into the IA.

2.19 The Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to consider how different people will be affected by their activities, helping them to deliver policies and services which are efficient and effective, accessible to all, and which meet different people's needs. The Council considers the impacts of its activities on the defined equality characteristics through the Oldham Impact Assessment Tool (OIA), which provides a framework for considering the scale, likelihood and length of impact. Through applying the OIA, consideration has therefore been given to the aims and effects of the Publication Plan on the following groups – Disabled people; Particular ethnic groups; Men or women (including impacts due to pregnancy / maternity); People of particular sexual orientation/s; People in a marriage or civil partnership; People who are proposing to undergo, are undergoing or have undergone a process or part of a process of gender reassignment; People of low incomes; People in particular age groups; and Groups with particular faiths and beliefs. The findings of the OIA have been fed into the IA.

2.20 The need to complete a HIA is not a statutory requirement however it's use provides a further opportunity to embed health and wellbeing matters into the preparation of the Local Plan. As with the HRA and OIA the findings of the health assessment have been fed into the IA.

2.21 In addition to the above, as part of previous stages in the preparation of the Local Plan (that is, the Issues and Options and the Draft Local Plan) IA Scoping Reports have been produced. The Scoping Report has been updated for the Publication Plan and can be found at Appendix 5. A Non-Technical Summary of the Integrated Assessment has been prepared and is available at Appendix 6.

Evidence

2.22 A comprehensive evidence base has been prepared to support preparation of the Local Plan, details of which can be found at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence. Most recently, this has included a Local Plan Viability Assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to ensure that policy requirements for developer contributions are assessed for viability, alongside proportionate evidence in relation to infrastructure requirements and affordable housing need for example, at the plan-making stage so ensure that such policies do not undermine the deliverability of the Plan.

2.23 Several thematic Topic Papers will also be published alongside the Publication Plan. These pull together the evidence in one place and set out how this and previous consultations have helped to information the Publication Plan.

Duty to Co-operate and Statement of Common Ground

2.24 Paragraph 24 of NPPF sets out that local planning authorities continue to be under a duty to cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries. Through the Duty strategic policy-making authorities are required to collaborate on the identification of relevant strategic matters which they need to address in their plans. This is integral to the production of a positively prepared and justified strategy.

2.25 To demonstrate effective and on-going joint working paragraph 28 of NPPF states that strategic policy-making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more statements of

common ground, documenting the cross-boundary matters being addressed and progress in cooperating to address these.

2.26 PfE sets out our strategic policies and spatial strategy and those matters with cross boundary implications are dealt with through the Joint Plan, including districts local housing need. As such, given the development management policy focus of the Local Plan there are limited cross-boundary matters. Furthermore, a recent letter from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) dated 27 November 2025 removes the Duty requirement for plans being prepared under the current planning system. Nevertheless, local planning authorities are still encouraged to collaborate across their boundaries, including on unmet development needs from neighbouring areas.

2.27 As such, the Council has sought to continue to work collaboratively with neighbouring authorities and key organisations, in a bid to ensure that those aspects with cross-boundary and strategic implications are appropriately addressed.

2.28 A Statement of Common Ground has been prepared to support the review of Oldham's Local Plan and will be published alongside the Publication Plan. The Statement has been updated at each stage of the Local Plan review process, providing updates on cross-boundary matters, demonstrating our commitment to working collaboratively with our neighbouring authorities and the relevant public bodies.

Consultation on the Publication Plan

2.29 At Publication Plan stage, whilst anyone can make a representation on any point, only those pertaining to 'soundness' will be considered by the Inspector(s). As set out in paragraph 36 of NPPF, plans are sound if they are:

a) **Positively prepared** – providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;
b) **Justified** – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
c) **Effective** – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and
d) **Consistent with national policy** – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework and other statement of national planning policy, where relevant.

2.30 Inspectors also consider submissions concerning legal compliance issues, for example the Integrated Assessment, the Habitats Assessment Regulation and the Duty to Co-operate.

2.31 Consultation on the Publication Plan will be carried out in accordance with our Statement of Community Involvement, most recently adopted July 2021[2].

2.32 In line with paragraph 4.65 of the SCI 2021 the Council will, as a minimum:

- Publish a Public Notice outlining details of the Publication Plan;

[2] Oldham Council's Statement of Community Involvement (28 July 2021) can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201232/engagement/253/statement_of_community_involvement

- Issue a press release with details of the Publication Plan;
- Publish the Publication Plan documents on the Council's website;
- Make the Publication Plan documents available at public libraries across Oldham and at the Council's principal office; and
- Inform those on our Local Plan mailing list, Oldham Partnership and Oldham Councillors that the Publication Plan documents are available for consultation and where they may be viewed.

2.34 In addition to those in paragraph 4.65 of the SCI, as outlined above, the Council may also make use of additional engagement tools where appropriate as outlined in paragraph 4.67 and Table 1 of the SCI 2021.

2.35 The Council will also make use of Engagement HQ, our Council-wide web engagement platform.

Submission and Examination of Oldham's Local Plan

2.36 Following consultation the Publication Plan, representations made at the Regulation 19 stage, and other relevant supporting documentation will be sent to the Secretary of State. This is called the 'Submission stage', pursuant to Regulation 22 and requires approval at Council. A separate report seeking approval to submit the Publication Plan for examination will be brought to Council, prior to submission May / June 2026.

2.37 Upon adoption the Local Plan will replace the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD, and any remaining saved Unitary Development Plan policies and allocations (see Appendix 1 of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan for more information).

2.38 The Oldham Local Plan will sit alongside PfE, as part of a suite of documents that form the development plan for the Borough that also includes the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan and Joint Minerals Plan. Together these documents will inform decision-making on development proposals and planning applications in the Borough of Oldham.

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 **Option 1**: Members approve the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan, Policies Map and supporting documentation for publication and consultation as per the recommendations above.

Advantages – this will ensure that the Council has in place an up-to-date Local Plan in place that supports implementation of PfE at a Borough-wide level and provides a planning policy framework to enable delivery of the Council's regeneration ambitions and Building a Better Oldham, whilst meeting requirements of national planning policy and regulations.

Disadvantages - there are no disadvantages to this option as it provides a positive planning policy framework for the Borough and meets the legislative requirements at this stage in the preparation of a Local Plan.

3.2 **Option 2**: Members do not approve the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan, Policies Map and supporting documentation for publication and consultation as per the recommendations above.

Advantages – there are no advantages to this option.

Disadvantages - not approving the Publication Plan for publication and consultation would mean that we are not able to progress preparation of the Local Plan to the next stage. Without

an up-to-date Local Plan in place the Council would be reliant on the existing Core Strategy (elements of which are out of date) and the high-level GM-wide policies in Places for Everyone when making decisions on planning applications for the foreseeable future. The Council would not have the benefit of the positive planning framework set out in the Publication Plan that supports implementation of PfE at a Borough-wide level whilst enabling deliver of our Council regeneration ambitions and priorities.

4 Preferred Option

4.1 It is recommended that the Publication Plan, Policies Map and supporting documentation be approved for publication and consultation commencing no earlier than 28 January 2026 for a period of 6 weeks. Note, following approval there may be further formatting amendments made to the documents to address accessibility requirements prior to publication for consultation.

5 Consultation

5.1 Details of consultation carried out to date and the process for the Publication Plan can be found in paragraph 2.7 and Table 1 of this report.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 While there are no direct financial implications resulting from the recommendations in this report, the consultation itself will require minimal expenditure of up to £5k for public notices, printing and associated costs. This sum will be funded within the existing budget provision held in Planning.

Any future costs linked to the implementation of Local Plan policies will be presented in subsequent reports for approval.

(Mohammed Hussain)

7 Legal Implications

7.1 In accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation for local planning matters, approval of the Publication Plan prepared pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 is delegated to the Cabinet. The documents must be made available for public inspection at the principal office and such other places within the area as the Council consider appropriate and must be published on the Council's website. Approval of the relevant Statements of Common Ground required pursuant to the National Planning Policy Framework would not fall within the definition of a key decision and can therefore be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Executive Director.

(A Evans)

8. Procurement Implications

8.1 None

(S Kapoor)

9 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People

9.1 An Oldham Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out to inform preparation of the Publication Plan as part of the Integrated Assessment, details of which can be found in Appendix 4.

9.2 In summary the assessment found that the Publication Plan has a neutral impact on most equality characteristics with the exception of age and disability, on which it was considered to have a strong positive impact.

9.3 The assessment found that the Publication Plan is very likely to have a strong positive impact on the council's three missions / corporate priorities – A Great Place to Live; Green and Growing; and Happier Healthier Lives, over the long-term.

10 **Key Decision**

10.1 Yes

11 **Key Decision Reference**

11.1 RBO-16-25

12 **Background Papers**

Details of previous stages in the review of the Oldham's Local Plan can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review.

National Planning Policy Framework can be viewed at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aafe8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf .

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 can be viewed at https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents .

13 **Appendices**

Attached to this report are the following appendices:

Appendix 1: Publication Plan
Appendix 2: Publication Plan Appendices
Appendix 3: Policies Map
Appendix 4: Integrated Assessment (incorporating the Sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Oldham Equality impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment)
Appendix 5 – Integrated Assessment Scoping Report Update
Appendix 6 - Non-Technical Summary of the Integrated Assessment

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan Document

January 2026

Oldham Council

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Appendix 2: List and maps of each allocation and designation not to be carried forward through the Local Plan

Appendix 3: Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Extensions

Appendix 4: Changes to Business and Employment Areas

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Appendix 6: Changes to Oldham Town Centre boundary and the borough's other centres boundaries

Appendix 7: Source Protection Zones

Appendix 8: Minor Green Belt Boundary Amendments

Appendix 9: Local Green Spaces

Appendix 10: Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) in Oldham

Appendix 11: Green corridors in Oldham

Appendix 12: Scale of harm to designated heritage assets - indicative examples

Appendix 13: Monitoring indicators from Places for Everyone, The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document and the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document

Seeking views on the Publication Oldham Local Plan

This Publication Plan follows on from the 'Draft Local Plan consultation that was carried out in early 2024. It builds upon the comments we received and has been informed by on-going studies and pieces of evidence work. It contains a vision for Oldham, a set of plan objectives and planning policies covering a wide range of topic areas including housing, open land, centres, our economy, climate change, design, transportation and our communities. Planning affects many aspects of our lives and our environment – from where we live, work, shop and how we spend our leisure time. In producing this Local Plan, we are not just considering land uses, but we are also considering other issues that can be affected by land use, including health, education and community safety.

This document is called the 'Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan' ('Publication Plan') and is the final draft Local Plan that is consulted on prior to submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination. This stage of Local Plan consultation is known as a Regulation 19 consultation and representations at this stage must focus on the 'legal compliance' and 'soundness' of the Local Plan and whether we have complied with Duty to Cooperate.

Plans are 'sound' if they are:

a) **Positively prepared** – providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the areas objectively assessed needs20; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;

b) **Justified** – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;

c) **Effective** – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and

d) **Consistent with national policy** – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in this Framework and other statements of national planning policy, where relevant.

Comments are invited on the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan. Details of the Publication Plan consultation can be found online[1], together with the information on how and where the plan may be viewed, as well as how to submit representations.

[1] Details of the Publication Plan consultation can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review

1 Introduction

1.1. Oldham's Local Plan will guide development in the borough up to 2039. The main purposes of the Plan are to:

- Set out the policies through which the Council will manage development coming forward and use to determine planning applications;
- Identify designations, such as those for the protection of the borough's environmental and historical assets, our town centres, and employment areas; and
- Facilitate the development of supporting infrastructure, such as transport, education and utilities.

1.2. The Local Plan covers the whole borough except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park (PDNP). Where development proposals lie within that part of Oldham which falls within the PDNP applicants must consider the Peak District National Parks' relevant planning policies and apply to the PDNP Authority for planning permission.

1.3. The Oldham Local Plan will sit alongside PfE as part of a suite of documents that form the development plan for the borough that also includes the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document (adopted April 2012) and the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document (adopted April 2013). As well as any neighbourhood plans that may come into force during the lifetime of the Plan. Together these documents will inform decision-making on planning applications in the borough of Oldham.

Interpreting policies within the Oldham Local Plan

1.4. The policies contained within the Oldham Local Plan are organised by theme, for example Homes, Economy and Employment, and Addressing Climate Change. Policy text is in bold and separated into a box for clarity. There then sits the reasoned justification which provides further detail regarding how the policy will be applied and what detail may be needed to accord with the policy requirements.

1.5. The policies contained within this plan must be read alongside Places for Everyone and the Greater Manchester Waste and Minerals Plans. These documents form part of our statutory development plan, alongside the Oldham Local Plan. Further detail regarding Places for Everyone and its relationship to the Oldham Local Plan can be found in chapter 2.

1.6. And at the end of each thematic chapter there is a linkages box that show the indicators through which the chapter will be monitored.

Integrated Assessment

1.7. Preparation of the Oldham Local Plan has informed by an Integrated Assessment (IA). The IA includes the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and a Health Impact

Assessment (HIA). The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is a standalone document, however its findings will be integrated into the IA.

1.8. The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered). The purpose of the HRA is to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at the local level. The findings of the HRA have been integrated into the IA.

The Oldham Local Plan and the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document

1.9. Upon adoption, the Oldham Local Plan will replace the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD. This includes allocations and designations, unless they are proposed for designation as part of the Local Plan.

1.10. Upon adoption, the Oldham Local Plan will also replace any saved planning policies, and associated allocations, that remain from the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2006, aside from those already replaced through Places for Everyone and the Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plans.

1.11. A list of all Core Strategy and saved UDP policies and how these have been replaced or deleted, including those that have been replaced through Places for Everyone and the Greater Manchester Waste and Minerals Plans, can be found at Appendix 1. A list and maps of each allocation and designation not to be carried forward through the Local Plan can be found in Appendix 2.

2 Oldham's Local Plan and Places for Everyone

2.1 The Places for Everyone (PfE) Joint Development Plan Document (DPD), is a strategic plan that covers nine of the ten Greater Manchester districts - Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan. The Plan took effect and became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities on 21 March 2024.

2.2 Places for Everyone provides the strategic framework for the Oldham Local Plan, and:

- Sets out specific requirements to be taken forward through the plan in relation to housing, offices, and industry and warehousing.
- Identifies the main areas where growth will be focused as part of its spatial strategy.
- Identifies the important environmental assets which will be protected and enhanced.
- Allocates sites for employment and housing outside of the urban area to meet our growth needs. In Oldham this is JPA2 Stakehill (a cross-boundary allocation with Rochdale), JPA10 Beal Valley, JPA11 Bottom Field Farm, JPA12 Broadbent Moss, JPA13 Chew Brook Vale, JPA14 Cowlishaw, JPA15 Land south of Coal Pit Lane and JPA16 South of Rosary Road.
- Supports the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities; and
- Defines a new Green Belt boundary.

2.3 The purpose and role of the Oldham Local Plan is to support delivery of PfE in Oldham. Providing more detailed local level 'development management' policies that support the strategic policies in PfE, whilst ensuring that together they reflect, and support delivery of, the Council's priorities and those of our Building a Better Oldham regeneration ambitions. It is therefore important that policies contained within the Oldham Local Plan are read alongside those in PfE, to ensure that all policy requirements are understood and met.

2.4 The Oldham Local Plan has been aligned with the plan period of PfE – up to 2039, given that it is supporting delivery of the Joint Plan. In addition, as this is a development management focused Local Plan, it does not include allocations for future development, whether that be for new homes or employment. Instead, the Plan supports the delivery of our housing and employment land supply through the positive planning framework provided by the plan policies. During preparation of the Plan, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was updated in December 2024. However, as the Oldham Local Plan includes policies that seek to deliver the housing requirement and development growth set out PfE it has been prepared in accordance with the relevant previous version of the Framework as per paragraph 235 of NPPF. In this instance this is NPPF 2021 under which PfE was examined. Nevertheless, the Council has sought to ensure that the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan is in conformity with the December 2024 where relevant.

2.5 The Council recognises that the emerging planning reforms will require the preparation of a Spatial Development Strategy covering the Greater Manchester region. At an appropriate time, this will need to be supported by a new Local Plan for Oldham prepared under the new, and emerging, new plan-making system. If needed allocations will be considered as part of this future reiteration of the Local Plan to support the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater Manchester that will be required by the new local planning regulations when in place.

3 Building a Better Oldham

3.1. This chapter explores the Councils key priorities, ambitions and initiatives that have informed the policies within the Local Plan and which the Plan will help to facilitate and deliver.

Our Corporate Priorities

3.2. The Oldham Plan 2024-2030[2] is prepared by the Oldham Partnership and sets out a clear set of priorities for the borough that respond to the needs and aspirations of our communities. It recognises that no single organisation can tackle all our challenges alone and brings together leaders from across the Council, health services, housing, education, safety, and local businesses. Each one brings their own skills and resources to help make Oldham stronger and fairer for everyone.

3.3. The Partnership's vision for Oldham is 'a place where everyone can thrive, with great education, good jobs, safe homes and access to necessary services. We aim to build a greener, healthier borough focused on sustainability and well-being for all'. This vision is translated into the three missions set out below:

- **A Great Place to Live** – through providing more affordable, quality homes, improving public spaces, and creating a strong economy with vibrant communities.
- **Healthier, Happier Lives** – through ensuring that everyone has access to the care, support, and opportunities they need to live a good life. With a commitment to tackling poverty, improving health and well-being, providing high-quality social care, and promoting lifelong education.
- **Green and Growing** – where economic growth benefits all residents, creating opportunities for businesses to succeed while ensuring our community and environment thrive. Through attracting new investment, supporting local business and leading in green technologies, quality job opportunities will be generated, and people will be equipped with the skills they need to succeed.

3.4. Oldham Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2027[3] reflects the Partnership's missions and sets out how the Council will support their delivery. In an ever-changing environment, where strategies must remain flexible and responsive, our cooperative ambition drives us forward, guided by a core set of values and behaviours. These principles

[2] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201261/oldham_plan/3207/oldham_plan
[3] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200146/strategies_plans_and_policies/2888/corporate_plan

form the foundation of Oldham Council's approach, ensuring that we stay true to our core purpose and direction.

3.5. The Local Plan represents the spatial expression of The Oldham Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan and is a key tool through which the Council can help to support the Partnership's missions and achieve its ambition. Delivery of these missions are the golden thread that runs through the Oldham Local Plan.

Building a Better Oldham

3.6. Building a Better Oldham[4] is the Council's ambitious transformation programme for the borough and will be achieved by:

- building quality homes
- providing opportunities to learn & gain new skills
- providing opportunities to grow local businesses and create jobs
- ensuring Oldham is the greenest borough
- embedding sustainability, energy efficiency & low (zero) carbon
- improving life-chances, health and well-being of our residents and local communities

3.7. Projects include:

- Introducing residential living into Oldham Town Centre through the development of around 2,000 high-quality new homes alongside vibrant public spaces, and exciting commercial opportunities.
- The redevelopment of Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre to provide a new home for Tommyfield Market, new space for work and an improved leisure and entertainment offer for people of all ages, in a way that will safeguard the centre and create a sustainable retail offer for the future.
- Preserving our buildings and heritage to drive Oldham's cultural quarter through, for example, the restoration of the Old Library which will be home to the Oldham Theatre Workshop, a gallery, and a new Council chamber and offices.
- Making it easier and safer to travel around the town centre through Accessible Oldham which is transforming our streets by improving roads, footpaths and public areas, alongside public realm improvements comprising new rain gardens, seating areas and public spaces.
- Northern Roots Country Park[5], which as part of the Council's 'Green and Growing' priority will be the UK's largest urban farm and country park, providing new green space for communities from across Oldham and beyond.

[4] More information can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201248/building_a_better_oldham
[5] More information can be found online at https://northern-roots.uk/

3.8. The Oldham Local Plan support's delivery of this ambitious programme as illustrated in Figure BB1 below.

Figure BB1: Flow diagram illustrating how the Council's Building a Better Oldham agenda has been embedded into the planning framework



Oldham's Green New Deal

3.8. The Council's Green New Deal Strategy[6], sets challenging new carbon neutrality targets whilst bringing a new focus on building the green economic sector in Oldham to generate inward investment, jobs and training opportunities for residents.

3.9. Central to the Green New Deal Strategy are two new ambitious targets for achieving carbon neutrality:

- **carbon neutrality for the Council by 2025** – to be achieved through reducing CO2 emissions from council buildings and street lighting; investing in large-scale renewable energy generation; and implementing local, meaningful and verifiable 'carbon offset' measures (i.e. tree planting).
- **carbon neutrality for the borough by 2030** – to be achieved through developing a Local Energy Market to incentivise renewable energy development; investing in and supporting the development and roll-out of large-scale low carbon anchor energy infrastructure such as low carbon heat networks; supporting the development of the Green Technology and

[6] More information can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201249/green_new_deal/3002/oldham_green_new_deal_strategy

Services sector across the borough; and maximising the local benefits from GM and national level schemes which aid decarbonisation, including air quality and transport.

3.10. The Green New Deal Strategy sets out the Council's approach to achieving these targets, enabled by the development of, and investment in, the 'green' sector in Oldham's local economy. There are also wider benefits in terms of improving the health and wellbeing and quality of life for residents, delivering social value and an improved environment for nature, wildlife and the green infrastructure.

3.11. In support of the Council's Green New Deal ambitions the Local Plan provides a robust framework for ensuring that development proposals mitigate the impact of climate change, make their contribution to meeting nationally binding targets to reduce greenhouse emissions and increase resilience. Through:

- Ensuring that development is located to take account of all sources of flood risk and that it is designed to increase water efficiency, reduce demand on water resources and protect water quality.
- Encouraging the use of decentralised, renewable and low carbon energy in new developments and that through their construction, design and layout they minimise energy consumption.
- Using the multi-functional benefits from Green Infrastructure creation, enhancement and protection to underpin our response to climate change and carbon reduction whilst providing connected and resilient networks.
- Reducing the need to travel and promoting active travel and the use of sustainable modes of transport, including supporting the expansion of electric vehicle charging capabilities.

3.13. Our approach to tackling the climate change emergency also has many benefits and outcomes that link to our health and wellbeing priorities in that it will help to ensure Oldham residents can afford to live comfortably in their homes; will increase access to an enhanced Green Infrastructure network; and promote active travel choices, including walking, wheeling and cycling.

Improving Oldham's Health and Wellbeing

3.14. Improving health and well-being for our residents is key part of the Partnership's mission - Healthier, Happier Lives. Some of the most pressing health challenges faced in Oldham, such as obesity, physical inactivity, deprivation and social inequality, fuel poverty and the needs of an ageing population, can all be affected by the quality of our built and natural environment. Tackling these 'wider determinants of health' through the planning system however requires a holistic approach, ensuring that they are embedded throughout the Local Plan.

3.15. Through the policies contained within the Plan the Council will encourage and facilitate development in the borough that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities. These policies will help to:

- Create healthy, inclusive and safe places that are well connected to key services and facilities and high-quality open spaces.
- Provide a diverse, and affordable, housing offer that addresses local housing needs with homes that are energy efficient and adaptable.
- Promote sustainable and accessible transport that enables active travel, including walking, wheeling and cycling, and the maximises opportunities to enhance our green infrastructure.
- Support healthy eating and promote healthy food choices through, for example, increasing opportunities for community food growing spaces and setting a policy framework for the consideration of hot food takeaways.
- Support the delivery and improvement of access to healthcare facilities and education, employment and skills training.

4 Oldham's Local Plan and Neighbourhood Planning

4.1. Communities can prepare Neighbourhood Plans for a designated neighbourhood area. Once these are prepared and adopted they become part of the statutory development plan and are used to determine planning applications (alongside the Oldham Local Plan and PfE) for the designated neighbourhood area. The Neighbourhood Plan can have its own vision, objectives, strategy, policies and designations / allocations.

4.2. In the borough of Oldham currently Saddleworth Parish Council are preparing Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan for the parish council area and The New Chadderton Partnership forum are preparing a neighbourhood plan covering three Chadderton wards.

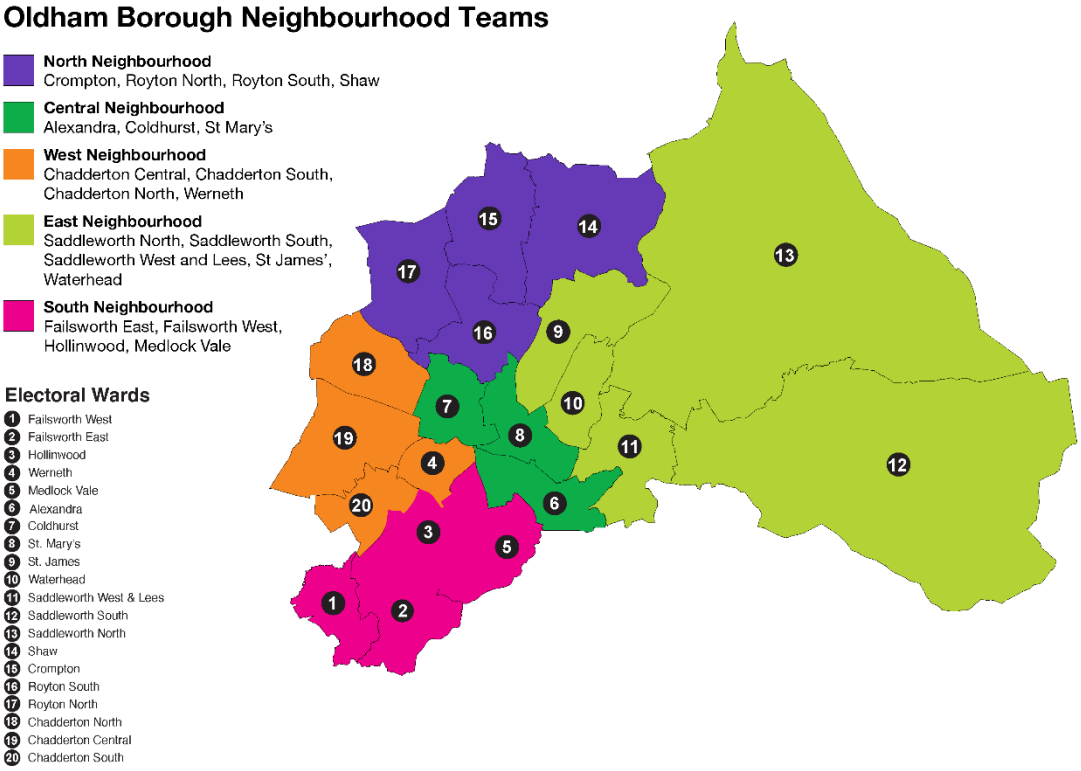
4.3. It is important that these plans, and any other neighbourhood plans that come forward, are positively prepared and support, and do not conflict with, the strategic policies of Places for Everyone and the Oldham Local Plan. In the case of Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan, this will need to also be in conformity with the planning policies of the Peak District National Park.

5 Spatial Portrait

Context

5.1. Oldham is situated in the northeast of Greater Manchester. It covers an area of 55 square miles. Our neighbouring boroughs are Rochdale, Manchester, Tameside, Peak District National Park, Kirklees and Calderdale. The borough is made up of the town of Oldham and the areas of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hollinwood, Royton, Shaw and Crompton and Saddleworth and Lees. It has a real rural and urban mix, reaching from within five miles of Manchester City Centre, to the moorlands of Saddleworth, with almost a quarter of the borough within the Peak District National Park.

Figure SP1: Map illustrating Oldham's wards and neighbourhood teams



Population and Housing

5.2. Oldham is home to around 251,560 residents who live across five districts and twenty wards and make up 8.4% of Greater Manchester's population[7]. The borough has a higher proportion (34.8%) of ethnic minority residents than in Greater Manchester (28.7%), the North-West (18.8%), and England (26.5%)[8]. The ethnic composition in Oldham currently stands at 65.2% White British, 13.5% Pakistani, 9% Bangladeshi

[7] ONS, Population estimates for England and Wales: mid-2024. Information on the mid-year estimates can be found here: https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/bulletins/populationestimatesforenglandandwales/mid2024#local-authorities

[8] Census, 2021. Information on the Census can be found here: https://www.ons.gov.uk/census

and 9.3% 'other'[9]. Equality and diversity are embraced within Oldham and the number of ethnically diverse communities continue to grow. This diversity is reflected within schools, with 98 different languages recorded as being spoken[10]. Oldham brings together a variety of cultures and is proud of the uniqueness that this brings to the borough.

5.3. The borough has a relatively young population, with a high proportion (22.5%) of residents aged under 16 and proportionally fewer (15.7%) aged 65 and over[11]. Our increasing population profile is a result of improving life expectancy, internal migration and the growth in Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities.

5.4. In general, the people of Oldham have poorer health than the England average, with Oldham's life expectancy significantly lower than the England average - for males in Oldham it is 77.2 and females 80.5 and in England it is males 79 and females 83[12]. Rates of childhood obesity, physical inactivity and smoking prevalence are also higher in Oldham than the England average[13]. There is also health inequalities linked to areas of deprivation – people living in more deprived neighbourhoods are more likely to experience poor health outcomes[14].

5.5. Oldham has a very high proportion of terraced housing (approximately 45% of all housing stock). This housing is largely concentrated in the parts of the borough, around inner Oldham, which also have the greatest levels of disadvantage and deprivation, according to the Indices of Deprivation[15]. Oldham also has a high proportion of properties in lower council tax bands, with 70% of homes in band A or B category[16]. Levels of overcrowding are high and there is a legacy of historic low supply of new larger family accommodation.

Economy and Employment

5.6. There are over 8,425 businesses, employing 84,000 people in Oldham[17]. Those businesses span key economic sectors including advanced manufacturing, health and social care, construction, education, digital and creative and financial and professional services. The borough is home to a number of well-known and high-profile businesses including Reach plc (formerly the Trinity Mirror Group), Diodes Incorporated, Seton Healthcare Ltd, Park Cake Bakeries, Innovative Technologies,

[9] Census, 2021. Information on the Census can be found here: https://www.ons.gov.uk/census
[10] School Census, 2025
[11] ONS, Population estimates for England and Wales: mid-2024. Information on the mid-year estimates can be found here: https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/bulletins/populationestimatesforenglandandwales/mid2024#local-authorities
[12] ONS, Life expectancy in the UK. Information on the mid-year estimates can be found here: https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/lifeexpectancies/bulletins/nationallifetablesunitedkingdom/2021to2023additionaldata
[13] Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2022-2030), available at: https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/documents/s136004/ITEM%2010%20-%20health%20and%20wellbeing%20strategy.pdf
[14] Oldham in Profile (2025), available at: https://www.jsnaoldham.co.uk/cms-data/depot/profile-depot/Oldham-in-Profile.pdf
[15]Oldham Indices of Deprivation Report (2019), available at: https://www.jsnaoldham.co.uk/cms-data/depot/profile-depot/IMD-2019-briefing-1-Accessible-.pdf
[16] Oldham Local Housing Needs Assessment (2024) - Valuation Office Agency Data, 2022
[17]Interdepartmental Business Register, 2023

Ambassador Textiles, and Nov Mono Pumps. The Oldham Independent Economic Review[18] identified a strong "entrepreneurial culture" in the borough, with large numbers of business start-ups and small and micro businesses. Wholesale and retail, construction, and professional services contribute significant numbers of jobs, with manufacturing the largest single sector in terms of Gross Value Added (although this has declined).

5.7. The unemployment rate in Oldham currently stands at 6.8%, compared to 5% within Greater Manchester and 4.1% in England[19]. Oldham's overall rank in the indices of deprivation has maintained a clear downward trend since 2004, relative to other authorities. The worsening of the 'extent' rank may indicate that deprivation (relative to other areas rather than in absolute terms) is taking on a wider geographic scope across Oldham. Pockets of deprivation are particularly concentrated around the inner Oldham area. The borough is the 11th most deprived local authority area[20] in the country, with seven Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's) sitting within the worst 1% nationally, two more than in 2019.

5.8. The median household income for Oldham in 2025 was £32,662, which is below Greater Manchester (£35,242) and national (£39,597) levels[21]. Oldham has traditionally had a weak skills base, a legacy of generations of manual employment, which means Oldham residents have found it difficult to enter key economic sectors in recent years. In relation to skills the latest census data shows that the proportion of residents with no qualifications has decreased from 22.2% in 2011 to 19.6% in 2021. However, the 2021 figure still remains above Greater Manchester (14.5%) and England (12.4%) proportions. The proportion of residents with NVQ 4+ (Degree level or above) has increased from 20.3% in 2011 to 26.6% in 2021. The 2021 figure still remains below both Greater Manchester (35.0%) and England (37.1%) proportions.

5.9. The Council's ambitions for Oldham Town Centre aim to create a more vibrant, revitalised centre that plays a greater role in Greater Manchester. Oldham's cultural offer includes Gallery Oldham which has collections of regional and national importance, a variety of museum collections, archives and arts, the Oldham Theatre Workshop and libraries. Gallery Oldham continues to attract a high number of visits with visitors enjoying the fantastic range of exhibitions and events on offer.

5.10. In relation to tourism, Oldham has two distinct areas that make up the main tourist destinations, Oldham Town Centre and Saddleworth. Oldham Town Centre has attractions such as Gallery Oldham and a growing evening economy around Odeon Cinema and a number of independent restaurants. Saddleworth's attractions include Saddleworth Museum and Gallery, Uppermill village, the Huddersfield Narrow Canal and the open countryside leading to attractions such as Dove Stone reservoir. A number of successful events are held annually in the borough including Santa's Reindeer Parade which attracts on average around 9,000 visitors, the Big Bang

[18] The document can be found at: https://oerb.org.uk/
[19] ONS Claimant Count, August 2025. This information can be viewed at: CC01 Regional labour market: Claimant Count by unitary and local authority (experimental) - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)
The English Indices of deprivation 2025 can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025
[21] CACI, 2025

Bonfire display and Illuminate, a late-night arts festival, which attracts performers from all over the world.

5.11. In terms of sports and open space, the emerging SportsTown centred around Boundary Park is a multi-million-pound investment which will deliver transformative sporting, health and education facilities. SportsTown will create business, educational and career opportunities in sport and health, as well as delivering improved and new facilities for a range of sports, including football, rugby, netball and cricket.

The Natural Environment

5.12. Over half of the borough is open land that provides an attractive setting to built up areas and is an important natural resource supporting agricultural, tourism and recreational activities.

5.13. Over a quarter of the borough falls within the Peak District National Park, offering residents and visitors access to the Peak Parks diverse landscapes and recreation. Oldham acts as a gateway to the Peak Park, particularly around the areas of Dove Stone Reservoir and Saddleworth Moors and provides the setting to the Peak District. Development can ensure that it helps to further the purposes of the Peak District National Park in relation to its natural beauty, wildlife, cultural heritage and understanding and enjoyment of it's special qualities.

5.14. The majority of the open land is designated Green Belt or locally protected open countryside. River valleys and waterways, including the Rochdale Canal Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal, provide habitats and corridors for wildlife, as well as opportunities for recreation, tourism and regeneration.

5.15. There is also a range of nature conservation areas, from international through to those of local importance. Oldham has one Special Protection Area (SPA) for rare and vulnerable birds (South Pennine Moors).

5.16. Oldham has six Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within the borough. They are listed below):

- Rochdale Canal;
- South Pennine Moors;
- Standedge Tunnel;
- Ladcastle and Den Quarries;
- Lowside Brickworks; and
- Dark Peak.

5.17. In addition, there are currently 40 Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) across the borough (one within the Peak District National Park), one Local Nature Reserve (Glodwick Lows) and two Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) at Glodwick Brickpit and Rocher Vale. There are also areas of ancient woodland within Oldham.

5.18. The South Pennine Moors, which is designated a SPA and SAC, as well as a SSSI and SBI, has the highest degree of international importance for birds and habitats. The Uplands is also an important area for peat soils however there is a need for

restorable deep peat to be stabilised, restored and re-wetted to enable it to store carbon and support notable habitats. The Moors for the Future Partnership is dedicated to preserving 8,000 years of moorland history. Moors for the Future have been working to reverse more than 200 years of damage that left large areas of these uplands bare of vegetation. The partnership works at landscape scale across the Peak District and South Pennines Moors to stabilise degraded peat and help moorland plants re-establish. Their purpose focuses on enhancing habitats, improving water quality, tackling climate change, reducing flood risk and wildfires and providing space for health and wellbeing.

5.19. Northern Roots is a project in Oldham which is creating the UK's largest urban farm and eco-park on Snipe Clough, 160 acres of green space in the heart of Oldham. The aim is to develop Northern Roots to create a unique community hub and visitor destination. Northern Roots aims to create inspirational spaces and opportunities for people to connect around food, growing, nature, learning, creativity, sport, enterprise, work and play; and to do this in a way that supports nature, enhances wellbeing, creates jobs, and builds hope, pride and aspiration.

5.20. Transformation of the site has already begun with permission approved for a visitor centre with café, production kitchen, shop, performance, learning and meeting spaces. Permission has also been granted for a forestry skills centre to support vocational learning. Longer term plans include bike hubs and trails, play facilities, further learning and wellbeing facilities, a market garden and swimming pond.

5.21. Green Infrastructure provision helps to underpin people's quality of life. It has a key role to play in the protection of the environment: supporting biodiversity, habitats and nature conservation; and combating the effects of climate change. The borough has a number of large, attractive parks including Alexandra and Dunwood and boasts a wide range of green spaces, such as Daisy Nook Country Park and Tandle Hill Country Park.

The Historic Environment

5.22. Heritage and conservation are very important within the borough. There are 36 conservation areas totalling around 255 hectares, 550 listed buildings, three registered parks and gardens and two registered scheduled monuments, all of which contribute to the character and local distinctiveness of the borough. The Heritage at Risk Register is the tool used for the Heritage at Risk campaign to save historic sites and places from decay, neglect and inappropriate development. In Oldham there are nine entries on Historic England's "At Risk" Register (2024), including Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area.

5.23. Oldham Town Centre has a high number of listed buildings and numerous buildings which make a positive contribution to the character of the town centre and conservation area. The high number of listed buildings and buildings of positive townscape character offers the opportunity for heritage-led regeneration, within the core of the town centre, as seen with the restoration of the Old Town Hall, a Grade II Listed Building, into a 805-seat Odeon cinema with restaurants, which opened in November 2016.

5.24. The Council adopted the 'Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Supplementary Planning Document'[22] (SPD) in August 2019. The appraisal and management plan was a high priority due to the conservation area being "at risk". The SPD proposed four extensions to the conservation area, which have been designated under Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and are reflected on the policies map

5.25. A plan showing these extensions can be found in Appendix 3. The Management Plan sets out policies and recommendations around enhancement, regeneration and community engagement.

5.26. The Oldham Mills Strategy (2021)[23] was commissioned by Oldham Council and Historic England in order to develop a positive strategy for the sustainable future of the textile mill stock across Oldham. The Mills Strategy identifies the non-designated mills across Oldham which are of particular landscape and heritage value and sets out a robust strategy to ensure their sustainable future, which considers their potential for future development focussing on residential and employment uses.

Transport

5.27. Oldham has good transport connectivity with its road and motorway network links, including the A62, A627 (M), A663, A671, A669, A635 and easy access to the M60 and M62. These transport links offer locational advantages for the borough with opportunities for accessing two major centres of importance, Manchester and Leeds, and also Manchester Airport.

5.28. Pollution from road traffic is the most significant cause of poor air quality, with sections of the A62, A627, A663 and the M60 the worst affected in the borough.

5.29. The Oldham Metrolink system opened as far as Mumps in June 2012, Shaw & Crompton in December 2012 and Rochdale Railway Station in February 2013. It operates from Rochdale, through to Oldham town centre into Manchester City Centre where the network links to Bury, Media City, Manchester Airport, Tameside, Eccles, Altrincham and East Didsbury. Park and Ride facilities within Oldham are located at Shaw, Derker, Mumps and Hollinwood. There are also Cycle Hubs at Mumps and Hollinwood. The rail network in Oldham provides connections to West Yorkshire and Manchester and beyond, with railway stations at Mills Hill and Greenfield.

Energy

5.30. The Oldham Green New Deal Delivery Partnership, funded via the DESNZ / GMCA Local Net Zero Accelerator programme will be a Joint Venture between the Council and a commercial low carbon energy infrastructure provider. The Delivery Partnership will include key organisations from the private sector, the Oldham Partnership, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and Electricity North West.

[22] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/1599/oldham_town_centre_conservation_area_appraisal_and_management_plan_caamp_supplementary_planning_document_spd
[23] The Oldham Mills Strategy can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

5.31. The project will focus on delivering the £5.6bn of low-carbon infrastructure Oldham needs to get to Net Zero, which is set out in Oldham's Local Area Energy Plan.

5.32. The Delivery Partnership initiative also aims to roll out the Community Led Energy Planning approach, piloted in Westwood and Sholver under the Oldham Energy Futures project.

5.33. Oldham will be only the third local authority nationally to establish a Strategic Energy Partnership and will be the first to combine this approach with the delivery of a heat network zone as well as Community Led Energy Planning.

5.34. One of the anchor projects is a low carbon district heat network for Oldham town centre linking to Council assets and other key town centre asset owners as the core within a larger network.

5.35. Other projects include solar PV on Council buildings and land assets, electric vehicle charging infrastructure on Council land, a potential Council wind farm and gasifying combined heat and power unit which could use tree wood chips form the council's tree operations.

5.36. A council-owned solar farm at Wrigley Head has also been approved and construction is underway.

5.37. The Council's main office has relocated to the spindles in an energy efficient fit out with long term plans to be zero carbon from electricity supplied form renewables.

6 Vision for Building a Better Oldham

Our Local Plan Vision

6.1 The vision for Oldham is that by 2039…

6.2 Oldham will have a clean, green and healthy environment. We will have responded to both the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint from meeting the Council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Oldham will be a carbon neutral exemplar with a resilient and multifunctional Green Infrastructure network which brings multiple benefits to the natural and built environment as well as to the health of its residents and visitors.

6.3 Through delivering at least 11,560 new homes of different sizes and types, including affordable housing, Oldham will have quality homes for everyone that meet the needs of Oldham's residents. New homes, delivered in sustainable and accessible locations, will contribute to inclusive and vibrant communities where everyone can live.

6.4 Oldham will be a key contributor to Greater Manchester's economy, with a strong reputation for clean growth and green innovation. It will be a place of dynamic businesses with better job opportunities, where those businesses local to Oldham are supported to thrive and grow, and those new to Oldham are attracted to invest. Every resident will be enabled to contribute to, and benefit from, economic growth of the city region providing significant progress in living standards, wages and skills for everyone in Oldham.

6.5 Oldham will have accessible and sustainable transport choices, providing improved connectivity across the borough, the city-region and beyond - for all. We will have an integrated transport system that enables the local economy to prosper and our residents to fully contribute to and benefit from job opportunities, and a comprehensive network of on and off-road walking, wheeling and cycling routes that encourage active travel, making it easier and safer for people to get to key local destinations.

6.6 Oldham Town Centre will be a place that thrives by combining a retail core with quality homes, opportunities to learn, develop new skills and gain employment, and a diverse culture, leisure and night-time offer that supports its local communities and attracts visitors. Our Town Centre will be supported by the borough's other centres – Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Shaw, Royton and Uppermill which will continue to provide a vital role in meeting the needs of the borough's communities, connecting our residents to local services and facilities in a way that fosters a sense of community and local identity.

6.7 Oldham residents will be healthy, safe and well-supported, having a great start from early years and with skills for life. They will have access to local community facilities and health and well-being provision and will have active and healthier lifestyles gained from access to active travel, green infrastructure and opportunities for sport and recreation.

6.8 Opportunities for excellent training and life-long education will be available to all Oldham residents, raising aspirations, reducing inequalities and tackling poverty. Providing residents with a great start and skills for life so that they can make the most of opportunities available to them, whilst meeting the needs for local businesses and helping to attract and retain new business opportunities.

6.9 New development will be net zero and in line with co-design expectations and design codes developed with Oldham's communities, whilst the key characteristics of Oldham's townscape and landscape types and Oldham's historic environment and rich heritage will be conserved and enhanced.

7 Plan Objectives

7.1 The following plan objectives will be central to achieving the spatial vision. The Local Plan Vision for Oldham up to 2039 will be achieved by:

PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 11,560 new homes;
- delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people;
- ensuring the delivery of high-quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes; and
- ensuring appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by:

- supporting the provision of suitable, modern services and facilities for the education and training of all age groups, including addressing the needs for primary and secondary school places; and
- encouraging employment and skills opportunities for local people as part of new developments.

PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 57,481 sqm of office floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace;
- protecting designated sites that are suitable and attractive for existing and new businesses to locate to and expand on;
- encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies;
- supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth; and
- supporting a range of sustainable leisure and tourism activities.

PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres by:

- supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres; and
- promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres to ensure their long-term sustainability.

PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes by:

- protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park;
- promoting the positive use of the Green Belt;
- identifying Local Green Spaces and supporting their enhancement; and
- ensuring high quality new development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.

PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment by:

- protecting and restoring core areas of wildlife;
- promoting nature recovery networks and improving connectivity in areas of lower biodiversity;

- using nature-based solutions to mitigate against, and be resilient to, climate change;
- delivering on the priorities for nature recovery within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; and
- implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting projects such as Northern Roots.

PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change by:

- achieving high standards of sustainable design and construction;
- adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities;
- reducing the risk of flooding to people and property taking into account climate change;
- managing flood risk using integrated water management and the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure;
- promoting the efficient use of water resources and water quality; and
- protecting and reinstating restorable peat, allowing it to act as an important carbon sink.

PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by:

- facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision;
- protecting and enhancing access to, and providing for / or improved, open spaces, sports and recreation facilities, to meet the needs of new development and communities;
- supporting sport and recreation projects such as Oldham's SportsTown;
- providing spaces to grow food in new and existing communities, such as allotments and community gardens and connecting people to nature;
- supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities;
- reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment;
- improving air quality for the benefit of everyone; and
- providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.

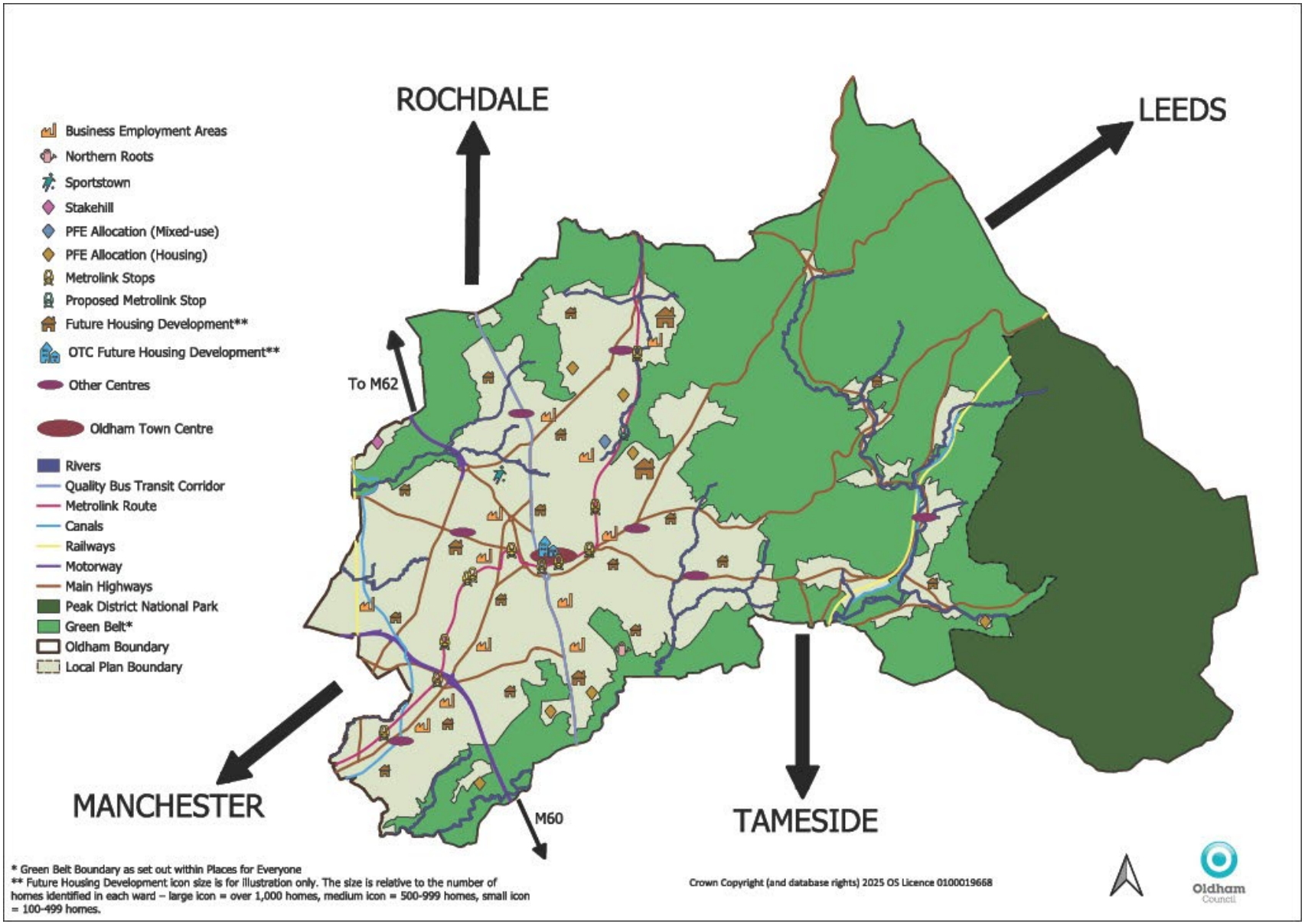
PO9 Improving and valuing a better historic and built environment, by:

- delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with buildings and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character;
- conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets, including the borough's textile mills; and
- ensuring that proposals within Oldham Town Centre follows the recommendations set out in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan with the aim of removing the Conservation Area from the 'at-risk' register.

PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices, by:

- supporting delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy and the Right Mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and an increase in travel by sustainable modes;
- reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities; and
- improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment within the borough, the city region and beyond.

Key Diagram


ROCHDALE
LEEDS
To M62
MANCHESTER
M60
TAMESIDE
Business Employment Areas
Northern Roots
Sportstown
Stakehill
PFE Allocation (Mixed-use)
PFE Allocation (Housing)
Metrolink Stops
Proposed Metrolink Stop
Future Housing Development**
OTC Future Housing Development**
Other Centres
Oldham Town Centre
Rivers
Quality Bus Transit Corridor
Metrolink Route
Canals
Railways
Motorway
Main Highways
Peak District National Park
Green Belt*
Oldham Boundary
Local Plan Boundary
* Green Belt Boundary as set out within Places for Everyone
** Future Housing Development icon size is for illustration only. The size is relative to the number of homes identified in each ward – large icon = over 1,000 homes, medium icon = 500-999 homes, small icon = 100-499 homes.
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Oldham Council

8 Homes

8.1 Oldham has a strong housing market, offering a unique draw for residents by having a wealth of green spaces and open countryside, whilst being well-connected to Manchester City Centre and neighbouring towns. Despite the positive characteristics the ever-increasing need for housing has meant there is a shortage of suitable housing to meet local needs. Like other Greater Manchester borough's, the industrial legacy has meant some of Oldham's existing housing stock is not suitable to meet current needs and new housing needs to be built.

8.2 Every Oldham resident should have access to good quality, suitable housing. Housing is a significant determinant for health and wellbeing and is a draw for investment and employment opportunities. The construction of new homes can contribute to the local economy and generate local employment opportunities.

8.3 The Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA) (2024)[24] has assessed current housing provision and future needs and has found that there are imbalances in the size, mix and type of new homes required across the borough to meet local housing needs. There is also increasing numbers of people at risk of, or currently experiencing, homelessness in the borough. In addition, there is an outward migration of young people in the borough, as such there is a need to ensure there is an attractive housing offer available in the borough to retain and attract young people. There are also issues of overcrowding in some of Oldham's neighbourhoods, an increased need for larger inter-generational family housing, and an increasing ageing population and a need for housing suitable for disabled people.

8.4 It is important that the Local Plan ensures a diverse range of housing that is attractive and meets the needs of different sections of the population at different life stages.

[24] Policies within this section have been informed by the evidence set out within the 2024 Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA). The document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/5590/housing_strategy_needs_assessment

Policy H1 - Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer

The Council will promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents.

Oldham's minimum local housing need (the number of new homes needed) is set out in policy JP-H1 of PfE.

PfE sets out that Oldham is required to deliver at least 11,560 homes over the period of 2022-2039, which equates to an average of 680 homes per year. The housing requirement is phased through a stepped housing requirement as set out in Table H1.

Table H1 Phasing of Housing Requirement[25]

	Annual Average	2022-2025	2025-2030	2030-2039	Total
Number of homes required	680	404	680	772	11,560

Planning applications for residential development, in whole or as part of a mixed-use scheme, will be permitted where the proposed development is consistent with national planning policy and guidance, PfE and other Local Plan policies. Proposals for the development of previously developed land will be considered favourably.

The Council will support residential development proposals that are in sustainable and accessible locations and that promote and encourage use of public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling. All residential development should be accessible by active travel and achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL)[26] 4 or above. In all cases, distances should be measured from the centre of the application site. This requirement should be met unless it can be demonstrated by the applicant that it is not appropriate, or the development provides exceptional benefits to the surrounding environment and community.

Reasoned Justification

8.5 The Council will support sustainable housing development for all housing need groups where it complies with national planning policy and guidance, the policies within PfE and this Plan.

8.6 Oldham's minimum housing requirement for 2022-2039 is set out within PfE policy JP-H1.

8.7 The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment[27] and Brownfield Register[28] provide details of sites considered suitable, available and achievable for residential development, and should be used as a starting point to identify potential development sites. Sites may be allocated for residential development in a future development plan document.

[25] Adapted from PfE policy JP-H1 Table 7.2.
[26] Or any future measures of accessibility that become available and are relevant to assessing the accessibility of development.
[27] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/2134/strategic_housing_land_availability_assessment_shlaa
[28] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/homepage/1386/brownfield_land_register

8.8 The redevelopment of brownfield land is central to achieving sustainable development and maximising our housing land supply. The Council will encourage the redevelopment of suitable brownfield land. The majority of sites identified within the SHLAA are brownfield, however there are also a number of sites which are made up of both brownfield and greenfield land, and also some greenfield sites. It is important in meeting our housing requirement and addressing local needs, that we deliver all sites within our housing land supply. This policy will also support the delivery of the housing on other suitable sites that may become available.

8.9 Ensuring that new residential development is sustainably located is essential in encouraging the use of sustainable travel alternatives, reducing climate change and supporting healthy communities.

8.10 Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) are a detailed and accurate measure of the accessibility of a point to both the conventional public transport network (i.e. bus, Metrolink and rail) and Greater Manchester's Local Link (flexible transport service), taking into account walking time and service availability. The method is a way of measuring the density of the public transport provision at any location within the Greater Manchester region. The GMAL measure reflects:

- Walking time from the point-of interest to the public transport access points;
- The number of services (bus, Metrolink and Rail) available within the catchment;
- The level of service at the public transport access points - i.e. average waiting time; and
- The operating areas of Local Link (flexible transport) services.

8.11 Areas are scored on a scale of 1-8, with 8 being the most accessible. GMAL scores are published online at data.gov.uk. Public transport accessibility will be regularly monitored and updated, as necessary, over the life of the local plan. Other measures of transport accessibility may be used for this policy in the future, as and when they become available, which could replace GMAL.

Policy H2 - Density of New Housing

It is important in making the most efficient use of land, to achieve appropriate densities on residential developments. In line with PfE policy JP-H4, new residential developments should achieve the minimum densities set out in Table H2 below.

Table H2: Minimum Densities for Residential Developments[29]

Location (use highest density that applies when a site falls within more than one location)[30]	**Minimum net residential density (dwellings per hectare)**	**Minimum net residential density (dwellings per hectare)**	**Minimum net residential density (dwellings per hectare)**
Designated Centres	*Within the location*	*Within 400m*	*Within 800m*
Oldham Town Centre	120	70	50
The borough's other centres (Lees, Hill Stores (Huddersfield Road), Failsworth, Chadderton, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill)	70	50	35
Public transport stops/ hubs	*Within the location*	*Within 400m*	*Within 800m*
Metrolink stops within Oldham Town Centre	N/a	120	70
Rail stations with a frequent service (Greenfield and Mills Hill Stations) and all other Metrolink stops	N/a	70	50
Areas within GMAL 6[31] and above or its equivalent	50	35	35

Outside of the areas identified within Table H2 above, a minimum density of 35 dph will be applied.

[29] Adapted from PfE policy JP-H4 – Density of New Housing (Places for Everyone).
[30] Where more than one density applies to the same part of the site, the highest density should be used. Different densities may apply to different parts of the site. Distances should be measured from the boundary of the designated centre or GMAL area. All distances are measured in a straight line.
[31] GMAL is an abbreviation of Greater Manchester Accessibility Level, which measures the accessibility of locations across Greater Manchester by walking and public transport. Areas are scored on a scale of 1-8, with 8 being the most accessible. GMAL scores are published online at data.gov.uk and are available on MappingGM.

In some circumstances exceptions to the minimum densities may apply, such as:

- **to meet a funding requirement or to deliver a particular housing need[32];**
- **to respond to specific site characteristics (i.e. flood risk, design context, heritage assets, green infrastructure); and**
- **to provide for specialist housing accommodation (i.e. extra care housing, bungalows).**

The Council will assess this on a site-by-site basis and only allow exceptions where necessary.

To help assess and monitor the density of residential development, planning applications should provide the gross and net developable area of the proposed housing development in hectares.

Reasoned Justification

8.12 Ensuring brownfield land is used efficiently means that less land will be required for housing, thereby assisting the protection of our green spaces. PfE policy JP-H4 sets out minimum densities for developments relative to their accessibility to public transport and key services. This policy sets out the requirements of JP-H4 as relevant to Oldham - defining Oldham's centres and public transport stops.

8.13 Increasing the densities of development in appropriate locations will help reduce the need to travel by car, as more people will live closer to shops, services and public transport links, enabling more active travel. Increasing densities for development within our town centres will also support the regeneration of them, creating centres where people can live, work and partake in leisure activities.

8.14 To achieve an appropriate mix of housing, developments should include the provision of houses and/or apartments having regard to the following assumptions:

a. 35-70 dwellings per hectare: primarily houses.

b. 70-120 dwellings per hectare: mix of houses and apartments.

c. 120+ dwellings per hectare: primarily apartments, incorporating houses and/or ground floor duplexes where practicable.

8.15 In some circumstances, developments may be allowed to be built at lower densities to the minimum densities, relative to their location, set out in table H2. Examples of circumstances where this may be acceptable are set out within the policy. The Council will assess this on a site-by-site basis and only allow exceptions where necessary and fully evidenced.

[32] As informed by local evidence, such as the LHNA (2024), or subsequent updates.

Policy H3 - Housing Mix

New residential developments should contribute to a diverse housing mix across the borough, ensuring that Oldham's housing needs can be met.

Oldham's Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA)[33] provides evidence in relation to housing mix, including tenure, bed size and house type. Table H3 (reasoned justification) identifies the recommended housing mix for all tenures[34].

It is important to ensure that new housing development contributes to meeting the need for level-access homes and bungalows. Level-access homes will come forward as part of the overall housing mix, especially within town centres and highly sustainable locations, in line with policy H2.

For some developments an alternative housing mix to what is set out in table H3 may be appropriate, including in the circumstances listed below:

1. **It can be clearly evidenced that an alternative mix is required in relation to specific funding requirements and the proposed development is still able to contribute to meeting local housing needs;**
2. **It can be clearly demonstrated that the site has distinct characteristics that make an identified housing mix inappropriate or impracticable, such as flood risk, design context, impact on heritage assets;**
3. **The development is for specialist accommodation, such as for older and/ or disabled people, or there is a demonstrable need for different types of homes that cannot be delivered at a particular density (for example bungalows or residential institutions); and/ or**
4. **There is a need to vary existing housing mix in the locality of the proposed development, for example, to provide smaller or larger house sizes.**

Alternative housing mix for development should be agreed with the Council at the earliest opportunity, ideally through seeking pre-application advice. All mix requirements shall be rounded to the nearest full dwelling once the relevant proportion has been applied.

The Council will also support the delivery of housing for Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding.

Reasoned Justification

8.16 The Council will support the delivery of a mix of housing suitable to meet a range of housing needs and which provides housing choice and diversity. This can include family housing, smaller housing for single people and couples, bungalows and level-access homes, and plots for Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding.

8.17 The LHNA (2024) provides evidence relating to housing need and mix. Table H3 below identifies the recommended overall housing mix by size/ type and tenure. The mix is presented as a range to ensure flexibility. The table should be used to inform the housing mix for new development across the borough.

[33] LHNA 2024, or future updates.
[34] Where necessary, housing mix will be updated over the lifetime of the Local Plan in line with updated local evidence.

Table H3: Summary of Overall Recommended Dwelling Type/ Size and Mix by Tenure[35]

Dwelling type/size	Market	Affordable/ Social rented	Affordable home ownership	Total
Overall % split	**80%**	**12%**	**8%**	**100%**
Dwelling type				
House	70-75%	35-40%	65-70%	60-65%
Flat	2-5%	30-35%	15-20%	10-15%
Bungalow/level-access	25-30%	30-35%	15-20%	25-30%
Size (bedrooms)				
1-2	30-35%	70-75%	35-40%	40-45%
3	40-45%	20-25%	40-45%	35-40%
4+	25-30%	5-10%	20-25%	20-25%

8.18 Table 5.2 in the LHNA[36] provides a further breakdown of the recommended housing mix for each tenure by district, including for Oldham Town Centre.

8.19 A significant proportion of Oldham's housing land supply is expected to be delivered within Oldham Town Centre. As such, it is important that this housing is attractive, diverse and contributes to meeting Oldham's housing needs. In line with policy H2, the majority of housing within Oldham Town Centre will be for apartments, ensuring an appropriate density is achieved. However, the LHNA has also identified a need for houses, including larger homes of 3 and 4 beds[37]. Future developments should consider the existing housing mix and aim to provide a diverse mix of house types across the town centre.

8.20 In terms of affordable housing, the LHNA identifies that a broad mix of dwelling sizes is required. For affordable/ social rented homes a similar proportion should be provided of all house types, with a slightly higher need for houses. This housing should mainly be for smaller house sizes of 1-2 bedrooms (72%), with a smaller proportion provided for larger homes (23% 3 bedrooms and 5% 4+ bedrooms). For affordable home ownership, the majority should be houses, with a smaller amount provided for flats and bungalows/ level-access homes. This housing should mainly be for 1-2 bedrooms (37%) and 3 bedrooms (43%) with a smaller amount provided for larger homes of 4+ bedrooms (21%).

<u>Bungalows and Level-access Homes</u>

8.21 The LHNA has identified a need for level-access homes and bungalows to meet the needs of older people and disabled people. The LHNA has identified that approximately

[35] Adapted from Table 5.1 of the LHNA (2024). Tables 5.1 and 5.2 of the LHNA provide further guidance on the recommended housing mix by tenure and by district.
[36] See LHNA (2024) Table 5.2 'Overall dwelling type/size mix recommendations by tenure by district'.
[37] See Table 5.2 (LHNA 2024).

25-30% of the overall housing mix should be for level-access homes or bungalows, to meet local housing needs. There is a greater need for bungalows/ level access homes of affordable/ social rented tenures, compared to market homes and affordable home ownership. The area with the greatest need for level-access homes is the north district.

8.22 It is important that new housing development contributes to this need. Level-access homes/ apartments will come forward as part of the housing land supply, particularly in our town centres and sustainable locations in line with policy H2.

8.23 The Council will also encourage new developments to incorporate the provision of bungalows or level-access homes into the overall housing mix.

Housing Standards

8.24 In terms of house sizes, as set out within PfE policy JP-H3, all new homes must comply with the nationally described space standards. It is important that houses are safe and suitable for residents and can contribute to a good standard of living. Exceptions to the application of the described space standards apply, as is set out in national planning policy and guidance.

8.25 In addition, in line with PfE policy JP-H3, all new homes must be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations unless specific site conditions make this impracticable. These will be determined by the Council on a case-by-case basis.

Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding

8.26 There is a need to provide a range of house types, including opportunities for those individuals or groups wishing to build their own homes, to ensure Oldham has an attractive and varied housing offer.

8.27 The Council will support planning applications for the delivery of homes for Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding where the proposed development is compliant with national planning policy and guidance, the policies within PfE and this Plan.

8.28 As required by national planning policy, the Council maintain a Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Register of individuals or groups seeking plots to build their own homes within the borough. To ensure availability, where plots are provided as part of larger development schemes, developers should ensure that the plots are actively marketed at an appropriate price, and the information be provided to the Council to be distributed to all appropriate individuals on the Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Register.

Policy H4 - Providing for Local Housing Needs

The Local Plan will support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people, disabled people, looked after children and care leavers.

Specialist housing provision should have easy access to community facilities, local services and public transport, and be well integrated within the wider neighbourhood.

The Council will seek to secure a range of housing options for older people and disabled people, by:

a. **Requiring all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations[38];**
b. **Supporting physical home adaptions and improvements to existing specialist accommodation, where there are no unacceptable impacts on the amenity of neighbouring properties;**
c. **Supporting the development of new specialist accommodation and supported housing, including:**
    i. **Age-restricted general market housing;**
    ii. **Extra Care Housing;**
    iii. **Sheltered Housing/ Assisted Living; and**
    iv. **Nursing and Care Homes.**

Specialist housing provision of 10 homes and above are expected to provide affordable housing, in line with Local Plan policy H5.

The development of housing for older people and disabled people, should be guided by the following principles:

a. **Promote ease of movement on foot and with mobility aids;**
b. **Be sustainably located, with access to public transport, local services and facilities (including a hospital or GP practice), accessible to the development via active travel means;**
c. **Feature parking spaces and setting down points in proximity to entrances; and**
d. **Have accessible and appropriately designed built environments, including seating areas, step free spaces and gentle approaches suitable for wheelchair users and people with visual or mobility impairments.**

The delivery of housing for children and care leavers will be supported where the proposed development is compliant with other policies in PfE and the Local Plan, and:

e. **Is in a sustainable and accessible location, with easy access to education facilities, public transport and open space, sport and recreation;**
f. **Provides appropriate accommodation for the number of proposed occupiers and their needs; and**

[38] In accordance with PfE policy JP-H3.

g. **Gives priority to children and young people from Oldham in the first instance, in line with local need.**

For the development of all specialist housing provision, early discussions with the Council through pre-application advice are encouraged to discuss local housing needs. Regard should be had to the evidence of housing need set out within the LHNA, and other local evidence, for specialist need groups. Where appropriate, provision should be delivered via a specialist provider or other appropriate body.

Reasoned Justification

8.29 This policy supports the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people, disabled people[39], looked after children and care leavers. Specialist housing provision should be sustainably located, in line with local plan policy H1, and well-integrated into existing communities.

Older People and Disabled People

8.30 Oldham has an ageing population. Oldham Council's Market Position Statement (MPS) identifies that there are approximately 39,000 people aged 65 and over living in Oldham currently, which is expected to increase by 26.62% to over 49,500 people by 2040. Also, the number of people in Oldham over the age of 85 is projected to increase by 43% by 2040. Between 2023 and 2040 there is an expected increase of 38.4% in people over 65 with dementia.

8.31 As a result, there will be an increase in the number of people needing care and also the care needed will become increasingly complex. The LHNA has identified a net need for:

- 3,139 additional specialist older persons dwellings over the period 2022 to 2041 or 165 each year;
- a need for 955 C2 Extra Care units or 50 each year; and
- 775 C2 residential care bedspaces or 41 each year.

8.32 There is a particular need for leasehold sheltered housing, enhanced sheltered, and Extra Care housing for sale.

8.33 There is also a need to build more adapted, or adaptable, accommodation so that people can be supported at home for as long as possible (51% of over 65s would prefer to be at home with support). Oldham's Adult Social Care Team can assist in supporting people to 'Live Well at Home'[40].

8.34 There is expected to be an increase in the number of households experiencing a disability in Oldham over the plan period. The LHNA identified that around 48,800 people reported as experiencing a disability in 2022 - this represented 20% of households in Oldham. This is expected to increase by 14.7% by 2041, which represents an additional 7,200 people experiencing an illness or disability[41].

8.35 In particular, the MPS identifies that in 2023 there were estimated to be 795 adults with a moderate or severe learning disability in Oldham – this is expected to increase by

[39] Including people with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health needs.
[40] Further information on the 'Live Well at Home' agenda and access to support is available at: https://livingwellathome.co.uk/ and https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200369/live_at_home
[41] LHNA (2024), data interpreted from ONS Family Resources Survey 2018/19 and ONS 2018-based population projections.

over 6% to 846 adults in 2040. There is also expected to be an increase over the plan period in the number of people with autism spectrum disorders and people experiencing a mental health disorder.

8.36 There is a need for more wheelchair accessible homes and appropriate housing for those with other physical disabilities, dementia, a learning disability and mental health disorders. The LHNA has identified a need for 5% of new dwellings to be built to the M4(3) wheelchair accessible standard (an average target of around 34 per year over the plan period).

8.37 PfE policy JP-H3 requires all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations. Accessible and adaptable housing enables people to live more independently, whilst also saving on health and social costs in the future.

8.38 The definitions of provision that is suitable for older people, including the level of care that is associated with the provision, is set out in Planning Practice Guidance[42]. There is a significant amount of variability in the types of specialist housing for older people. The list provided within the policy is an indication of the different types of housing available but is not definitive. Any single development may contain a range of different types of specialist housing.

8.39 It is recognised that provision for older people may also be suitable for those with disability in some circumstances, especially where the disabled resident is of an older age. However, there is a need for suitable provision for disabled people who are not within this group, who are able to live independently or semi-independently and those living in their own homes. There is also a particular need for suitable accommodation for young adults and those with complex behavioural needs.

8.40 Inclusive design is integral to ensuring provision is fit for purpose and reflects the needs of its users. Planning Guidance has informed the inclusive design principles set out in points 1 to 5 of the policy. In addition, the HAPPI Principles[43] are a good starting point for designing provision suitable for older people and disabled people:

- Integration with the surrounding context
- Social spaces that link with the community
- Space standards that facilitate flexibility
- Enhanced natural light
- Priority for pedestrians in outdoor spaces

8.41 Accessible and adaptable housing will provide safe and convenient approach routes into and out of the home and outside areas, suitable circulation space and suitable bathroom and kitchens within the home. Wheelchair user homes include additional features to meet the needs of occupants who use wheelchairs or allow for adaptations to meet such needs.

Children and Young People

8.42 Caring for looked after children is a key part of the Council's role. A children's residential care home falls within Class C2 of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended). Such uses are intended for the provision of care and are therefore

[42] This guidance can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-for-older-and-disabled-people
[43] This document can be viewed at: https://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/Design-building/HAPPI/

governed by the provisions of the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015. A child may live in a residential care home up to the age of 18 if their needs are judged to require the provision of care as defined by the Regulations.

8.43 There is a need to ensure that suitable housing is available for all looked after children, with a range of housing options, including smaller group homes and homes suitable for children with disabilities.

8.44 Provision for looked after children should reflect the needs of the occupants. It should be sustainably and accessibly located and integrated into the local community. Provision should also be of an appropriate size for the number of proposed occupiers and meet their housing needs, including ensuring any necessary adaptions are in place to support children with disabilities.

8.45 The delivery of appropriate housing options for support care leavers[44] is important to support the increasing numbers of young people moving from the care system into independence[45]. For some, this housing might be supported group living accommodation, homes in multiple occupation (with or without a care element), or an affordable flat or house. The Local Plan will support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for care leavers, where it is compliant with other relevant policies.

8.46 Oldham Council has a Care Leavers After Care Team which supports care leavers to find a suitable home, access employment, education and training opportunities and provide support and advice in relation to health and wellbeing and finance.

8.47 Housing provision for children and care leavers should also comply with the necessary regulations.

8.48 It is important that any provision within Oldham supports local housing needs. In terms of any proposed development for children and care leavers - applicants should liaise with the Council at the earliest opportunity to ensure priority is given to children and young people from Oldham in the first instance, in line with local housing need.

[44] A 'care leaver' is defined by the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 as someone aged 16 or 17 who has been looked after by a local authority for a prescribed period, or periods amounting in all to a prescribed period, which began after they reached a prescribed age and ended after he reached the age of 16.
[45] Local Authorities are required to prepare a pathway of support for when they cease to look after them, which can include helping them to find suitable housing to meet their needs.

Policy H5 - Affordable Housing

The Local Plan will ensure that a diverse type and tenure of affordable housing is provided to accommodate all households in need. Affordable housing will be provided alongside other tenures of housing, pepper potted throughout the site to ensure balanced and mixed communities.

Amount, Type and Tenure of Affordable Housing

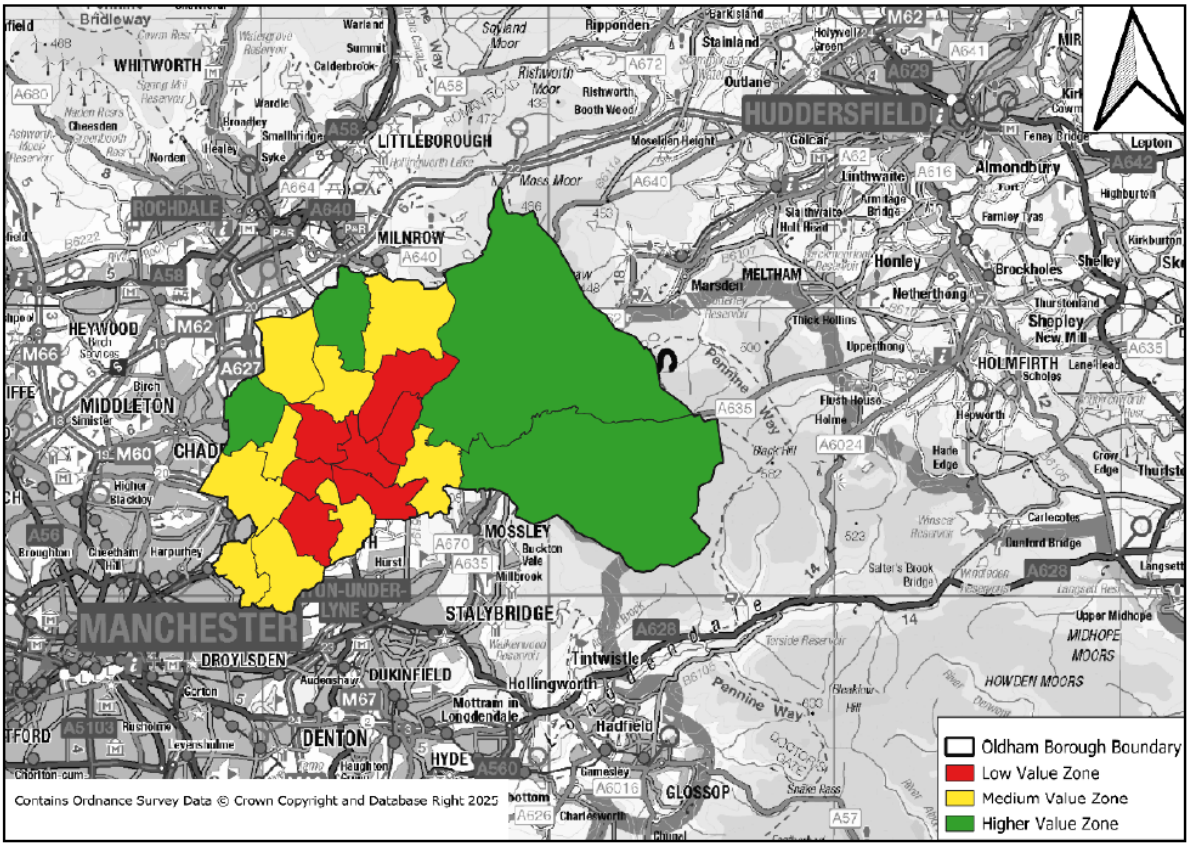
All developments that provide 10 or more net additional homes[46], will be required to deliver an appropriate portion of the total site capacity as affordable housing[47] in line with the value area in which the site is located and the land type – as set out in table H4. A map of the borough's value areas is provided at figure H1.

Table H4: Affordable Housing Requirements

Value Area	Brownfield Land	Greenfield Land
High Value	20% of site capacity	25% of site capacity
Medium and Low Value	10% of site capacity	10% of site capacity

[46] Developments of less than 10 dwellings are not generally required to provide affordable housing unless they form part of a rural exception site.
[47] Affordable housing as defined in Annex 2 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Figure H1: Oldham's Value Areas[48]


Oldham Borough Boundary
Low Value Zone
Medium Value Zone
Higher Value Zone
Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown Copyright and Database Right 2025
HUDDERSFIELD
ROCHDALE
MANCHESTER
OLDHAM
STALYBRIDGE
MOSSLEY
LITTLEBOROUGH
MILNROW
WHITWORTH
HEYWOOD
MIDDLETON
CHADDERTON
DROYLSDEN
DUKINFIELD
DENTON
HYDE
GLOSSOP
Tintwistle
Hollingworth
Hadfield
Mottram in Longendale
Marsden
MELTHAM
Honley
Netherthong
Almondbury
Lepton
Shelley
Shepley
HOLMFIRTH
Upperthong
Thick Hollins
Flush House
Holme
Hepworth
Dunford Bridge
Upper Midhope
MIDHOPE MOORS
HOWDEN MOORS
Pennine Way
Pennine Bridleway
Moss Moor
Rishworth Moor
Saddleworth Moor
Standedge
Stainland
Outlane
Golcar
Linthwaite
Farnley Tyas
Brockholes
Thurstonland
Scholes
Lanehead
Hade Edge
Crow Edge
Carlecotes
Langsett
Salter's Brook Bridge
Bridleway
Warland
Summit
Ripponden
Barkisland
Holywell Green
Rishworth
Booth Wood
Moselden Height
Cheesden
Broadley
Wardle
Smallbridge
Norden
Healey
Syke
Calderbrook
Kirkburton
Highburton
Farnley Tyas
Slaithwaite
Hull Head
Kinsley
Birch
Sinister
Higher Blackley
Broughton
Cheetham Hill
Harpurhey
Hurst
Millbrook
Buckton Vale
Audenshaw
Gorton
Reddish
Levenshulme
Rusholme
Chorlton-cum-Hardy
Haughton Green
Gamesley
Charlesworth
Bottom
Snake Pass
Torside Reservoir
Woodhead Reservoir
Winscar Reservoir
Blackmoor
Hill
Black Hill
Back Hill
Hade Edge
Crow Edge
Thurlstone
Langsett
Upper Midhope
Carlecotes
Dunford Bridge
Salter's Brook Bridge
Lenehead
Scholes
Thurstonland
Netherthong
Honley
Brockholes
Shelley
Kirkburton
Highburton
Farnley Tyas
Almondbury
Lepton
Linthwaite
Golcar
Outlane
Stainland
Barkisland
Ripponden
Holywell Green
Rishworth
Booth Wood
Moselden Height
Moss Moor
Rishworth Moor
Saddleworth Moor
Standedge
Pennine Way
Pennine Bridleway

Policy H3 identifies the house type and size recommendations for affordable housing (see table H3). The applicant is required to evidence an alternative tenure split or mix, considering local affordable housing needs. Any proposed alternatives will be agreed with the Council at planning application stage.

The tenure split set out above, and the housing mix set out within policy H3, will be reviewed as part of future updates of the LHNA or other evidence, as appropriate.

All affordable housing requirements shall be rounded up to the nearest full dwelling once the relevant proportion has been applied.

Affordable Housing Delivery

Developments should provide affordable housing onsite. However, by exception, it may be more appropriate, in meeting local needs for the payment of a commuted sum/ developer contribution to off-site provision, or a mixture of onsite/off-site provision. Off-site contributions should provide the number of units that would have been delivered on site.

The value of any commuted sum/ developer contribution shall be calculated in negotiation with the Council and a registered affordable housing provider. Relevant evidence, such as the LHNA, will be used to assist the calculation of a contribution, where relevant.

Where appropriate, affordable housing will be secured in perpetuity to retain the benefits of affordability for initial and subsequent owners and occupiers. This will be secured by conditions or planning obligations (see policy IN2).

The affordable homes provided will be offered to those on the Council's affordable housing need register in the first instance and in line with the local authority's local connection test[52], to ensure the affordable homes provided help address the borough's affordable housing need.

Exceptional Circumstances

Whilst it is important to ensure the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs, there may be some exceptions to providing the full amount of affordable housing required (either on or off-site)[53]. The following exceptions may be acceptable, at the Council's discretion on a case-by-case basis:

1. **There is a high level of existing affordable housing and there is a need to diversify the housing offer in a particular location (to be agreed with the Council); and**

2. **Developments which involve the conversion or demolition of a vacant building, through the application of vacant building credit (VBC), to support viability. In determining whether VBC applies, the Council will assess the evidence submitted by the applicant and its compliance with the criteria set out in PPG[54].**

[52] Further information on the Councils housing needs register and the criteria of the local connection test are available within the Oldham Council Allocation Scheme.
[53] In line with Local Plan Policy IN2.
[54] See Planning Practice Guidance 'Planning Obligations' – paragraphs 26-28 – for vacant building credit criteria: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-obligations

Reasoned Justification

8.49 The Local Plan will ensure a diverse mix of quality housing, which is affordable for local residents, is provided by working with partners and registered providers.

8.50 Oldham's existing affordable housing stock is not able to accommodate the demand. Nor is the existing stock suitable for all types of people in need of affordable housing. In the current economic climate, including the increasing cost of living, the need for affordable housing continues to increase in Oldham, and across the country.

8.51 The LHNA (2024) has found that there is a shortfall of affordable housing across the borough, which equates to a need for approximately 669 additional affordable homes each year over the next 10 years[55]. Whilst PPG is clear that only a portion of this need will be met through the planning system, it emphasises the significance of affordable housing need in Oldham. Also, when this need is compared to the findings of the previous LHNA (2019), which identified a need for approximately 204 additional affordable homes each year, it is clear that the need for affordable housing is increasing.

8.52 There are disparities in the affordability of housing in parts of the borough, with some areas distinctly lacking adequate affordable housing provision to meet local needs. There are deficiencies in smaller accommodation in the form of 2 and 3 bed houses. However, this is indicative of a lack of choice in the market and respondents' expectations, as Oldham's local housing register indicates a need for larger family housing in certain areas of the borough also.

8.53 There are issues with attracting and retaining young professionals and families. In some parts of the borough, there are not enough affordable homes for people to live in the area in which they grew up, leading to an out-migration of these households to neighbouring boroughs. There is also a lack of smaller single person affordable housing and affordable housing for older people and disabled people. Suitable affordable housing should also be provided for key workers.

8.54 National Planning Policy Annex 2 'Glossary'[56] defines affordable housing as housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers)[57]. This includes Social Rent, other affordable housing for rent, discounted market sales housing and other routes to home ownership, including shared ownership and Rent to Buy.

8.55 To ensure that affordable housing is provided where it is most needed and to account for viability challenges within the borough, the affordable housing requirement for new residential (or mixed-use) development is variable. The amount of the total site capacity which is required to be delivered as affordable housing is varied, informed by the value area within which the site is located and the land type of the site as set out in table H4.

[55] As set out within the LHNA (2024) the ten-year period modelling aligns with the affordable need calculation methodology – see table C7.
[56] This annex can be found at: National Planning Policy Framework - Annex 2: Glossary - Guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
[57] This definition should be read in conjunction with relevant policy, including that of First Homes, as set out in the Affordable Homes Update Written Ministerial Statement published on 24 May 2021. There is no longer a requirement to provide a certain amount of affordable housing as First Homes as is clarified in footnote 33 in NPPF.

8.56 Generally, greenfield sites are more viable than brownfield sites, as are sites within high value areas compared to those within low value areas. The policy requirement reflects this.

8.57 In addition, the varied requirement aims to rebalance the lack of affordable housing in several areas of the borough, including high and medium value areas. The LHNA has identified a need for affordable housing within these areas, particularly to ensure that people who have grown up there can afford to buy their own homes. There is also a need for affordable family housing and larger homes in these areas.

8.58 To affordable housing requirements should be considered as a minimum. The Council support and encourage higher proportions of affordable housing to be provided, including sites which are fully for affordable housing.

8.59 The tenure of affordable housing should be provided in line with the mix set out within the policy, which is based on local evidence[58]. The mix is informed by evidence of affordable tenure preferences and incomes of existing and newly forming households. It also takes account of the increased government emphasis on delivering social rented affordable housing and Oldham Council's commitment to delivering social housing.

8.60 The LHNA has identified that social rent is the only affordable housing option available to people in Oldham on lower incomes. Households of medium income earners have access to a broader range of affordable housing, such as affordable rent and affordable home ownership options. As such, it is important that housing is delivered at a price which is affordable to local people, and our affordable housing supply should support this.

8.61 Policy H3 (table H3) identifies the affordable housing mix (house type and size) which should inform development proposals for affordable housing. For affordable/ social rent the mix is identified as follows:

- 35-40% houses, 30-35% flats and 30-35% bungalow/ level-access.
- 70-75% 1-2 bedroomed, 20-25% 3 bedroomed and 5-10% 4+ bedroomed.

8.62 For affordable home ownership the mix is identified as follows:

- 65-70% houses, 15-20% flats and 15-20% bungalow/ level-access.
- 35-40% 1-2 bedroomed, 40-45% 3 bedroomed and 20-25% 4+ bedroomed.

8.63 Exceptions to the identified tenure split (and mix) may apply in certain circumstances and where evidenced, as set out in the policy.

8.64 Affordable housing requirements (table 4), tenure and mix will be kept under review throughout the lifetime of the Plan and will be updated as appropriate, through a supplementary planning document, in line with updated local evidence.

8.65 Early discussions with the Council and registered providers are encouraged, preferably at the pre-application stage, to ensure that affordable housing provision will meet relevant requirements and standards.

8.66 As is set out in the policy, affordable housing should be provided onsite. This will support the delivery of balanced and sustainable communities. Affordable housing should be well integrated into developments, being pepper-potted throughout the

[58] As identified in the LHNA (2024) or other subsequent updates/ local evidence. The tenure mix has been rounded based on the evidence set out within the LHNA (see table C13 of the LHNA 2024).

development alongside market housing, where appropriate. It should not be obvious which homes are affordable compared to market housing. The design principles set out within policy D1 will apply to all types of housing.

8.67 The Council can support developers in engaging with registered providers and to access funding opportunities to support the delivery of affordable housing as part of development.

8.68 By exception, the payment of a commuted sum/ developer contribution to off-site provision, or a mixture of onsite/off-site provision, may be acceptable to meet local housing needs. Contributions towards off-site provision should be sufficient to provide the number of affordable units that would have been delivered on site. The value of any commuted sum/ developer contribution towards off-site provision shall be calculated in negotiation with the Council and a registered affordable housing provider and considering relevant evidence – including that set out in the LHNA relating to tenure costs and household income[59].

8.69 Where necessary, the provision of affordable housing will be secured in perpetuity through a Section 106 agreement. The agreement will specify the timing for delivery of the homes and/ or the payment schedule of commuted sums. Any future variation to an affordable housing contribution must be done in line with the terms set out in the agreement. This is to ensure we have a constant supply of affordable homes available for those in need.

8.70 Where necessary and fully evidenced, exceptions to providing the full amount of affordable housing may apply, as set out in the policy. Policy IN2 provides further detail on planning obligations and viability.

8.71 One exception to providing the full amount of affordable housing includes through the application of Vacant Building Credit (VBC). VBC allows for a deduction of a financial 'credit', equivalent to the existing gross floorspace of any relevant existing vacant buildings within the redline boundary of the application site brought back into lawful use or demolished for redevelopment, from the overall affordable housing contribution.

8.72 The aim of VBC is to stimulate the development of vacant buildings, supporting the delivery of housing on brownfield sites VBC will apply where is complies with the criteria set out within PPG. A site which has last been used for employment purposes must also meet the requirements for redevelopment as set out in policy E3 and E4, regardless of whether the building is now vacant. The requirements of policy E5 and HE4 will also apply if the building is a mill[60].

[59] See tables 3.7 and 3.8 of the LHNA (2024).
[60] Oldham Mills Strategy identified Oldham's Textile Mills, available at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

Policy H6 - Houses in Multiple Occupation

Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) will be supported where the proposed development:

1. **Does not result in the loss of, or impact on the character or amenity to the area as a consequence of increased traffic, noise or general disturbance;**

2. **Does not result in an undue concentration of HMO provision in any particular area of the borough. Permission may not be granted where the proportion of HMOs (either C4 or Sui Generis)[61] will result in HMOs representing 10% or more of properties within a 50m radius measured from the centre of the application site;**

3. **Ensures that no two adjacent properties apart from those that are separated by a road are converted to HMOs; and**

4. **Complies with the relevant design and amenity standards as outlined in policy D1, and any existing or future HMO standards or guidance developed by the Council.**

The Council will make a decision on HMO applications on a case-by-case basis considering the factors listed above.

For the development of a HMO that requires a license, the applicant should meet the Council's licensing requirements[62].

Applications for all HMOs are required to provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment.

HMOs within Oldham Town Centre

It is important to ensure a well-balanced mix of housing across the Town Centre. Oldham Town Centre is well-connected to services, facilities and public transport. HMOs are best suited to areas with these assets.

However, it is important to protect the core functions and character of Oldham Town Centre. As such, applications for HMOs in this location will be considered in line with the criteria listed above. In addition, within the town centre HMOs should not occupy ground floor uses, unless the proposed development would comply with the exceptions listed in policy C3.

Reasoned Justification

8.74 A house in multiple occupation (HMO) is a property rented out by at least three people who are not from one 'household' (for example a family) but share facilities like the bathroom and kitchen. HMOs can provide various types of accommodation including bedsits, a hostel, private halls of residence, a shared house, a block of converted flats and shared self-contained cluster flats.

8.75 HMOs can be a valuable source of housing to meet the local housing needs of various groups, including students, young adults and people with disabilities. They also provide

[61] Including those which are permissioned but have not yet been implemented
[62] As set out on the Council's website:
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201198/help_for_landlords/258/houses_in_multiple_occupation

smaller and affordable accommodation which has been identified as being required in the borough. However, there is also a need for larger family housing. As such it is important that large family homes are not extensively lost to subdivision as a result of HMO development.

8.76 Furthermore, extensive concentrations of HMO development can result in amenity issues and change the character of an area. Amenity and local character have a significant impact on the way in which people live and experience spaces. It is important that HMO development does not result in the loss of, or impact on the character or amenity to the area as a consequence of increased traffic, noise or general disturbance. Factors which may be considered in terms of assessing amenity include privacy levels, overbearing effects, natural light and outlook, environmental effects and design. The local character of a place should help people understand a place through reinforcing its historic legacy and links to the natural and built environment. Development should therefore be sympathetically designed to the existing local character.

8.77 It is considered that a concentration of HMOs which would result in 10% or more of properties within a 50m radius (measured from the centre of the application site), could impact on the character of an area. As such, applications for HMOs should include an assessment of the existing concentration as per the criteria listed in the policy and provide this as part of their planning application. GIS and other desktop assessment tools will be utilised in assessing the information provided.

8.78 Oldham Town Centre is a highly accessible and sustainable location which is suited to HMOs, particularly for students and young adults. However, it is important that HMO development is carefully managed in this location to ensure the viability and vitality of Oldham Town Centre, protect its unique character and maintain its core retail and leisure function. As such, applications for HMOs in this location will also be considered in line with the criteria listed within the policy. The Council will also not support proposals for the development of HMOs that would occupy ground floor uses, unless the proposed development would comply with the exceptions listed in Policy C3, at the Council's discretion. The Oldham Town Centre boundary will be defined on the Policies Map.

8.79 Any applications for HMOs must ensure that the proposed development is of a high standard and complies with the relevant design and amenity standards within Policy D1, and any existing or future HMO standards developed by the Council.

8.80 In addition, HMOs should be sustainably located, with public transport, local services and facilities, accessible to the development by active travel. Further information for developers and landlords of HMOs regarding development and living quality and HMO regulations is available on the council's website[63].

8.81 By requiring all planning applications for new HMOs to provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment, this will ensure that issues of community cohesion, integration and concerns relating to the perceived negative impacts of HMOs can be addressed and discussed with the community at an early stage. This assessment should be appropriate and proportionate to the size of the proposed development.

[63] https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201198/help_for_landlords/258/houses_in_multiple_occupation

Policy H7 - Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

Proposals for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites will be supported where they are consistent with national and local guidance and policies and meet the following criteria:

1. **The site is located within a sustainable location, with access to local services and facilities, including schools, healthcare, shops and public transport;**

2. **The site is not subject to physical constraints or other environmental issues that cannot be mitigated to an acceptable level;**

3. **The site provides adequate space for pitches / plots, on-site facilities and operational needs including the on-site parking, turning and servicing of vehicles and storage and maintenance of equipment;**
4. **There is safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access to the road network;**

5. **The development protects the residential amenity and safety of current and future occupiers of the site and neighbouring uses;**

6. **There is, or can be, access to appropriate infrastructure required to meet the needs of the occupiers (including facilities for sewage and waste disposal, water, power supplies and drainage); and**

7. **Appropriate screening and landscaping is used to mitigate the visual impact on the surrounding area.**

Proposals for Travelling Showpeople sites will also be required to demonstrate that:

8. **There is safe and functional access for larger vehicles; and**

9. **The proposed development is compatible with surrounding land uses.**

Reasoned Justification

8.82 As set out in national planning policy, the specific housing needs of different groups in the community, including travellers, should be assessed and reflected in local planning policies.

8.83 The latest evidence (set out in the 2018 and 2024 Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAA)) identified no need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Oldham up to 2041. For Travelling Showpeople the 2018 assessment found a shortfall of 204 plots across Greater Manchester up to 2035/36, driven by household formation and overcrowding on existing yards. In addition, the need to provide for 59 transit pitches across the study area was also identified.

8.84 Whilst there is no identified need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Oldham, it is recognised that additional need may arise over the plan period. Further work to understand and identify the spatial distribution of plots for Travelling Showpeople and

transient pitches may also include the identification of specific sites in Oldham in the future.

8.85 The criteria set out within this policy will therefore provide a basis on which planning applications for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation can be determined. The policy will ensure that sites come forward in sustainable and appropriate locations, having regard to the needs of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople community as well as surrounding neighbourhoods. In addition, criteria 8 to 10 addresses the specific size and locational requirements that plots for Travelling Showpeople may have to ensure that plots are able to cater for larger vehicles and the storage and maintenance of equipment.

Monitoring

8.86 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings - in previous years; Net additional dwellings - for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings - in future years; and Managed delivery target
- New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land
- Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate
- Total housing completions by size and type on major sites
- Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size
- Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision
- Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation
- Number of vacant properties
- Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)

8.87 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are[64]:

- Deliver approximately 9,063 homes annually by 2025
- Deliver approximately 10,305 homes annually by 2030
- Deliver approximately 10,719 homes annually by 2039
- Number of new affordable homes completed
- Percentage of new homes meeting Nationally Described Space Standard (NDSS)
- Percentage of new homes meeting Accessible & Adaptable (A&A) standard
- Percentage of residential development on brownfield land

[64] Please note, as PfE is a Joint Plan of Bury, Bolton, Oldham, Manchester, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan, the PfE indicators apply plan-wide (including all districts). As such, indicators where delivery figures are monitored represent the delivery across all districts, not just Oldham. The minimum amount of homes Oldham is required to deliver over the plan period is set out in policy H1 and PfE policy JP-H1.

- Developer contributions for the delivery of affordable housing

9 Economy and Employment

9.1 NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. It goes on to say that significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development and that the approach taken should allow each area to build on its strengths, counter any weaknesses and address the challenges of the future.

9.2 As set out in Oldham's Corporate Plan[65] our ambition is to make Oldham a place where economic growth benefits all residents, creating opportunities for businesses to succeed. By attracting new investment, supporting local businesses and leading in green technologies we will generate quality job opportunities and equip people with the skills they need to succeed. If Oldham is to achieve this ambition it is essential that we have a portfolio of diverse, sustainable, suitable and attractive employment sites for existing businesses to grow and relocate to and to attract new businesses to invest in the borough. We need to ensure that we seek higher value jobs and job creation through maximising the potential of the boroughs key economic sectors.

9.3 In the past, Oldham's economy has failed to benefit fully from growth at a Greater Manchester level in many ways, including business start-ups, Gross Domestic Product, wages and skills levels. The fact that Oldham has a significantly higher percentage of its working age population with no qualifications, is a major issue if we are to compete with other Local Authorities and attract new businesses. The 'Levelling Up Oldham'[66] paper produced by the Oldham Economic Review Board in March 2022 estimated that in 2020 the share of the local workforce working in the foundational economy could have been as high as 70% of all workers. The 'foundational economy' includes jobs in utilities, food production and processing, retail and distribution, and health, education, housing and welfare. The jobs that lie within the foundational economy perform an essential role in the economy; however they tend to be low paid and the contracts relatively unstable.

9.4 If we are to make a shift from an overreliance on a foundational economy, our employment areas must be attractive to key economic sectors going forward so we can support and promote their growth in Oldham. PfE identifies a number of key economic sectors to the Plan area, including advanced manufacturing, business, financial and professional services, creative and digital, health innovation and logistics. In promoting these key economic sectors, it will be important to ensure there are links with the Council's ambitions regarding the building of the Green Technologies and Services sector (GTS). This will include supporting companies who are looking for opportunities to develop sustainable, environmentally friendly materials; decarbonise energy; tap digital innovation for doing more with less; and extend the life cycle of goods within a "zero waste to landfill" framework. All of these companies would fall under the 'advanced manufacturing' and 'creative and digital' sector.

9.5 In terms of economic development, PfE establishes the quantitative floorspace requirements for industrial and warehousing and office development across the Plan area and seeks to ensure a distribution of development that helps to achieve the strategic economic priorities for Greater Manchester. This includes the aim to rebalance the Greater Manchester economy by boosting the economic output of the northern districts and the identification of the Northern East Growth Corridor strategic

[65] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200146/strategies_plans_and_policies/2888/corporate_plan
[66] This document can be found at: oerb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ING6167_UofM_Levelling-up-Oldham-22-03-22.pdf

employment site to help to achieve this. The North East Growth Corridor, which extends eastwards from Junction 18 to 21 of the M62 to include parts of Bury, Rochdale and Oldham and incorporates the Atom Valley Mayoral Development Zone, will deliver a nationally-significant area of economic activity. In Oldham this includes Stakehill (PfE Policy JPA 2) which will deliver a 150,000 sqm green employment park with a focus on suitable provision for advanced manufacturing and/or other key economic sectors. It is also important that policies within this plan help to enhance connectivity between these wider employment opportunities and beyond for our residents.

9.6 The Oldham Mills Strategy (2021)[67] was commissioned by Oldham Council and Historic England in order to develop a positive strategy for the sustainable future of the textile mill stock across Oldham. The Mills Strategy identifies the non-designated mills across Oldham which are of particular landscape and heritage value and sets out a robust strategy to ensure their sustainable future, which considers their potential for future development focussing on residential and employment uses. In relation to employment uses the Mills Strategy provided a high-level overview of the economic potential of each mill based upon a limited range of criteria relating to heritage, condition, suitability, allocation and strategic location and gave an indicative illustration of the suitability of each mill for employment re-use. However, it is important to note that the Strategy stated that even in instances where a mill was identified as having the potential for housing and a lower potential for employment use it did not mean that housing would be the best use, as many of these sites are in active employment use, in well-established employment areas and are of benefit to the communities in which they are situated as a source of employment.

9.7 There is very little land available within our existing employment areas, and with over half the borough being open land and the pressure of delivering future housing growth it means that opportunities for new employment land across the borough are limited. How our employment allocations within PfE come forward, how we make better economic use of our existing mill stock and how we ensure that our designated Business and Employment Areas (BEAs) remain attractive to a range of employment generating uses, particularly key economic sectors, will therefore be fundamental to ensuring our future economic success and growth.

Policy E1 - Employment Floorspace Requirements

To contribute towards achieving the overall employment floorspace requirements set out in PfE policies JP-J3 and JP-J4, at least 57,481 sqm of office (E(g)(i)) floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing (B2 and B8) floorspace will be provided in Oldham over the period of 2022-2039.

Reasoned Justification

9.8 PfE policies JP-J3 and JP-J4 identify gross floorspace requirements for the PfE plan area for offices and industry and warehousing development over the period 2022 to 2039. The requirements are for at least 2,019,000 sqm of office floorspace and 3,513,000 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace, across the PfE plan area.

9.9 Within PfE, tables 6.1 (JP-J3) and 6.2 (JP-J4) set out the distribution of the identified *supply* for offices and industry and warehousing across the PfE districts. However, PfE does not set out distributed *requirement*s for offices and industry and warehousing floorspace.

[67] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

9.10 As such, this policy sets out Oldham's employment floorspace requirements for the Local Plan period (2022-2039) of at least 57,481 sqm of office floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace. This is to ensure that Oldham makes a sufficient contribution to meeting the overall PfE plan area employment requirements identified in policies JP-J3 and JP-J4.

9.11 These requirements have been determined by:

- Calculating Oldham's proportion of the total supply of office and industry and warehousing floorspace across the 9 districts as shown in PfE tables 6.1 (JP-J3) and 6.2 (JP-J4); and
- Applying this proportion to the overall office and industry and warehousing requirement figures in PfE policies JP-J3 and JP-J4.

9.12 This methodology is set out in table E1 below.

Table E1: Methodology used to calculate Oldham's employment land requirement

	Total PfE supply	**Total Oldham (only) supply**	**Oldham's supply as a % of PfE total supply**	**Minimum PfE Requirement**	**Oldham's 'Requirement' based on % of PfE supply**
Office	2,880,150	81,998	3%	2,019,000	57,481
Industry and Warehousing	4,100,571	278,922	7%	3,513,000	240,656

9.13 The approach taken to disaggregate the overall employment requirements to a district level, as set out above, is that which was put forward by the PfE districts through main modifications proposed during the examination of the PfE Plan. Ultimately, it was determined in the Inspectors' Report[68] that such modifications were not necessary to make the plan sound given there is no specific requirement in national policy to establish district level employment requirement figures as part of a Joint Plan.

9.14 Notwithstanding this, the methodology is considered to remain appropriate for disaggregating the employment requirements set out in PfE to apply to Oldham district for the purposes of this Local Plan.

9.15 The amount of office and industrial and warehousing floorspace completed will be monitored annually to ensure that the existing supply is sufficient to meet quantitative and qualitative needs of Oldham and our local businesses, and to ensure that PfE's overall strategy is being adhered to. Should monitoring indicate that the employment requirement (at a district or strategic level) needs to be reviewed, an update will be carried out as necessary. Sites may be allocated for employment development in a future development plan document.

[68] This document can be viewed here: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/9282/pfe-inspectors-report-01-final.pdf

Policy E2 – Business and Employment Areas

It is important that Oldham has a range of sustainable employment areas to support the local economy. There will be a strong emphasis on protecting and enhancing our existing employment areas. Designated employment areas are spread across the borough. These Business and Employment Areas (BEAs) provide land for existing firms to expand and for new firms to locate to, so providing for job opportunities.

There are 23 BEAs designated across the borough these are identified on the Policies Map. They are set out In Table E1 below.

Table E1 Business and Employment Areas

BEA 1 Wrigley Street	**BEA 2 Hawksley Street**
BEA 3 Greengate / Broadgate	**BEA 4 Busk**
BEA 5 Primrose Bank	**BEA 6 Hathershaw (site a and site b)**
BEA 7 Higginshaw	**BEA 8 Shaw Road**
BEA 9 Shaw	**BEA 10 Linney Lane**
BEA 11 Greenacres	**BEA 12 Hollinwood**
BEA 13 Broadway Green	**BEA 14 Chadderton**
BEA 15 Oak View Mills	**BEA 16 Hey Bottom Mill**
BEA 17 Chew Valley Road	**BEA 18 Boarhurst Lane**
BEA 19 Waterside Mill	**BEA 20 Delph New Road**
BEA 21 Valley Mills	**BEA 22 Warth and Ellis Mills**
BEA 23 Greenbridge Lane	

The uses that will be permitted within our BEAs are:

1. **General industry – B2**

2. **Storage and Distribution – B8**

3. **Offices (E(g)(i)) where it does not detract from the role of the borough's centres as the primary focus for office activity),**

4. **Research and development (E(g)(ii))**

5. **Light industrial (E(g)(iii))**

6. **Building and construction related uses – Sui Generis**

7. **Transport and transport related uses (including garages, scarp yards, car show rooms, taxi companies, bus depots etc) – Sui Generis**

8. **Waste management facilities (in line with the Greater Manchester Waste Development Plan Document policies) – Sui Generis**

9. **Other Sui Generis uses that are considered compatible in an employment area.**

Permitted change of use rights for other Class E uses will be withdrawn by condition of planning permission.

Reasoned Justification

9.16 It is important Oldham has a range of sustainable sites to support the local economy. The Council has designated Business and Employment Areas (BEAs) across the borough for a broad and diverse range of appropriate employment-generating uses.

9.17 The BEAs will help meet the needs of our changing local economy. They provide land for existing firms to expand and for new firms to locate here, so providing job opportunities. Protecting the BEAs for employment uses provides businesses with a degree of certainty as to the future use of these areas, avoiding the introduction of conflicting land uses and they have an important part to play in retaining local employment opportunities.

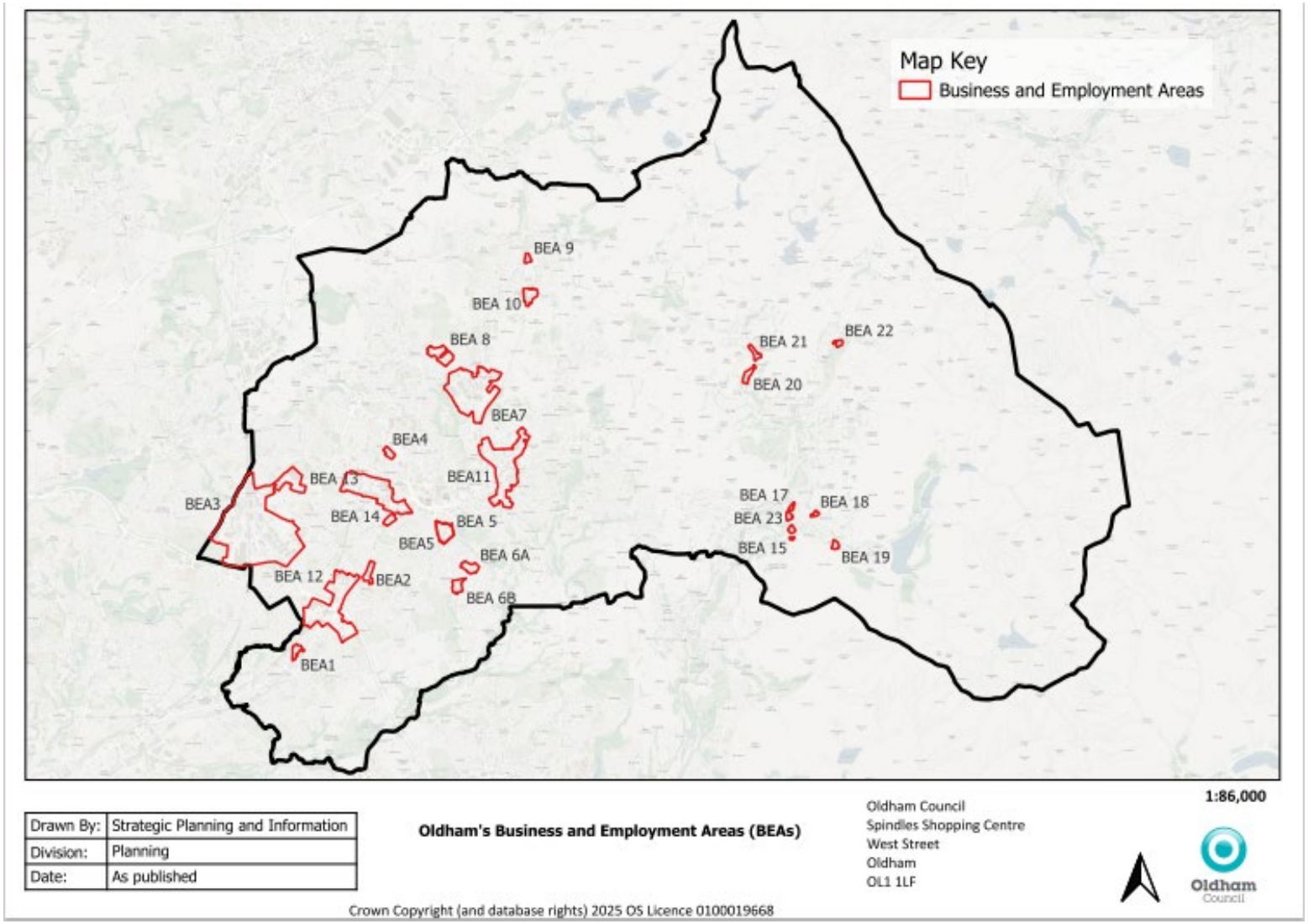
9.18 Many of our BEAs accommodate appropriate sui generis uses. They can include uses such as builders' merchants, builders' yards, engineering depots, demolition yards, transport depot, haulage yards, motor vehicle hire and sales, scrap yards, utility company depots, private hire and mini-cab businesses, plant hire and skip hire. The location and nature of our BEAs is that they can sometimes be the most appropriate location for such uses.

9.19 Planning Use Class E includes a variety of uses that have permitted development rights and the GPDO (part 7) contains various permitted development rights, including for shops, offices, GPs, cafés and restaurants. In our BEAs it will be necessary to withdraw these permitted development rights using conditions through the planning application process, as appropriate, so that such changes would not materially impact on the nature and function of the employment area or its economic potential.

9.20 It may be appropriate to locate some small scale and complementary uses to the employment function within the BEAs, where appropriate. This could include gyms, cafes and convenience shops, provided that the scale of such uses, and their location and arrangement within the BEA, means that they will primarily serve those employed in that area.

9.21 There have been some amendments made to the boundaries and the titles of the BEAs and Saddleworth Employment (SEAs) that were designated in the 2011 Core Strategy. Appendix 4 sets out these amendments and all the BEAs are identified on the policies map.

Figure E1: Oldham's Business and Employment Areas (BEAs)



Policy E3 - Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas

Uses other than those set out in Policy E2 will not be permitted within BEAs unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate that it is no longer appropriate to continue the existing use. This can be done by the applicant providing information to the Council to demonstrate one of the four criteria below:

1. **The site and premises have been subject to a detailed marketing appraisal, for a period of not less than 12 months, that clearly demonstrates that there is no current or likely future demand for them to continue for any of the above employment or commercial uses; or**

2. **The site is specifically identified as being appropriate for other uses in a masterplan or framework and its retention as an employment site would conflict with the masterplan or framework; or**

3. **The site is required for a facility or infrastructure meeting a regional or national need and there is no more suitable alternative site within the borough of Oldham; or**

4. **The site and premises are no longer suitable for the existing use when taking into account the modern needs of businesses for highways access, site location, infrastructure, physical constraints, environmental considerations or neighbour amenity issues.**

In addition to meeting one of the above criteria the applicant would also need to submit a statement outlining that the proposal meets both of the following criteria:

5. **That there is a clear need for the proposed land use; and**

6. **That the proposed redevelopment would not compromise the primary function and operations of neighbouring users.**

Mill Buildings

Proposals for the loss of an employment site that relates to a mill building[69] will be assessed against Policy E5 'Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings'.

Reasoned Justification

9.22 Instances can arise when uses other than those listed within the policy may be appropriate within the BEAs. The policy outlines circumstances where development proposals for other uses may be permitted.

9.23 In relation to carrying out a marketing appraisal the Council would expect, as a minimum, the following details to be included:

- A long-term view of the economic prospects of the site or premises and that consideration be given to both the re-use or refurbishment of any buildings on site;

[69] This must either be a listed mill or a mill that is included within the Oldham Mills Strategy which can be found here: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

- An explanation as to why it is not possible to retain or replace any existing occupiers;

- Consideration of the potential to reuse, refurbish and redevelop the site to accommodate the full range of uses that would be appropriate within an existing employment area. A flexible approach should be adopted including both freehold and leasehold options; and

- An analysis of recorded and potential interest in the site or premises for a use appropriate within an existing employment area. Where possible the applicant should try and obtain from interested parties reasons as to why they were not willing or able to proceed. This analysis should be informed by the findings of a comprehensive and prolonged marketing exercise of the site and premises and have regard to enquiries and deals relating to similar sites or premises in the local area.

9.24 A lesser financial return on investment relative to other development options will not be sufficient to justify the site not continuing to be available for employment use. In instances where the Council considers the marketing exercise has been inadequate, the applicant will be advised that the planning application will be recommended for refusal.

9.25 With regard to the site specifically identified as being appropriate for other uses in a masterplan or framework, it is expected that the masterplan or framework will have been subject to public consultation and prepared collaboratively with, and formally endorsed by, the Council. The development proposals must be in accordance with the endorsed masterplan or framework.

9.26 A concern for the Council when considering proposals for non-employment uses within the BEAs will be whether the proposed development would be likely to have any adverse implications for other existing businesses operating within the BEA as well as for the prospective occupiers of the non-employment uses. For example, where housing is proposed near existing employment uses, this may give rise to pressure to curtail employment uses to the detriment of the wider BEA. Therefore, a statement will be expected to be submitted alongside the application demonstrating that there is a need for the proposed development and that there will be no unacceptable adverse impact of remaining businesses within the BEA.

9.27 This policy does not apply where the proposal relates to a mill building that is either a listed mill or was included within the Oldham Mills Strategy[70]. In relation to these mills, it is acknowledged that there may be circumstances where securing its reuse outweighs the loss of the site for employment purposes. Policy E5 'Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings' sets out how the Council will determine those proposals.

[70] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

Policy E4 - Employment sites outside of Business and Employment Areas

Outside designated BEAs, the Council will seek to retain existing employment sites in employment generating uses[71] to help to create a sustainable and competitive local economy, to ensure a diverse supply of employment sites and to maintain accessible employment opportunities for our residents.

Where the applicant has demonstrated that an employment site is unsuitable, in land use terms, the Council will give favourable consideration to alternative uses.

However, in instances where an existing site is still considered a suitable employment location, an applicant will be required to provide evidence to show that the re-use of the site for employment purposes is not commercially viable. In doing this, evidence that the site has been robustly marketed for a minimum of 12 months at a realistic value should be supplied to demonstrate that there is no reasonable prospect of the site (either in full or part) continuing to be used for employment purposes under current market conditions.

In all cases, proposed alternative uses should comply with other relevant Local Plan policies.

Mill Buildings

Proposals for the loss of an employment site that relates to a mill building[72] will be assessed against Policy E5 'Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings'.

Reasoned Justification

9.28 Outside the BEAs set out under Policy E2, Oldham contains a significant amount of either individual or small clusters of employment uses which, given the borough's industrial heritage, can often comprise older premises in secondary locations and close to residential areas.

9.29 These sites can often provide more affordable accommodation and offer the opportunity for people to work close to where they live, in turn potentially reducing travel distances. Therefore, this policy aims to support the retention of appropriate sites as important local opportunities for employment.

9.30 Where existing employment sites are inappropriate in land use terms, for example due to neighbouring uses, proposals for other non-employment uses will be supported provided they accord with other Local Plan policies.

9.31 Where non-employment uses are proposed on a site that is considered appropriate in land use terms, the Council will require the applicant to submit robust evidence to demonstrate that there is no reasonable prospect of the site being used for employment purposes under current market conditions. In doing so, an applicant will be required to provide evidence to show that the re-use of the site for employment purposes is not commercially viable and that the site has been robustly marketed for a minimum of 12 months at a realistic value, showing the full extent of interest in the site as a result.

[71] Employment generating uses are set out in Policy E2.
[72] This must either be a listed mill or a mill that is included within the Oldham Mills Strategy which can be found here: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

9.32 This policy does not apply where the proposal relates to a mill building that is either a listed mill or was included within the Oldham Mills Strategy[73]. In relation to these mills, it is acknowledged that there may be circumstances where securing its reuse outweighs the loss of the site for employment purposes. Policy E5 'Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings' sets out how the Council will determine those proposals.

Policy E5 – Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings

Proposals for non-employment generating uses within mills[74] either in designated BEAs or elsewhere in the borough may be permitted in appropriate circumstances where the benefits of retaining and securing the active re-use of mill buildings could be seen to outweigh the loss of the use of the site for wholly employment generating purposes.

The applicant is required to demonstrate that the proposed redevelopment would not significantly compromise the primary function of the BEA or locality, or the operations of neighbouring users.

The applicant would also need to demonstrate through a viability exercise that their proposals would secure the future of the mill that otherwise would be left vulnerable to deterioration. Any proposals would need to be in conformity with the Policy HE4 Oldham's Mills.

Reasoned Justification

9.33 Oldham has a rich industrial heritage with around 100 textile mills remaining. Many of the mills are in active use, offering low-cost premises to certain employment uses, residential use, retail or for social uses such as sports clubs. However, some mills have been derelict for many years or are underused with upper storeys not in use, which puts them at risk of falling into poor condition and may make conversion more difficult in the future. They are also often close to existing residential properties and may not always be in the best location for their current use. Building on work done as part of Oldham's Mill Strategy[75], the 'Levelling Up Oldham[76]' paper stated that Mill conversion has the potential to deliver significant returns for the borough in terms of employment, skills and jobs while also retaining a link to Oldham's heritage.

9.34 The reuse of mills can add to local distinctiveness as part of place making, attract investment and help retain Oldham's strong identity and sense of place. However, it is recognised that, due to the age, scale, format and condition of former mill buildings, it may not always be economically viable to secure the repurposing of individual mills to provide modern, fit for purpose employment and/or commercial floorspace. It is acknowledged that innovative solutions and flexibility regarding the uses permitted may sometimes be required to support the full occupation of individual mills that are currently underutilised, particularly the upper floors of such buildings.

9.35 There may, therefore, be circumstances where securing the reuse of mill buildings outweighs the loss of the site for employment purposes. In this instance a statement is

[73] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy
[74] This must either be a listed mill or a mill that is included within the Oldham Mills Strategy which can be found here: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy
[75] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy
[76] This document can be found at: https://oerb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ING6167_UofM_Levelling-up-Oldham-22-03-22.pdf

required to be submitted alongside the application demonstrating that there will be no adverse impact on the operations of neighbouring users. In addition, a viability assessment should be submitted, the scope of which having been agreed with the Council prior to its completion, and the level of detail included should be proportionate to the proposed development. Further guidance on viability assessments can be found in Planning Practice Guidance: Viability[77].

9.36 How we move forward with the repurposing of our mills will be crucial in terms of economic development, housing provision and in the protection and enhancement of our historic environment. More detail on the future of our mills can be found in Policy HE4 Oldham's Mills.

Monitoring

9.37 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type square metres (sqm) gross
- Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm) gross
- Employment land available by type hectares (ha)
- Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross
- The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England
- Unemployment rate
- Youth unemployment rate
- Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills

9.38 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Percentage of gross employment development on brownfield land
- Percentage increase in GVA per job
- Proportion of our residents (working age) in employment
- Number of local labour agreements
- Increase in office floorspace (gross)
- Increase in industry and warehousing floorspace (gross)

[77] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/viability#viability-and-decision-taking

10 Our Centres

10.1 Oldham's centres play a vital role in meeting the needs of people of all ages, through the provision of a range of shops, services, community, leisure, cultural and employment opportunities. The centres are an important contributor to local identity, acting as a focal point for surrounding communities. NPPF states that planning policies should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation.

10.2 There is a need to diversify our centres to promote vitality and vibrancy and their long-term sustainable future. As the role of traditional retail reduces within our centres and new homes are built within them, their importance as community lifelines that connect our residents to services and the local environment will increase. The connectivity they provide as transport hubs to key services, open spaces and neighbourhoods will be essential and the services that are provided within them will foster a sense of community and vibrancy.

10.3 The management of the future development of our centres will ensure their long-term success, with a clear focus on sustaining and creating vibrant destinations where activity can continue into the evening, with the retention of a robust retail presence complemented by a varied mix of uses including a leisure and community offer. Opportunities will be taken to make the most of the unique identity of each of the borough's centres and the opportunities within them, access to and through centres will be improved and improvements to the public realm of our centres will be delivered.

Policy C1 - Our Centres

A key aim for the Local Plan is to promote and enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres, to ensure their long-term success. The centres hierarchy in Oldham is as follows:

1. **Oldham Town Centre;**
2. **The borough's other centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill; and**
3. **Local Shopping Parades.**

Oldham Town Centre will meet the majority of the everyday needs for our residents for shops and other town centre uses as defined in national planning guidance.

The enhancement of each of the borough's other centres will take advantage of the unique character of each centre. In a co-ordinated approach they will deliver a diverse mix of uses, that supports their future vitality and viability.

There will be an emphasis on each centre providing a strong convenience retail function so they can continue to minimise the need for our residents to travel further. In addition, they will be complemented by a range of other main town centre uses and housing.

Our Local Shopping Parades will contribute towards vibrant communities by providing convenient facilities near people's homes, reducing the need to travel and providing a valuable service for less mobile members of the community.

Reasoned Justification

10.4 Oldham's centres play an important role in meeting the varied needs of people of all ages, through the provision of a range of shops, services, community, leisure and employment opportunities, and public transport options. The centres are an important contributor to local identity, acting as a focal point for surrounding communities.

10.5 In addition, local services and facilities that are clustered in our Local Shopping Parades represent convenient facilities that help meet the day-to-day needs of our residents. Such services help reduce the need to travel, provide a focus for community interaction and help to distinguish one area from another. They also provide an essential service for less mobile residents and residents in more rural areas. Appendix 5 shows the Local Shopping Parades, and these are also identified on the policies map.

10.6 A Boroughwide Retail and Leisure Study[78] was completed in September 2020 by Stantec. The report provided an assessment of retail and leisure needs in Oldham and carried out a health check on all the borough's centres.

10.7 The Retail and Leisure Study concluded that there is no 'need' for additional convenience retail provision over the life of the new Local Plan and therefore the Local Pan does not need to plan for any. There will be a small need over the plan period for comparison retail floorspace (2,381sqm) and it was recommended that this is focused in Oldham Town Centre.

10.8 There have been some amendments made to the boundaries of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Lees and Shaw since the 2011 Core Strategy. Appendix 6 sets out these amendments and all the centres are identified on the policies map.

Policy C2 – Protecting the vitality of our centres

In order to recognise our centres as the heart of their communities, proposals for centre uses[79] such as retail, leisure and offices, outside of our existing centres will be resisted.

Unless the proposal is for small scale stand-alone local service provision where Policy C4 'Local Services and Facilities' applies, or unless it can be demonstrated that all relevant tests can be satisfied, as set out below, proposals will be refused.

Sequential Test

Centre uses shall be located in accordance with the sequential approach outlined in national planning policy.

Proposals in sequentially less preferable locations will only be supported where it can be demonstrated that there are no available suitable sites or premises in sequentially preferable locations, and that a flexible approach to scale and format has been applied.

Impact Assessment

Proposals for centre uses outside the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill of between 300 square metres gross and

[78] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/1157/retail_and_leisure_study
[79] As set out in Annex 2 of NPPF: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aafe8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf

1,499 square metres gross will be required to be accompanied by an impact assessment to determine its likely effects on all centre(s)[80] located within the anticipated catchment area of the new development.

Proposals for centre uses of 1,500 square metres gross floorspace or above, outside of one of our centres, will be required to be accompanied by an impact assessment to determine its likely effects on Oldham Town Centre and all other centres located within the anticipated catchment area of the new development.

The assessment should consider the following criteria:

1. **All relevant impacts set out in national planning policy;**
2. **Likely effects of development on any appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's centres;**
3. **Whether the proposal is of an appropriate scale in relation to the size, role and character of the intended catchment area;**
4. **The cumulative impact of the proposal and other similar outstanding permissions or recent completions; and**
5. **Where the catchment area of the proposed development includes a market location, the specific predicted impact on market trading.**

For the avoidance of doubt, this policy applies to new floorspace, extensions to existing floorspace, changes of use, applications seeking variations to conditions and developments within our existing out of centre retail and leisure parks[81].

Where any proposal fails to satisfy the sequential test or is likely to have a significant adverse impact on a defined centre, it will be refused.

Reasoned Justification

10.9 Town centre uses are defined in national planning policy as retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment and more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, nightclubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities).

10.10 Locating larger scale retail and leisure facilities within the borough's centres is considered the most sustainable way of meeting the needs of our residents. It helps to reduce the need to travel and can increase footfall and improve trading conditions within centres. Allowing larger scale town centre uses in other areas would be likely to adversely affect the vitality and viability of the centres, leading to their gradual decline and reducing their ability to attract new retail floorspace to the borough and serve the needs of residents.

[80] This should not include Oldham Town Centre
[81] Oldham's existing out of centre retail and leisure parks are Elk Mill, Alexandra Retail Park and Gateway Retail Park

10.11 It is therefore essential that as much of the new retail floorspace and as many other leisure and community facilities as possible are located within our centres, in accordance with the national planning policy.

10.12 The Retail and Leisure Study considered the scale of Oldham Town Centre and its relatively high turnover, but also its health, high vacancy rate and potential vulnerability to market changes. Taking all that into account the study recommended that the impact threshold for Oldham Town Centre should be set at 1,500 sqm gross. It then went on to conclude that the borough's other centres are considered much more vulnerable to impacts from edge-of-centre and out-of-centre retail proposals and therefore a threshold of 300 sqm gross was considered appropriate for those.

10.13 Where impact testing is required, it should assess the net and (where relevant) cumulative impact of the proposal on the vitality and viability of any centre from which the proposal may derive its spending or its users. Whether such impact is acceptable will depend on a combination of factors including the existing health of the centre and how this will affect its ability to withstand impacts from competing development within the defined centre, any reduction in local consumer choice, any increase in vacancies and/or any loss or delay to planned investment.

10.14 The detail for carrying out the sequential test can be found in national planning policy.

Policy C3 - Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres

The role of our centres in meeting a wide range of local needs will be protected and enhanced. A strong retail function will be retained for each centre and will be complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities, including leisure and community uses.

Changes of use and redevelopments within our centres will be managed to ensure that they support, rather than detract from, the successful functioning of the centres and their ability to meet local needs. All such proposals will be required to:

1. **Make a positive contribution to the vitality, viability and diversity of the centre;**
2. **Not have a detrimental impact on footfall;**
3. **Maintain a strong role for the centre in providing a varied range of convenience goods and meeting other day-to-day needs;**
4. **Positively restore and/or enhance the character and appearance of the frontage;**
5. **Maintain the continuity of active frontages; and**
6. **Be of a scale and type of use appropriate to the size and function of the centre, or part of the centre concerned.**

Within our centres, proposals for uses that do not fall within NPPF's definition of main town centre uses, such as hot food takeaways, payday loan shops and gambling uses, will only be supported where the development would:

a. **Not be harmful to the overall shopping function of the centre;**

b. Not result in a concentration of uses that would be harmful to the vitality of our centres;

c. Extend the offer and range of activities available to shoppers and other users to enhance the visitor experience of the centre; and

d. Provide an active frontage and a direct service to visiting members of the public.

Any proposals for hot food takeaways should also be in line with Policy CO7.

The provision of homes will generally be supported in our centres where it is demonstrated the residential use will not be detrimental to the vitality and viability of the centre, including through the conversion of under-utilised upper floors of commercial buildings into residential properties.

Ground floor residential uses will be permitted in our centres where it is demonstrated by the applicant that the proposed development:

e. Is in an area of frontages with low levels of footfall;

f. Does not unreasonably restrict existing businesses and community facilities in line with Policy LE1 in relation to the 'agent of change'; and

g. Is designed to ensure the character of the centre is not harmed and allows the premises to be easily converted back to retail use in the future.

The applicant is required to also demonstrate that there is no realistic prospect of securing an active retail or commercial use in the unit.

Reasoned Justification

10.15 Successful centres are underpinned by a strong retail function both in terms of convenience and comparison goods, and this role should be protected and retained. This is important in meeting the day-to-day needs of residents. Centres must also have an appropriate mix of leisure, community, cultural and service provision, whilst creating new businesses opportunities and making them 'destination' places of social and cultural interest.

10.16 This will be increasingly important for ensuring that they can generate the footfall necessary to remain attractive in the face of the growth in online shopping and the shift in working patterns to more people working from home.

10.17 It is vital that changes of use and redevelopments within our centres are carefully managed, so as to support the long-term success of the centres and their ability to meet local needs. In this context, it is recognised that Oldham's centres vary in scale, function and composition of uses, and this needs to be taken into account in the determination of individual proposals.

10.18 NPPF defines main town centre uses as retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment and more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, nightclubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities). In addition, it also states that planning policies should recognise the important role that residential development

has in ensuring the vitality of centres. These are the uses that will help ensure our centres remain at the heart of their communities and therefore are the uses we are supporting in our centres.

10.19 In responding to the changes within the retail sector, the Use Classes Order was amended in 2020 and now allows much greater flexibility with the introduction of a new use class, Class E (Commercial, Business and Service). Changes of use between the different uses within Class E, which includes typical high street uses, can take place without the need for planning permission. This is to help our high streets and town centres adapt quickly to changing demand and trends.

10.20 Given this greater degree of flexibility, and in order to protect the vitality and viability of our centres, applicants for uses that may undermine the role and function of our centres will have to demonstrate in their planning statement that the proposed development meets the four criteria (a to d) set out in the policy above.

10.21 Issues associated with some uses can include, in relation to hot food takeaways, a detrimental impact on residential amenity, environmental quality, and the health of the local population, and in relation to pay day loan shops and gambling uses social, economic and health impacts. A proliferation of hot food takeaways and gambling uses are not considered compatible with the positive outcomes sought through our plans for the regeneration of our centres. For additional guidance regarding Hot Food Takeaways see Policy CO7 Hot Food Takeaways.

10.22 The Council will support proposals for the development of new homes that would occupy ground floor uses within our centres where it is demonstrated that the proposed development would comply with the exceptions listed in the policy (e to g above). This is to ensure that there are no detrimental impacts to the vitality and viability of the centre.

Policy C4 - Local Services and Facilities

Locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities by providing convenient facilities near people's homes, reducing the need to travel and providing a valuable service for less mobile members of the community.

The Council will facilitate the need for local shops and services, where appropriate and in line with other Local Plan policies, by protecting existing clusters of these premises and by permitting new local services and facilities within existing built-up areas.

Protecting Local Shopping Parades

The Council recognises the importance of local retail and service facilities within our Local Shopping Parades[82]. In determining proposals for the change of use at the ground floor level from a commercial, business or service use (Use Class E[83]) to alternative uses, the Council will have regard to the following factors:

1. **The vitality and viability of the parade and whether this would be benefited by the proposal;**

2. **The particular nature and character of the use proposed, including the level of activity associated with it;**

3. **That the proposal is appropriate in scale and character and is necessary to serve local needs which would not otherwise be met; and**

4. **Whether the proposal would result in an over concentration of uses that do not provide a local retail or service facility which could change the nature or character of a parade as a whole.**

New Local Services and Facilities

Where appropriate, and within existing built-up areas, local shops and services that fall within Use Class E with a gross floorspace of 300 square metres or less will be permitted outside Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill.

For the avoidance of doubt, this policy applies to proposals whereby the overall gross floorspace does not exceed 300 square metres. Proposals involving multiple units, which individually have a gross floorspace less than 300 square metres but when taken together cumulatively exceed 300 square metres, will be assessed against the requirements that follow in the Policy C2 Protecting the vitality of our centres.

Reasoned Justification

10.23. Local services and facilities represent convenient facilities that help meet the day-to-day needs of our residents. Such services help reduce the need to travel, provide a focus for community interaction and help to distinguish one area from another. They

[82] See Appendix 5 for a list of Local Shopping Parades
[83] For a full list of the uses permitted in Use Class E, please see the Planning Portal at: https://www.planningportal.co.uk/permission/common-projects/change-of-use/use-classes

provide an essential service for less mobile residents and residents in more rural areas.

10.24. Local services and facilities include small food stores, post offices, pharmacies, advice centres, cafes and other small-scale services of a local nature. For the purpose of this policy, developments with a gross floorspace of 300 square metres or less will be taken to represent a small-scale service or facility.

10.25. The Use Classes Order was amended in 2020 and now allows much greater flexibility with the introduction of a new use class, Class E (Commercial, Business and Service). Class E includes retail, the sale of food and drink, and professional services. Changes of use between the different uses within Class E can take place without the need for planning permission. Therefore, the uses that could operate within our Local Shopping Parades are wider ranging than those which might traditionally have been considered to be a local service. Notwithstanding this, the Council's preference for our Local Shopping Parades is that they are occupied as local retail and services, such as those mentioned above, that help meet the day-to-day needs of our residents.

10.26. Appendix 5 shows the Local Shopping Parades, and these are also identified on the policies map.

Monitoring

10.27 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
- Number of homes completed within the borough's centres
- Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough

10.28 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- GVA in and within 800m of the main town centres

11 Oldham Town Centre

11.1 Over the last decade, Oldham Town Centre has witnessed several major transformational projects, in particular the redevelopment of the Old Town Hall, improvements to the public realm and investment in public transport infrastructure.

11.2 The focus is now on redefining Oldham Town Centre's retail and residential offer over the next 15 years as part of Building a Better Oldham.

11.3 Our vision is to create a town centre with character, with thousands of new homes and an emphasis on sustainability, community and quality – an inclusive and welcoming place to live and spend time in. A town centre that acknowledges Oldham's industrial heritage while looking towards a bright, modern future. With homes built in a safer and healthier environment and where we prioritise local jobs and learning opportunities for Oldham residents.

11.4 Our key proposals set out in the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework 2024, and which policies within this Local Plan will support the delivery of, are:

- The introduction of up to 2,000 new homes located within safe, inclusive and attractive neighborhoods.
- The redevelopment of Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre to redefine the retail core.
- The Green Shoots Business and Innovation Centre, and Minewater District Heat Network Energy Centre, which form part of the Council's Greener Oldham commitment.
- The re-use and refurbishment of several prominent heritage assets, specifically the Prudential Building, the Old Library and Gallery, and the Lyceum Building.
- Enhancing accessibility, connectivity and movement, providing sustainable infrastructure connections through the Accessible Oldham programme.
- The enhancement of the town centre's Green Infrastructure with the creation of Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens.
- Upgrading the night-time and creative economy, to make the town centre a destination of choice.

11.5 These proposals focus around five key areas which have informed our approach within the Local Plan. These are illustrated in Figure OTC1 and are:

- Area 1 – Civic and Residential Quarter
- Area 2 – The Retail Core
- Area 3 – The Cultural and Creative Quarter
- Area 4 – Eastern Edge and Oldham Mumps
- Area 5 – Western Edge and Educational Quarter

Figure OTC1: Character Zones taken from the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework[84]



Policy OTC1 - Oldham Town Centre

To deliver our vision, proposals for the continued enhancement, redevelopment and regeneration of Oldham Town Centre will be supported where they align with and reflect the following character areas:

The Civic and Residential Quarter will be the focus for our residential offer on sites such as the Civic Centre and Queen Elizabeth Hall. These new homes will be supported by complementary active uses at ground floor level and social infrastructure to create mixed-use neighbourhoods where residents can readily access amenities and day to day needs are met.

The Retail Core will be the focus for an enhanced, vibrant and sustainable retail offer, including the relocated Tommyfield Market and the new events space 'The Loom', in the Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre, as well as a new outdoor market space on George Square complementing the existing independent retailers on George Street. Retail uses will be consolidated to the ground floor of the shopping centre, linking into the new market through a retail 'loop' that will provide shoppers with an improved shopping experience. This will be supported by quality office space for both private sector tenants and Oldham Council, and events space linked to Parliament Square that will boost the cultural, leisure and entertainment offer within Oldham.

[84] Taken from the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework 2024 which can be found online at https://oldhamtownliving.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/DP824-Oldham-Development-Framework-NOV-2024-WEB.pdf

Within Oldham Town Centre's retail core, proposals will be supported that contribute towards the redefining of the core and a consolidation of retail uses within the retail 'loop'.

The Cultural and Creative Quarter, centered around the historic core of the town centre and the Creative Improvement District (CID), will be the focus for our night-time and visitor economy, providing an improved food and drink offer, expanded entertainment and leisure sector and cultural attractions, with opportunities for residential development. The re-use of existing listed buildings, such as those on Union Street, will make space for live performance, complementing a refurbished Coliseum Theatre, and innovative and flexible office space aimed at attracting create and digital businesses to Oldham. Development proposals will need to positively respond to surrounding heritage assets, including the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area and listed buildings in the vicinity.

The Eastern Edge and Oldham Mumps area acts as a key gateway into Oldham Town Centre from the east of the borough. It will be the home of the low carbon district heat network that is to be developed, which will create an environmentally friendly power source that will help deliver our ambitions for carbon neutrality, and the Green Shoots incubation space. In addition, a new residential offer will be provided across several sites, including Prince's Gate.

The Western Edge and Educational Quarter acts as a key gateway from the west of the borough and will remain home to high-quality further and higher education establishments, with enhanced connectivity into Oldham Town Centre.

In addition to those set out in policies OTC2, OTC3 and OTC4, principles that are expected to form part of any development proposals for Oldham Town Centre include:

1. **The promotion of high-density, high-quality and sustainable development that reflects the distinctive role of the town centre and positively responds to key landmarks and views;**

2. **The use of low carbon design that contributes to the borough becoming carbon neutral by 2030 is incorporated as standard and connections are made to the District Heat Network where feasible;**

3. **The conservation and enhancement of heritage assets across the town centre, including their setting, so as to maximise their contribution to the distinctiveness of Oldham and contribute to the removal of Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area from Historic England's heritage at risk register;**

4. **The incorporation of well-designed and integrated ground floor uses and environments to create an active street scene and enhance the residential offer;**

5. **The incorporation of cycling, wheeling and walking links, and improved wayfinding, to create and contribute to, enhanced permeability and connectivity, in a way that supports active travel and helps to define, and enhance local character and sense of place;**

6. **Car parking will be in line with Policy T3, reflecting the sustainable location. Where car parking is provided, this will include provision for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. Secure cycle parking will also be required; and**

7. **Opportunities are taken to maximise the generation of social value through design, construction and operation.**

Reasoned Justification

11.6 Oldham Town Centre is at the heart of the Building a Better Oldham and this policy seeks to support and facilitate delivery of the ambitious regeneration programme, ensuring the development coming forward aligns with its key principles.

11.7 The town centre can be divided into several quarters, or zones, that will be the focus for certain types of development – whether that be residential, culture and leisure, education, commercial or its core retail function. Whilst ensuring that each quarter comes forward in a sustainable, accessible and connected way through the integration of complementary uses, the creation of a green infrastructure network and public realm.

11.8 The retail core has been redefined through amending the town centre boundary (see Policy C1) to better reflect the Council's priorities in relation to Building a Better Oldham and consolidating retail uses so there is a more focused retail 'loop' that will provide visitors with a better user experience. The re-location of Tommyfield Market into the Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre will complement and strengthen the existing uses which will also be supported by quality office space which will help to increase footfall and presence throughout the town centre.

11.9 The town centre will be transformed with the new Tommyfield Park, one of the largest, new, urban parks to be proposed in England. This will be connected to the wider town centre and beyond through the creation of 'stepping-stone' open spaces and the integration of green infrastructure as part of new developments. Alongside sustainable infrastructure connections and high-quality public realm the green infrastructure network will aid and enhance accessibility, connectivity and movement through the town centre connecting key locations and new developments together and with the wider area.

11.10 Upgrading the night-time and creative economy, including improving the food and drink offer, expanding the entertainment and leisure sector and developing the cultural attractions, is an essential part of ensuring a sustainable future for Oldham Town Centre. The Council is working on delivering several projects around the historic core of the town centre as part of the Cultural and Creative Quarter and Creative Improvement District (CID). The CID covers an area of the town centre directly adjacent to, and interfacing with, the retail core and which includes the town Centre Conservation Area and listed buildings within it and many historic landmark buildings.

11.11 The creation of opportunities for residential living across the town centre is a key part of the Building a Better Oldham and ensuring the efficient use of land across the borough so as to minimise the use of greenfield land. Around 2,000 new homes will be delivered within the town centre across several allocations which form part of our housing land supply, including at:

- Civic Centre and Queen Elizabeth Hall
- Manchester Chambers and the former Magistrates Court site
- Former Oldham Sports Centre
- Mumps and Wallshaw Street

- Prince's Gate
- Southgate Street
- Waterloo Street
- Bradshaw Street

11.12 This policy also supports the combination of these residential opportunities with complementary uses, so as to support the development of sustainable and functional neighbourhoods within the town centre.

11.13 A central part of the Council's Green New Deal is development of the Town Centre low carbon district heat network. This aims to develop a district heat network in the town centre that will use heat from renewable sources, such as Air Source Heat Pumps, whilst also exploring the potential to use heat, reclaimed from floodwater in disused coal mines beneath the Town Centre. This could heat a range of Town Centre buildings, including the Old Library and new Performance Space, as well as other Council and residential sites. It will be important to ensure that new developments coming forward take every opportunity to connect to this network.

Policy OTC2 - Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area

It is important that development within Oldham Town Centre conservation area contributes towards the aim of removing the conservation area from Historic England's heritage at risk register.

Proposals affecting the setting and character of the conservation area should take into consideration the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Supplementary Planning Document.

Development proposals will be encouraged and supported where they:

1. **secure the viable reuse of vacant heritage assets to prevent their decay and dereliction, including opportunities for short-term temporary uses that engage the local community whilst ensuring their long-term preservation;**
2. **include positive interventions to improve the condition of buildings, or reverse inappropriate alterations;**
3. **improve active uses at ground floor level, ensure high quality shopfronts are installed, and that adverts and signage are of a quality and design appropriate to the conservation area;**
4. **promote the identity, and ensure the significance and appearance of the conservation area is preserved and positive characteristics enhanced;**
5. **carefully consider and reflect the character and appearance of the conservation area through the use of high-quality design of an appropriate scale, density, height, form, massing, layout, plot position, materials, colours, composition and detailed design;**
6. **protect established and valued views, into and out of the surrounding area which contribute to the historic context and setting of Oldham Town Centre, as well as local views into and out of the conservation area as defined in the CAAMP[85] and the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework[86];**
7. **ensure new interventions in the public realm are considered carefully in the context of good surviving examples of street furniture, surface coverings and public art / sculptures / monuments so as to preserve and enhance the essential character of the conservation area;**
8. **encourage the introduction of appropriate multi-functional green infrastructure and landscaping;**
9. **improve wayfinding into and around the conservation area and between key transport links; and**
10. **engage the public through measures such as public art to enliven the conservation area and better define the conservation area.**

[85] Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Supplementary Planning Document available at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/1599/oldham_town_centre_conservation_area_appraisal_and_management_plan_caamp_supplementary_planning_document_spd

[86] Oldham Town Centre Development Framework available at: https://oldhamtownliving.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/DP824-Oldham-Development-Framework-NOV-2024-WEB.pdf

Reasoned Justification

11.14 The Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)[87] was prepared to address the issues facing the at-risk conservation area and sets out a positive approach to enable the conservation area to be enhanced and its eventual removal from the at-risk register. The appraisal outlined that some of the negative features in Oldham Town Centre are detracting features, such as vacancy levels and buildings being in poor condition. However, the most significant detracting feature is retail frontages, where the poor-quality contemporary shopfronts dominate handsome buildings. Roller shutters also create a deadening frontage and add to the perception of crime and antisocial behaviour. The lack of wayfinding, need for a stronger identity and the appearance / re-use of vacant sites are also key issues to be addressed.

11.15 The Management Plan includes policies to address these issues, providing opportunities to enhance, and uplift the human experience of, the conservation area. The policy areas are reflected in the above policy to ensure they are given full consideration specific to Oldham Town Centre conservation area. The policy areas include securing the viable reuse of vacant heritage assets, opportunities to improve shop fronts, retail frontages and signage and the opportunities that new development can make to improving the character and appearance of the conservation area. Through addressing these issues, the conservation area, and Oldham Town Centre, will become a place that people find welcoming, and which contributes to sense of identity, local pride and well-being.

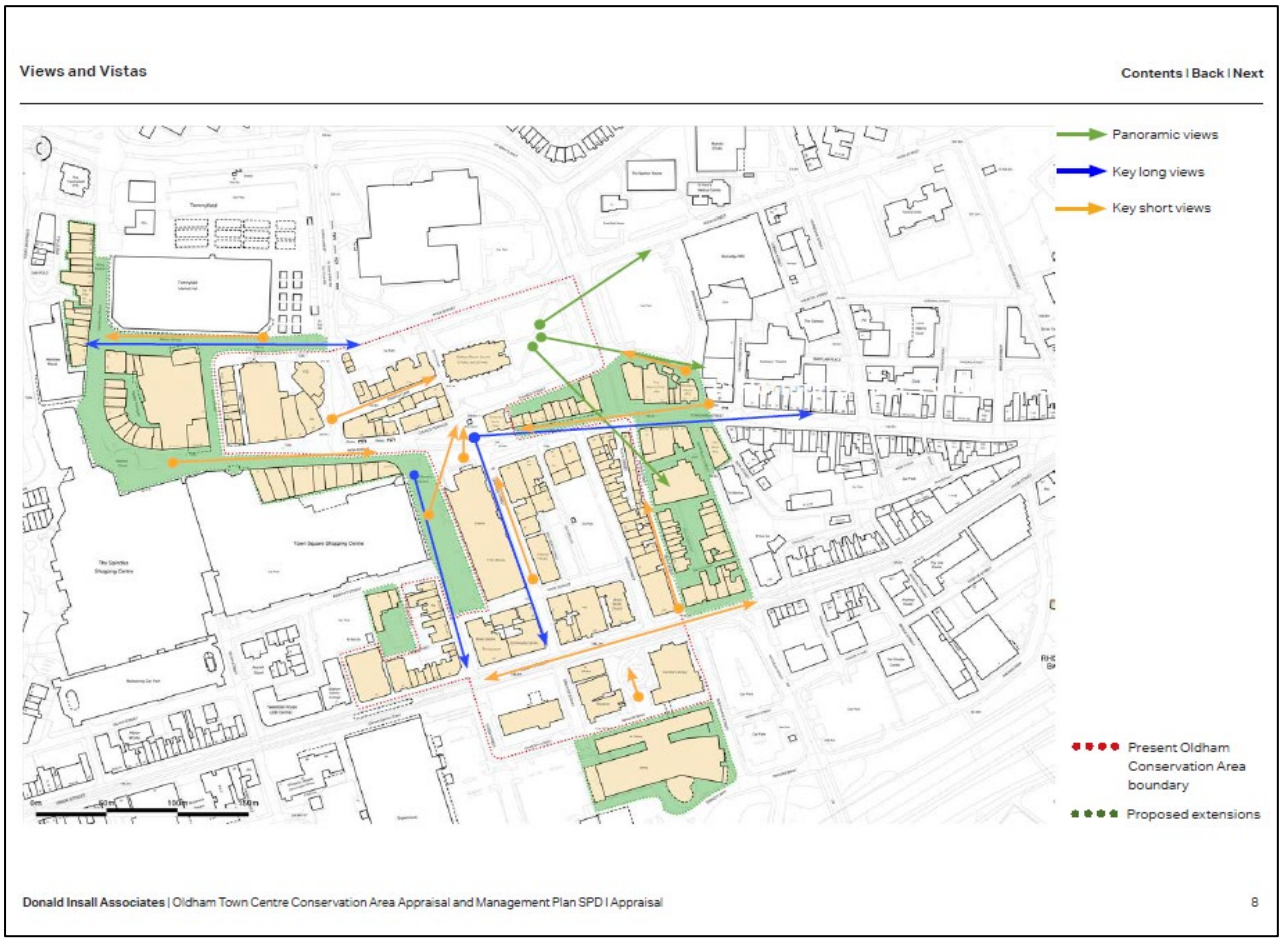
11.16 Improved wayfinding, use of public art and co-ordinated street furniture will further emphasise the conservation area, and its local character and identity, helping people to identify when they have entered or left the area. To support this, street furniture and surface coverings will be of a suitable standard of design, which accords with the patterns of items already in use (such as the established green / gold design in the retail core and owl motif). Generally, it should also be sited to be visually unobtrusive, having regard to the character and quality of the existing townscape.

11.17 In accordance with the Management Plan, the area will require a conservation-led approach that seeks sensitive, well-proportioned and designed new development, which retains the unique historic character reflected in the street pattern, urban grain and townscape and responds to the town centre's distinctive topography and resulting views. The appraisal identifies those buildings which make a positive, neutral or negative contribution to the conservation area, key views and vistas, and townscape. These established and valued views (as shown in Figure OTC2), into and out of the conservation area, are protected through the policy as they make an important contribution to the historic context and setting of Oldham Town Centre and include:

- the Church of St Mary and St Peter and along Church Lane,
- views through Parliament square;
- looking west up Yorkshire Street towards Parliament Square;
- along Greaves Street;
- views along Albion Street, Retiro Street, Union Street; and
- from Gallery Oldham.

[87] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201229/current_local_planning_policy/256/supplementary_planning_documents

Figure OTC2: Valued Views and Vistas



11.18 The appraisal proposed four extensions to the existing Oldham Town Centre conservation area boundary. The extensions have been designated under section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and will be adopted as part of the Local Plan. The amended boundary for Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area is on the policies map, and further in Appendix 3.

11.19 The Gazetteer, which forms part of the SPD, provides an important reference of each of the buildings at a point in time within the extended conservation area, noting condition of the assets and a character description. This can be useful for enforcement as well as for development proposals.

Policy OTC3 – Creating a Better Public Realm for Oldham Town Centre

Major development that makes a positive contribution to the public realm of Oldham Town Centre and its identity by virtue of its siting, design and materials, will be supported.

The public realm will be developed and enhanced in Oldham Town Centre in accordance with the following principles:

1. **A simple and uncluttered environment that enhances the character of the existing buildings and provides a functional and accessible streetscape;**

2. **Adds to, and complements, the existing spatial hierarchy of routes through and around the town centre, underpinned by a coherent and consistent palette of materials;**

3. **It should be designed for all to feel welcome, comfortable and safe, carefully considering the use and location of lighting, overlooking onto routes, and having regard to relevant standards and guidance;**

4. **The introduction of trees and landscaping (supported by a management scheme) in appropriate locations to create a greener, cooler and biodiverse town centre with the delivery of sustainable drainage solutions where appropriate;**

5. **At appropriate locations opportunities should be taken to create areas where the public may stop and dwell, providing opportunities for play and leisure, and encouraging social interaction for all ages and;**

6. **The use of robust and durable materials that promote cost effective and sustainable maintenance to ensure long-term quality.**

For major development a financial contribution towards public realm improvements may be required where appropriate.

Reasoned Justification

11.20 At present the public realm, whilst improving and of high quality in certain locations, is generally in poor condition with limited cohesion across the town centre. Alongside green infrastructure, enhancing the public realm is therefore central to bringing the town centre and key development proposals together, and improving its vitality and viability.

11.21 The Oldham Town Centre Development Framework identifies enhancing the public realm as a key opportunity - developing a high-quality and distinctive public realm that is cohesive and contributes to a sense of place. This will be done through creating attractive gateways into the Town Centre, improving the experience around key public transport arrival points and maximising the public realm impact of key intersections within the built environment. High-quality and robust materials will be used, and spaces will be welcoming and inclusive for all ages and cultures, facilitating improved health and well-being.

11.22 A Landscape and Public Realm Strategy has been prepared alongside the development framework, which:

- seeks to create accessible and balanced landscaped streets;

- secures public realm enhancements along key routes through and into the town centre, maximising opportunities for softening of the streetscape;
- identifies key junctions for public realm enhancement and improved gateways into Oldham Town Centre; and
- responds positively to long-range landscape outlooks towards Oldham's surroundings.

11.23 The development framework also identifies several opportunities for the public realm as part of an Access and Movement Strategy, including the creation of better public realm and wayfinding between transport hubs, the retail core and key developments. This links to the Accessible Oldham programme, the principles of which have informed the establishment of a hierarchy for streets and spaces that guide the quality of the public realm including new spaces and refurbishments within Oldham Town Centre.

11.24 Enhancements to the public realm will need to respond positively to the local character and distinctiveness of the town centre and its townscape.

11.25 The principles established in this policy, will have a significant impact on the quality of the public realm in the town centre as it continues to re-imagine itself as a place for people to live, work and socialise in. The principles will also help create a people friendly town centre that encourages a diverse street culture.

Policy OTC4 - Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre

Proposals will be supported that protect, create and enhance multi-functional Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre, including:

1. **the creation of Tommyfield Park, a focal point open space providing a linear route of Green Infrastructure;**

2. **the creation of active travel routes across the town centre, linking it to Northern Roots and Oldham Edge, and PfE JPA12 Beal Valley and JPA14 Broadbent Moss beyond;**

3. **the use of greenspaces as stepping stones to promote nature recovery networks linking Alexandra Park, Glodwick Lows Local Nature Reserve and Oldham Edge;**

4. **having regard to the nature network within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy including opportunities in relation to woodland, upland and urban green spaces and buildings.**

5. **the incorporation of biodiversity enhancements such as green walls and roofs, trees, and landscaping - encouraging wildlife, and creating interest and shade; and**

6. **the use of nature-based solutions and sustainable drainage systems to manage surface water flood risk in the town centre and its integration as part of multi-functional green infrastructure.**

Reasoned Justification

11.26 Proposals will be supported that protect, create and enhance Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre, having regard to the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework, the place-based opportunities within the Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy for the central district, and the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

11.27 The Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy[88] identifies that Oldham Town Centre has virtually no open space and or other types of green infrastructure which is typically limited to mown grass and ornamental trees. The Oldham Way is also a major section of road infrastructure that creates severance in terms of movement from the town centre to the south and west.

11.28 The Oldham Town Centre Development Framework identifies enhancing the town centre's green infrastructure and its connections to the surrounding area, as a key priority and opportunity. The framework sets out a series of strategic objectives for the town centre, many with implications for green infrastructure, and which include:

- Supporting bespoke Town Centre Green Infrastructure principles which align with Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy;
- Connecting Oldham Edge in the North with Northern Roots / Alexandra Park in the South through a series of 'stepping stones';

[88] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2183/oldham_green_infrastructure_strategy

- Providing sustainable drainage solutions, including through multi-functional green infrastructure, as part of new development.

11.29 A central part of the strategy for Oldham Town Centre is the creation of Tommyfield Park – a linear park that will be a focal point running through the town centre and connecting with the built environment, delivered as part of a wider Landscape and Public Realm Strategy sitting alongside the development framework. The Oldham Greenway is then a movement strategy that will link the town centre with Northern Roots in the south, and Beal Valley and Broadbent Moss PfE allocations in the north beyond Oldham Edge. The aim being to create stepping stones of green spaces that will create green branches of active travel routes, and strategic landscape and wildlife corridors, reaching from the town centre and beyond.

11.30 Green infrastructure created needs to be multi-functional, not only providing biodiversity benefits but also providing nature-based solutions, such as to manage surface water flood risk in the form of sustainable drainage systems.

11.31 The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) identifies a nature network including opportunity areas which include parts of Oldham Town Centre. Mapped actions identified include:

- Woodland - Bigger and better-connected woodlands, trees and scrub, integrated with patchworks of other habitats;
- Woodland - Enhance existing woodlands, scrub, and hedgerows through positive management, diversify them and increase their resilience to pests, disease and climate change;
- Upland - Encourage the restoration and regeneration of existing upland woodlands and clough woodlands; and
- Upland - Create transitional habitats or corridors to increase linkage between our uplands and lowland habitats, where conditions allow.

11.32 Outside of the mapped actions the LNRS also identifies actions for urban green spaces and buildings acknowledging that outside the nature network areas are equally as important for pursuing nature recovery.

Monitoring

11.33 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
- Number of homes completed within the borough's centres
- Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough
- Number of listed buildings in Oldham Town Centre and number of buildings in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area lost through new development
- Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision in Oldham Town Centre

11.34 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Number of residential units (net) delivered in main town centres
- GVA in and within 800m of the main town centres

12 Addressing Climate Change

12.1 The UK government has set a target to become carbon neutral by 2050. National planning policy stipulates that the planning system should help the transition to a low carbon economy. The Local Plan needs to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate storm and flood risks, reduce overheating and water scarcity, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience, and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.

12.2 Creating a carbon neutral city region by 2038 where all citizens have access to affordable renewable energy and warm climate resilient homes is part of the vision outlined in the Greater Manchester Five-Year Environment Plan[89]. It sets out aims for our energy infrastructure to be smart, flexible and fit for a low carbon future; our buildings to be sustainable and energy efficient and our city region to be better adapted and more resilient to the increasing impacts of climate change.

Places for Everyone policies JP-S2 and JP-S3 sets out how development can help achieve the drive to carbon neutrality. In addition, the Greater Manchester Net Zero Design guidance[90] has been produced to support the implementation of these adopted PfE policies.

12.3 The Council's Building a Better Oldham reflects Oldham's commitment to climate change and seeks to build a better Oldham by ensuring Oldham is the greenest borough through embedding sustainability, energy efficiency & low (zero) carbon. In June 2019, Oldham Council declared its ambition to be the UK's first Green New Deal Council. It subsequently declared a Climate Emergency in September 2019.

12.4 The Council's Oldham Green New Deal Strategy was adopted by the Council in March 2020. The Strategy's objective is to 'Future-proof the regeneration of the borough by establishing Oldham as an exemplar Green City on energy, carbon, water and green infrastructure'. The Strategy puts in place a framework to work with our residents and partners to make Oldham an even greener, smarter, more enterprising place.

12.5 Nature plays an important role in providing key services for climate change adaption such as cooling, shading, clean air and water, as well as building in resilience and accommodating changes in the natural environment by restoring natural processes. Nature-based solutions can help communities become more resilient to climate change, whilst enhancing nature and biodiversity.

12.6 Through the Local Plan we will seek to address climate change through a positive approach on renewable and low carbon energy, flood risk, green infrastructure, design, air quality and transport infrastructure and accessibility. We will also support growth of the green technologies sector. Below we set out our policies on energy, flood risk and water supply. Other plan policies linking to climate change can be found throughout the plan.

[89] This document can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/five-year-environment-plan/
[90] The Net Zero guidance can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/net-zero-design-guidance/

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Policy CC1 - Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development including supporting infrastructure, will be supported where the following criteria have been appropriately addressed:

1. **Local amenity, including noise, air quality, traffic, vibration, dust and visual impact, light (including reflection, glint, glare and shadow flicker);**
2. **Highway safety and network capacity;**
3. **Biodiversity, including nature designations, particularly in relation to displacement and disturbance and functionally linked land within 2.5km of the South Pennines Moors SAC/SPA;**
4. **Agricultural land, high quality soil and peat where it is in a condition to support habitats or can be restored to a condition to support notable habitats;**
5. **Geodiversity;**
6. **The openness of the Green Belt and whether very special circumstances have been demonstrated to justify otherwise inappropriate development;**
7. **Loss of open space;**
8. **The significance of Local Green Space;**
9. **Flood Risk, hydrology, water supply, and water catchment land;**
10. **Land stability and contamination;**
11. **Public rights of way including access tracks and recreational routes;**
12. **Telecommunications and other networks, including operational equipment required to connect to the National Grid, electromagnetic production and interference and aeronautical impacts such as radar systems;**
13. **The qualities and sensitivities of key landscape characteristics and townscapes and visual impacts;**
14. **The purposes of the Peak District National Park;**
15. **The historic environment including heritage assets and their settings;**
16. **Mineral Safeguarding Areas; and**
17. **Cumulative effects with other existing and proposed energy developments.**

Where a development proposal would have a landscape impact, proposals should be accompanied by a detailed Landscape Impact Assessment carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced professional.

Proposals for wind energy can be considered across the borough, except within 400m of the South Pennies Moors SAC /SPA as shown on the policies map.

Where appropriate, any proposal should include full details of the arrangements for decommissioning and the reinstatement/restoration of the site at the end of its operational life.

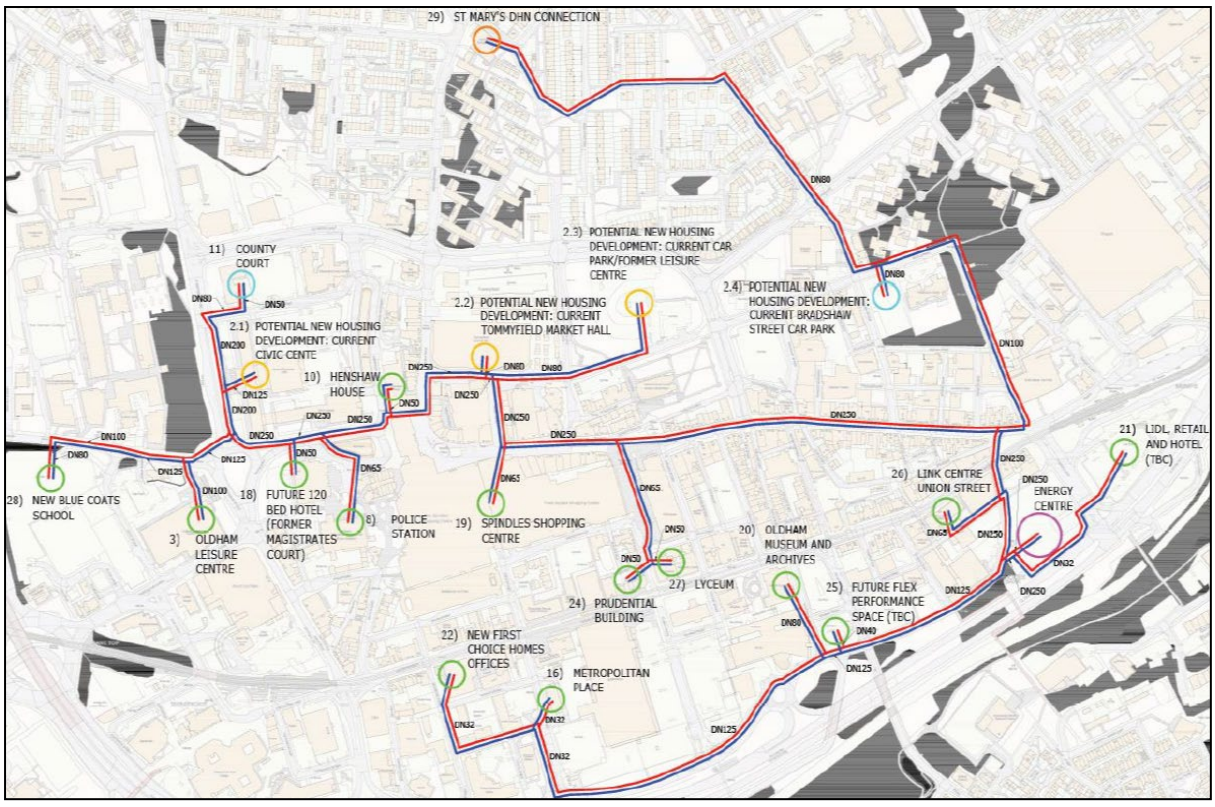
Reasoned Justification

12.7 The renewable and low carbon energy sector plays a significant role in ensuring the energy security of the UK. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions limits the impacts of human induced climate change and stimulates investment in new jobs and businesses, with a range of environmental and economic benefits, such as reduced air pollution and lower energy bills for residents and businesses.

12.8 Planning has an important role in the delivery of new renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure in locations where the local environmental impact is acceptable.

12.9 The Oldham Local Area Energy Plan[91] (LAEP) identifies opportunities for low carbon energy including solar, hydrogen, heat pumps, electric vehicle charging and a district heat network. In addition, the Council is working on an Oldham Mine Water Heat Network project which can be seen in Figure CC1 below.

Figure CC1: Potential expansion of St Marys Heat Network across Oldham Town Centre including a new Minewater Energy Centre



12.10 The Council will support proposals for renewable energy providing that any environmental, social, or economic aspects are appropriately addressed including: impacts on landscape, townscape, natural, historical, and cultural features, Green Belt,

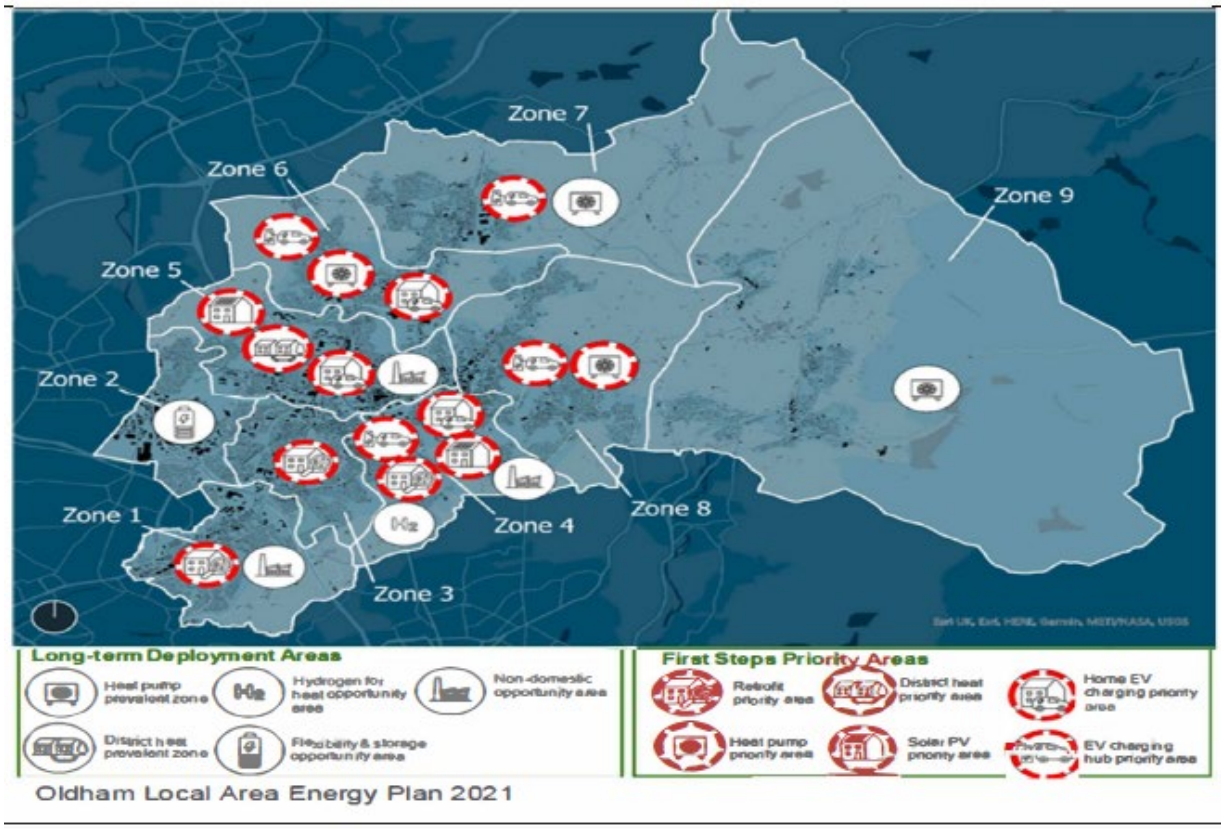
[91] This document can be found at: https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/documents/s129736/OS%20Feb%2022%20-%20OGND%20Appx%20C_Oldham%20LAEP.pdf

biodiversity, flood risk and areas of nature conservation interest. Proposals should also ensure that high quality design features are used to minimise the impacts on the amenity of the area in respect of visual intrusion, noise, dust and odour and traffic generation.

12.11 Planning applications for hydropower should normally be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment. Early engagement with the Council and the Environment Agency will be necessary to identify any potential planning issues which are likely to be specific to the location. The Environment Agency has published advice on environmental protection for new hydropower schemes[92].

12.12 Most renewable and low carbon energy developments have a limited lifespan after which they will need to be decommissioned. Planning permissions for renewable energy proposals will be subject to a planning condition requiring the removal of infrastructure and reinstatement of the site should the development cease to be operational.

Figure CC2: Oldham Local Area Energy Plan



12.13 The local plan area is considered an area of search for wind energy proposals, except for within 400m of the South Pennine Moors SAC/ SPA due to Places for Everyone (PfE) Policy JP-G5 Uplands. Whilst this policy relates to urban edge effects it is considered that a precautionary approach should be applied to wind energy with regards to the SAC/SPA. The South Pennines Moors SAC / SPA SPD should also be referred to. The SPD provides further guidance on Policy JP-G5 'Uplands', which seeks to ensure that development does not have an adverse impact on the SAC/SPA from urban edge effects or from loss of and/or disturbance to functionally linked habitats within 2.5km of the SAC and SPA boundaries.

[92] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-hydropower-scheme-apply-to-build-one

12.14 The policy lays out constraints that need to be considered for wind energy proposals. Planning Practice Guidance on 'Renewable and low carbon energy' also outlines considerations for renewable and low carbon energy.

12.15 Battery energy storage systems (BESS) stores electricity when supply is higher than demand, which can then be released when needed. BESS play a role in the replacement of fossil fuels and contribute to supporting net zero.

12.16 The acceptability of individual proposals will be subject to a detailed assessment demonstrating clearly how all the policy criteria has been addressed satisfactorily before granting planning permission.

12.17 Designations and constraints such as Green Belt, Local Green Space, conservation areas, nature designations, geodiversity sites and Minerals Safeguarding Areas will be shown on the policies map, along with some ecology designations. Other constraints can be found through other sources such as Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic England. Greater Manchester Ecology unit also hold a database of information.

12.18 Within the Green Belt, applications for energy are classed as inappropriate development and will need to demonstrate very special circumstances.

12.19 Peat plays an important role in nature-based solutions such as carbon storage and biodiversity support. It is important to protect peat where the condition allows it to perform important functions, including supporting notable habitats. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

12.20 Development proposals on land used for public water supply catchment purposes will be required to consult with the relevant water undertaker. The first preference will be for proposals to be located away from land used for public water supply purposes. Where proposals are brought forward on catchment land used for public water supply, careful consideration must be given to the location of the proposed development and a risk assessment of the impact on public water supply may be required with the identification and implementation of any required mitigation measures.

Flood Risk and Water Quality

12.21 Planning has a role to play when it comes to considering new development and assessing flood risk and water resources. There is a need to direct inappropriate development away from areas of flood risk (looking at Flood Zones and other sources of flood risk), taking into account climate change, and to manage and mitigate flood risk.

12.22 National planning policy and its practice guidance sets out clear tests for assessing planning applications to ensure that development is focussed on sites with lower flood risk probability and that developments are made safe for their lifetime. Flood risk is also addressed in PfE, particularly Policy JP-S4.

12.23 PfE addresses water quality. In addition, the Integrated Water Management Plan aims to work together to manage Greater Manchester's water to enhance the environment, support people and forge prosperous places. The plan links to policies within the Local Plan on sustainable drainage, nature-based solutions and biodiversity net gain to create water positive developments.

Policy CC2 - Managing Flood Risk

Development proposals will be determined in line with national planning policy and guidance on Flood Risk, applying a sequential approach to all forms of current and future flood risk.

The functional floodplain (Flood Zone 3b) is identified on the policies map. The functional flood plain will be used to store water and for Green Infrastructure benefits. No development shall take place in Flood Zone 3b unless for essential infrastructure, which has passed the Exception Test, or where development is water compatible.

Development will ensure the flow of water within Flood Zone 3b is not impeded or the volume available for the storage of floodwater reduced.

Development should be located in areas with the lowest risk of flooding, taking all sources of flood risk and climate change into account. The Council's preference is for new development proposals to be located outside of Flood Zones 2 and 3. Development proposals outside of Flood Zone 1, which require a sequential test will apply an area of search, to be agreed with the local planning authority in advance of undertaking the search.

A site-specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) is required where a site is:

1. **Within Flood Zone 3a or Flood Zone 2;**

2. **Within Flood Zone 1 and 1 hectare or greater in size;**

3. **At risk from surface water flooding or on land which has been identified by the Environment Agency as having critical drainage problems (i.e. within an Area with Critical Drainage Problems (ACDP));**

4. **Over 0.5 hectares within a Critical Drainage Area (CDA);**

5. **Situated in an area currently benefiting from flood defences or an area where flood defences are planned;**

6. **Land identified as being at increased flood risk in future;**

7. **At risk of flooding from other sources than fluvial, such as Canal Hazard Zones, or at residual risk;**

8. **Subject to a change of use to a higher vulnerability classification, as set out in national planning guidance, which may be subject to other sources of flooding; or**

9. **Situated over a culverted watercourse or where development will require controlling the flow of any river or stream or the development could potentially change structures known to influence flood flow.**

Where required, development proposals will be granted subject to a satisfactory site-specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) showing that:

10. **The national planning policy and guidance have been adhered to together with appropriate consultation with the relevant local planning authority, Lead Local Flood Authority, the Environment Agency and United Utilities, where applicable;**

11. **The effects of climate change have been taken into account using the latest allowances developed by the Environment Agency;**

12. **There is no loss in floodplain storage resulting from the development;**

13. **The development will not increase flood risk elsewhere;**

14. **The operational functions of any existing flood defence infrastructure is not affected;**

15. **Proposed resistance and resilience measures designed to deal with current and future risks are appropriate;**

16. **Appropriate sustainable drainage techniques, prioritising the use of natural flood management techniques that connect to the wider Green Infrastructure network, will be incorporated into the design of the site, where applicable;**

17. **Whether the development will be safe for its lifetime and has passed the Exception Test, if applicable; and**

18. **An appropriate Emergency Plan is included that accounts for the possibility of a flood event and shows the availability of safe access and egress points accessible during times of flood.**

Reasoned Justification

12.24 Flood Zone 3b, described as the functional flood plain, has been mapped as part of the Greater Manchester Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Land falling within Flood Zone 3b will be safeguarded from development and forms part of the borough's Green Infrastructure network.

12.25 Where the sequential test is required an area of search will be agreed with the Council on a case-by-case basis and agreed through pre-application discussions.

12.26 Some developments are not subject to the sequential test, as outlined in national planning policy, such as change of use (except for a change of use to a caravan, camping or chalet site, or to a mobile home or park home site); minor development such as householder development (except where a separate dwelling would be created within the curtilage or the subdivision of houses to flats); and alterations that do not increase the size of buildings. These developments may require a site-specific flood risk assessment, however.

12.27 Change of use applications need to consider how the vulnerability classification, as set out in national planning guidance, may change as a consequence of development and ensure that where required the site-specific flood risk assessment takes this into account to ensure the development can be designed to be safe, including access and egress.

12.28 Where the exception test is required and development is within higher flood risk areas after applying the sequential test development must be of exceptional quality, which includes design features that allow resilience to flood risk and climate change such as spaces for water to flow, locating the development to the lowest risk areas within the site boundary, considering resilient design, including internal fittings such as

cupboard's and sockets located higher and the use of water resilient materials. Development should include multi-functional sustainable drainage.

12.29 When undertaking site-specific flood risk assessments regard should be had to the latest Environment Agency peak rainfall allowances in the climate change allowances: flood risk assessments. This is important to understand and manage the effects of climate change on surface water flood risk and informing the design of drainage systems for new development.

12.30 Areas with Critical Drainage Problems (ACDPs) may be designated where the Environment Agency is aware that development within a certain catchment / drainage area could have detrimental impacts on fluvial flood risk downstream, and / or where the Environment Agency has identified existing fluvial flood risk issues that could be exacerbated by upstream activities.

12.31 In these instances, the Environment Agency would work with the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and local planning authority to ensure that adequate surface water management measures are incorporated into new development to help mitigate fluvial flood risk. There are currently no ACDPs in Greater Manchester, however, the Environment Agency can designate areas.

12.32 In addition, CDAs can be identified through local evidence such as Strategic Flood Risk Assessments. CDAs are those identified from historical flood events and/ or modelled data as having a significant risk from surface water flooding and include drainage catchments for the sewer network. The CDAs for Greater Manchester were updated in 2023.

12.33 Although well managed there is a residual risk from the Rochdale Canal and Huddersfield Canal that should be considered where developments fall within the Canal Hazard Zone.

12.34 The borough also has a number of reservoirs, which form part of the historic environment and unique landscape of Oldham. Where applicable site-specific flood risk assessments should also have regard to any reservoir extents to take into account risk if the reservoir was breached.

12.35 Natural processes should be used, as far as practicable to mitigate flood risk and deliver multi-functional benefits. The Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy and Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy can be helpful in considering this.

12.36 Early discussions should take place with the LLFA and where required the Environment Agency and United Utilities. The LLFA are a statutory consultee for major developments. Applicants must engage with United Utilities if a site is identified as being at risk of flooding from a reservoir. Consultation with United Utilities should confirm:

a) if there are any sewer surcharge levels at the point of connection that could influence site design;

b) whether there is an incident of sewer flooding at, or in the vicinity of, the proposed development site; and

c) if sewer modelling data indicates that existing sewers that pass through or near to the site present a modelled risk of sewer flooding.

12.37 Applicants must not assume that changes in levels or that changes to the public sewer (including diversion), will be acceptable as such proposals could increase / displace flood risk.

Foul and Surface Water

12.38 Surface water flood risk is a boroughwide issue and will affect most development sites to varying degrees. It is important that foul and surface water is managed appropriately and that opportunities to improve the current discharge of surface water on previously developed sites are implemented.

Policy CC3 - Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water

Applications will be supported by a strategy for foul and surface water management, where appropriate, that takes account of the following components:

Surface water must be discharged in the following order of the surface water hierarchy (moving from steps 1 to 5) of:

1. **Collected for non-portable use**

2. **An adequate soakaway or some other form of infiltration system.**

3. **An attenuated discharge to a surface water body.**

4. **An attenuated discharge to public surface water sewer, highway sewer or another drainage system.**

5. **An attenuated discharge to public combined sewer.**

Proposals should be designed to maximise the retention of surface water on-site and minimise the volume, and rate of, surface water discharge off-site.

Developments on greenfield sites are expected to achieve greenfield run off rates[93].

Developments on brownfield sites will be required to achieve greenfield run off rates, particularly within Critical Drainage Areas. A relaxation on outflow controls and/or the extent of attenuation storage will only be permitted with the agreement of the LLFA and LPA at an early stage of the project but should never exceed the rate of discharge from the existing development. Applicants will submit clear evidence of existing operational connections from the site with associated calculations on rates of discharge to demonstrate any reduction that deviate from achieving greenfield run off rates.

Applicants should consider site topography, naturally occurring flow paths, temporary watercourses, and any low-lying areas where water naturally accumulates. Applications will be required to consider exceedance / overland flow paths from existing and proposed drainage features and confirm ground levels, finished floor levels and drainage details. Resultant layouts will reflect such circumstances to ensure a flood resilient design is achieved and water is not deflected or constricted.

Applications for major development will be supported by a sustainable drainage strategy and designed in accordance with the four pillars of sustainable drainage[94], in preference to underground piped and tanked storage systems, unless there is

[93] See Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage for further advice on greenfield run off rates.
[94] The four pillars of sustainable drainage are referenced in Ciria SuDS Manual and planning practice guidance

clear evidence why such techniques are not possible. It should be integrated with the landscaped environment and the strategy for biodiversity net gain.

For any development proposal which is part of a wider development / allocation, foul and surface water strategies will be part of a holistic site-wide drainage strategy. Pumped drainage systems should be minimised and a proliferation of pumping stations on a phased development will not be acceptable.

Applications are required to be accompanied by drainage management and maintenance plans, having regard to any watercourse within the application site or an adjacent watercourse where the application site is afforded riparian rights.

Any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA.

Reasoned Justification

12.39 Application of the hierarchy for managing surface water is a key requirement for development sites to reduce flood risk and the impact on the environment. National standards for sustainable drainage systems[95] place increased emphasis on non-portable use - reusing water (rainwater harvesting) for uses such as toilet flushing, washing machines and gardening applications. Clear evidence must be submitted to demonstrate why alternative preferable options in the surface water hierarchy are not available.

12.40 Developers should be aware that surface water discharges to some waterways, including canals owned by the Canal and River Trust, may require the consent of riparian landowners. Developers should ensure that they gain relevant consent(s) as appropriate.

12.41 Critical Drainage Areas (CDAs) have been mapped across Greater Manchester (2023) and are shown on the policies map.

12.42 Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 in England will provide a framework for the approval and adoption of sustainable drainage systems into new developments. Foul and surface water drainage must be considered early in the design process. Sustainable drainage should be integrated with the landscaped environment and designed in accordance with the four pillars of sustainable drainage (water quantity, water quality, amenity and biodiversity) reflecting the opportunity for nature-based solutions. It should identify SuDS opportunities, including retrofit SuDS opportunities, such as green roofs; permeable surfacing; soakways; filter drainage; swales; bioretention tree pits; rain gardens; basins; ponds; reedbeds and wetlands. Any drainage should be designed in accordance with 'Ciria C753 The SuDS Manual', Greater Manchester's Sustainable Drainage Design Guide[96] the National standards for sustainable drainage systems[97], sewerage sector guidance, or any subsequent replacement guidance.

[95] National standards for sustainable drainage systems is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-standards-for-sustainable-drainage-systems
[96] Greater Manchester's Sustainable Drainage Design Guide is available at https://gmgreencity.com/resource_library/greater-manchesters-sustainable-drainage-design-guide/
[97] The National standards for sustainable drainage systems is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-standards-for-sustainable-drainage-systems

12.43 Drainage details, ground levels and finished floor levels are critical to ensure the proposal is resilient to flood risk and climate change. It is good practice to ensure the external levels fall away from the ground floor level of the proposed buildings (following any regrade), to allow for safe overland flow routes within the development and minimise any associated flood risk from overland flows. In addition, where the ground level of the site is below the ground level at the point where the drainage connects to the public sewer, care must be taken to ensure that the proposed development is not at an increased risk of sewer surcharge. It is good practice for the finished floor levels and manhole cover levels (including those that serve private drainage runs) to be higher than the manhole cover level at the point of connection to the receiving sewer.

12.44 Holistic site-wide drainage strategies will be required to ensure a coordinated approach to drainage between phases, between developers, and over a number of years of construction. Applicants must demonstrate how the approach to drainage on any phase of development has regard to interconnecting phases within a larger site with infrastructure sized to accommodate interconnecting phases. When necessary, the holistic drainage strategy must be updated to reflect any changing circumstances between each phase(s). The strategy shall demonstrate communication with infrastructure providers and outline how each phase interacts with other phases.

12.45 Applicants are expected to provide information on their sustainable drainage proposals in the following documents:

- Completed SuDS Pro-forma which assists you in confirming your approach; and
- Sustainable drainage strategy which takes account of the recommendations from the site-specific flood risk assessment where applicable; and where necessary.

12.46 Where a site-specific flood risk assessment is required, this can be combined with the drainage strategy.

12.47 The HRA for the Local Plan recommends that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA.

Water Efficiency and Climate Change

12.48 Water is essential to life - to flora, fauna and the human population. It is vital that water resources are carefully managed to reduce water stress and scarcity. Pressures such as population, housing growth and climate change adds stress to water resources therefore we need to manage sustainable growth and resilience to climate change through policies which can help manage water supplies sustainably.

Policy CC4 - Water Efficiency

All new residential developments are expected to achieve, as a minimum, the optional requirement set through Building Regulations Requirement G2: Water Efficiency or any future updates.

Major non-residential development will be required to achieve five credits for category Wat 01 of BREEAM unless demonstrated impracticable.

Reasoned Justification

12.49 A tighter water efficiency standard in new development has multiple benefits including a reduction in water and energy use, as well as helping to reduce customer bills. Building Regulations currently includes a requirement for all new dwellings to achieve a water efficiency standard of 125 litres of water per person per day (l/p/d). In 2015 an 'optional' requirement of 110 l/p/d for new residential development was introduced.

12.50 Non-residential development must achieve full credits (5 credits) for category Wat 01 of BREEAM unless it is impracticable. A further exemplary credit is available for outstanding performance. Five credits will typically give a 55% improvement over the baseline. A BREEAM pre-assessments will need to be submitted as part of the planning application to demonstrate that BREEAM credits for Wat 01 are being targeted. Compliance can then be secured through a planning condition.

12.51 The Local Plan requires this higher standard, which ties in with our approach to be a greener borough and declaring a climate emergency and Greater Manchester declaring a biodiversity emergency. Pressures from water supply also affect the achievement of the Water Framework Directives through impacts on water quality, species and habitats. As such there are environmental reasons for addressing water efficiency as well as helping our residents achieve lower bills in new housing, reducing effects of deprivation.

12.52 Major non-residential development applies to developments over 1000sqm.

12.53 This is justified by evidence provided by United Utilities, which is summarised in the supporting Topic Paper on climate change and flood risk.

Ground Water Source Protection Zones

12.54 The Environment Agency defines Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) and these are available on the Environment Agency's website. These are areas that are often used for public drinking water supply purposes. Preventing pollution to drinking water is critical to ensure it is safe to use for public health.

Policy CC5 - Groundwater Source Protection Zones

In consultation with the Council and relevant statutory bodies, applicants are required to consider the potential impacts on water quality resulting from the design, construction and operation of proposed development. Where necessary, development proposals must include measures to reduce any risk to the water environment and aim to protect and improve water quality.

Development proposals within Groundwater Source Protection Zones are expected to accord with the latest national guidance on Groundwater Protection and will be expected to conform to the following:

1. **Risk Assessment - a quantitative and qualitative risk assessment and mitigation strategy with respect to groundwater protection will be required to manage the risk of pollution to public water supply and the water environment;**

2. **Masterplanning – is required to mitigate the risk of pollution to public water supply and the water environment; and**

3. **Construction Management Plan – a Construction Management Plan will be required to identify the potential impacts from all construction activities on both groundwater, public water supply and surface water and identify the appropriate mitigation measures necessary to protect and prevent pollution of these waters.**

Reasoned Justification

12.55 The SPZs are shown in Appendix 7 and are defined around large and public potable groundwater abstraction sites. The purpose of SPZs is to provide additional protection to safeguard drinking water quality through constraining the proximity of an activity that may impact upon a drinking water abstraction. This is part of an initial screening process in assessing impacts to groundwater resources. Zones around location sites are defined by groundwater travel time to an abstraction.

12.56 SPZs provide a visual representation of the increased risks as you get closer to the abstraction. The following subdivisions are defined within SPZs:

- Zone 1: (Inner Protection Zone) - This zone is defined by a travel time of 50-days or less from any point within the zone at, or below, the water table. Additionally, the zone has as a minimum a 50-metre radius. It is based principally on biological decay criteria and is designed to protect against the transmission of toxic chemicals and water-borne disease.
- Zone 2: (Outer Protection Zone) - This zone is defined by the 400-day travel time from a point below the water table. Additionally, this zone has a minimum radius of 250 or 500 metres, depending on the size of the abstraction. The travel time is derived from consideration of the minimum time required to provide delay, dilution and attenuation of slowly degrading pollutants.

- Zone 3: (Total catchment) - This zone is defined as the total area needed to support the abstraction or discharge from the protected groundwater source.

12.57 In Oldham, SPZs 1 and 2 have been defined and include parts of the wards of Shaw, Crompton and St James. New development should ideally seek to be located away from SPZs, especially Source Protection Zone 1.

12.58 Applicants should take note of 'The Environment Agency's approach to groundwater protection' position statement[98].

12.59 The risk assessment requires applicants to follow the source-pathway-receptor approach. This means thinking how activity from development may be a 'source' of pollution to groundwater (such as landfill), the 'pathways' that the pollution could take to reach groundwater from your site (such as engineered measures such as a landfilled lining system, or infiltration system), and the potential groundwater 'receptors' that could be affected by that pollution (such as abstraction boreholes, the ecosystem dependent on groundwater or the groundwater). It shall identify all possible contaminant sources and pathways for the life of the development and provide details of measures required to mitigate any risks to groundwater and public water supply during all phases of the development.

12.60 Subject to the outcome of the risk assessment, the mitigation measures may include the highest specification design for the new foul and surface water sewerage systems (pipework, trenches, manholes, pumping stations and attenuation features).

12.61 Within source protection zones careful masterplanning is required. For example, open space can be located so that it is closest to the boreholes in order to minimise the potential impact on groundwater with an appropriate management regime.

Monitoring

12.62 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- % of households living in fuel poverty
- Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds
- Number of new developments agreed with the Council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM)

12.63 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice

[98] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/groundwater-protection-position-statements

13 Natural Environment and Open Land

Oldham's Open Land

13.1 The Peak District National Park (PDNP) is a protected landscape that's falls within the borough of Oldham. It was designated in 1951 and was Britain's first National Park. The diverse landscape contrasts with Oldham's industrial and urban landscapes.

13.2 The purposes of designation for National Parks are to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; and
- promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of national parks by the public.

13.3 National Parks protect landscapes and wildlife habitats, whilst also providing places where people live and work, and provide a focus for recreation and tourism. They also offer places of tranquillity.

Policy OL1 - Consideration for the Peak District National Park

Development within the planning boundary of Oldham Borough will be permitted where it does not conflict with the purposes of the Peak District National Park.

Where possible, opportunities to further the purposes of the Peak District National Park will be sought.

Reasoned Justification

13.4 National planning policy applies great weight to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks.

13.5 The determination of planning applications within the part of Oldham falling within the Peak District National Park is undertaken by the Peak District National Park Authority. However, parts of Saddleworth that fall within Oldham Council's planning boundary may be considered to fall within its setting and contribute to the Peak District National Park's natural beauty.

13.6 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 section 245 states in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in any National Park in England, a relevant authority must seek to further the purposes and if it appears that there is a conflict between those purposes, must attach greater weight to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park.

13.7 This applies to functions outside of the designated area which affects land within the protected landscape. Defra guidance confirms that natural beauty, special qualities and key characteristics can be dependent on the contribution provided by the setting of a protected landscape aspects such as tranquillity, dark skies, cultural heritage and remoteness are important considerations.

13.8 In determining planning applications, the Council will need to be satisfied that granting planning permission will leave the special characteristics of the national park unharmed. Contributions to the conservation and enhancement of the protected landscapes natural beauty, special qualities and key characteristics are encouraged.

Oldham's Green Belt

13.9 The Green Belt is land which meets at least one of the following five purposes:

1. to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
2. to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;
3. to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
4. to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
5. to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

13.10 Places for Everyone (PfE) has revised the Green Belt boundary for each of the nine Greater Manchester authorities included within the plan, including Oldham, and this is shown on the adopted policies map. The Local Plan does not address strategic Green Belt boundary revisions.

13.11 However, a 'tidy up' of minor boundaries of a technical mapping nature has been undertaken and these are also reflected on the policies map. Appendix 8 sets out boundary revisions to the Green Belt.

Policy OL2 - Oldham's Green Belt

The openness and permanence of Oldham's Green Belt will be preserved, in line with national planning policy.

Within the Green Belt, national planning policy will be applied including the refusal against inappropriate development except in very special circumstances.

Proposals for agricultural buildings constitutes appropriate development, however the Council will have regard to the design, layout, and form of construction of any buildings to assess the suitability for agricultural purposes.

Proposals for the provision of appropriate facilities (in connection with the existing use of land or change of use), including those for outdoor sports and recreation, as described in national planning policy, must preserve the openness of the Green Belt, and not conflict with the purposes of including land within it. Therefore, built development and associated infrastructure such as car parking, lighting and hardstanding must be kept to a minimum and be sensitively designed.

In assessing whether a proposed stable constitutes 'appropriate' development for sport and recreation in the Green Belt, the Council will have regard to the design, layout, and form of construction of any buildings to assess the suitability for stabling purposes.

National planning policy allows for the limited infilling in villages within the Green Belt. Determining whether a proposed development is within a village will be assessed on a case-by-case basis having regard to the particular character, layout, and function of the settlement.

Similarly, whilst there is no set definition for 'infilling', the Council would consider such sites to comprise the following:

- **a small gap or space between other buildings or structures; and**

- **within a continuous built-up frontage or within built development; and**
- **which relates well to the existing built form.**

The development of gaps which merge sites or buildings which are presently not spatially or visually well-related to the existing settlement would not be deemed to conform to the aim and purposes of the Green Belt.

Reasoned Justification

13.12 National planning policy and supporting guidance sets out what types of development are not inappropriate within the Green Belt. This has been extended to include additional development, such as that on 'grey belt'. These will be permitted where they also satisfy other relevant planning policies.

13.13 Inappropriate development is considered harmful to the Green Belt and will only be approved in 'Very Special Circumstances', which clearly demonstrate that the potential harm is outweighed by other considerations. 'Very Special Circumstances' will be judged on a case-by-case basis.

13.14 Applicants are required to clearly set out the level of harm to the Green Belt including definitional harm (by reason of inappropriateness); harm to the openness[99] - volume, visual impact, duration of development and related activities such as traffic generation; and harm to Green Belt purposes where the land is not previously developed or grey belt. Any other planning harm should also be clear as part of the planning application. Any measures to reduce or mitigate the harm and the 'Very Special Circumstances' (i.e. all the benefits) of the proposed development must also be clearly set out. A statement should be submitted with sufficient detail to allow the Council to be able to make an informed decision on whether the test is passed, and development permitted.

13.15 The General Permitted Development Order also allows some types of development without the need for planning permission. This applies to the Green Belt but does not usually apply where land within the Green Belt also falls within a conservation area.

[99] National planning policy does not require substantial weight to be applied to harm to the Green Belt, including harm to its openness, where the development is on previously developed land or grey belt land.

Policy OL3 - Extensions and Alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt

Extensions and alterations to existing buildings will be supported where they are not disproportionate to the size of the original building.

In considering whether extensions and/or alterations are disproportionate consideration will be given to all the following criteria to help determine whether the development preserves openness:

1. **the size and scale of the extension / alteration should be subordinate to the original building. Where the building has previously been extended, the assessment will consider the cumulative impact of the existing and proposed extensions taken together;**

2. **the design, including materials, colours and style is required to be sympathetic in keeping with the character of the original building, and as appropriate the surrounding vernacular; and**

3. **where the individual or cumulative total volume exceeds more than 40% of the volume of the original building, approval is more unlikely to be granted.**

Reasoned Justification

13.16 National planning policy allows for the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building. The above policy is intended to help guide development proposals that require permission for extensions and alterations to existing buildings.

13.17 National planning policy defines original building as “A building as it existed on 1 July 1948 or, if constructed after 1 July 1948, as it was originally built.” Subordinate means of lesser importance / not equal to the original building.

13.18 The policy seeks to strike a balance between the needs of residents living in the Green Belt to adapt their properties, whilst protecting the purposes of the Green Belt.

13.19 The Council has previously informally used up to one third of the original building as a guide for what constitutes an acceptable extension / addition, and this may well be appropriate to most extensions / additions requiring permission. However, there have been proposals where permission has been granted within the borough which exceed one third and these have been found to be acceptable. Therefore, some flexibility has been built into the policy allowing up to 40% as an indicative guide. Extensions under 40% may still be found unacceptable. Applications will be determined on a case-by-case basis and the 40% is in no way a target. Anything that exceeds 40% would need to be justified to demonstrate that the proposal is proportionate or that very special circumstances apply.

Local Green Space

13.20 A number of areas have been identified as ‘Local Green Spaces’ (LGS) in line with national planning policy. Local Green Spaces are spaces that are important to local communities due to their proximity to the community and because they are demonstrably special and hold local significance due to beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, or richness of its wildlife.

Policy OL4 - Local Green Spaces

The Local Green Spaces in Table OL1 are identified on the Policies Map and will be protected from inappropriate development to ensure the significance of the Local Green Spaces is protected and can be enhanced.

Table OL1: Local Green Spaces

Local Green Spaces	
LGS 1 Royley Clough	LGS 2 Ferney Field Road
LGS 3 Foxdenton Hall Park	LGS 4 Crossley Bridge Playing Field
LGS 5 Moston Brook and Hole Bottom Clough	LGS 6 Simkin Way
LGS 7 Oldham Edge	LGS 8 Land at Greenacres
LGS 9 Thornley Brook	LGS 10 Stonebreaks
LGS 11 Dacres Hall	LGS 12 Wall Hill
LGS 13 Ryefields Drive	LGS 14 Stoneswood
LGS 15 Ainley Wood	LGS 16 Land at Summershades Lane
LGS 17 Rear of Elk Mill / Cotswold Drive	LGS 18 Sholver (Land between Pearly Bank and Longfellow Crescent)

Development proposals, including new housing, will generally be deemed inappropriate in order to protect the significance of each Local Green Space.

Exceptions to this include the following types of development, provided they do not substantially harm qualities related to the Local Green Space:

1. **Small scale proposals that enhance recreational value such as appropriate facilities, including buildings, for outdoor sport and recreation;**
2. **Appropriate facilities for cemeteries and burial grounds and allotments;**
3. **Proposals to enhance the historic significance, such as interpretation trails;**
4. **Buildings for agriculture and forestry;**

5. **The extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building;**

6. **The replacement of a building, provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces;**

7. **Engineering operations;**

8. **Local transport infrastructure which can demonstrate a requirement for a Local Green Space location;**

9. **The re-use of buildings provided that the buildings are of permanent and substantial construction;**

10. **Material changes in the use of land (such as changes of use for outdoor sport or recreation, or for cemeteries and burial grounds); and**

11. **Development, including buildings, brought forward under a Community Right to Build Order or Neighbourhood Development Order.**

When assessing development proposals, the Council will consider the impact of development on the designated Local Green Space as a whole and its qualities which make it significant. There will be a presumption against development proposals that will substantially harm the significance of the Local Green Space.

Reasoned Justification

13.21 The methodology and evidence for identifying LGS is set out in the Local Green Space Assessment[100]. Appendix 9 shows the LGS' and these are identified on the policies map.

13.22 Some enhancement opportunities have been identified in the LGS assessment; however, these are not exhaustive. It should be noted that enhancement of LGS is not to be used to justify the harm caused to part of a LGS as a result of development proposals.

13.23 The Local Green Space designation gives the land additional protection against inappropriate development in addition to any other constraints / designations, such as open space and nature designations relevant to the site. Parts of Sholver LGS is also a Millenium Green. In time LGS sites could also be used as BNG habitat banks too which would also mean they are legally secured for at least 30 years and not available to new development unless excluded from the habitat bank. Some of the Local Green Spaces also include playing pitches which must be protected in line with Policy CO1. This includes works such as tree planting, pathways, etc that may affect sports facilities.

13.24 The policy allows for small scale development to support the role of particular Local Green Spaces, for example changing facilities for a cricket pitch, which would enhance its significance.

13.25 New housing development would not be appropriate development within a Local Green Space.

[100] This document can be found at:
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7043/local_green_space_assessment

13.26 Planning applications are required to be supported by a statement explaining how the development proposal will impact on the significance of the LGS (i.e. the reason why it was designated), the level of harm and benefits that the proposal will deliver.

13.27 Harm will be assessed by determining the impact on the significance of the LGS. Substantial harm for example may include the loss of recreation facilities or the ability of people to use that recreation facility in the same way; the loss, reduction or severance of wildlife; and the reduction in the ability of the LGS to provide a tranquil space - for example because the site will become more urbanised. Less than substantial harm may involve minor developments, for example an extension to an existing building that does not affect the significance of the LGS.

13.28 Proposals must, where necessary, be supported by sufficient ecological surveys in line with Policy N1.

13.29 A Community Right to Build Order is a type of Neighbourhood Development Order which are subject to their own legal tests and processes. A designated community organisation could obtain outline or full planning permission through a Community Right to Build Order or Neighbourhood Development Order, for example for homes, including affordable homes, community facilities or playgrounds for the benefit of the community.

13.30 The type, quantity and design of buildings and the location is decided through the neighbourhood planning process and consulted on before being submitted to the local planning authority. The Order would then be subject to an independent examination, which will look at whether the basic conditions have been met[101]. A local referendum can then be held, and the Order bought into force if over 50% of those voting have supported the Order. If an Order is for outline planning permission, then reserved matters would still need to be addressed through the planning process.

[101] The basic conditions are set out in Paragraph 8(2), Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Panning Act 1990.

Protecting Oldham's Dark Skies

13.31 The eastern part of the borough, particularly the area closest to the Peak District National Park, Kirklees and Calderdale are areas that currently offer darker skies within the borough. Dark skies contribute towards tranquillity and natural wildlife behaviour and is a key characteristic of the countryside.

13.32 Light pollution affects human health as well as wildlife through for example disturbing sleep patterns and is associated with poorer mental health. There is also little evidence that brightly lit areas reduce crime and road accidents.

13.33 CPRE, The Countryside Charity has produced interactive maps of light intrusion and dark skies. As you would expect the denser the area in terms of development the brighter the level of night lights.

Policy OL5 - Protecting Dark Skies and Tranquillity

The borough's dark skies are an important part of Oldham's countryside character and will be protected. Development will be supported that protects dark skies, as shown on the policies map, and avoids light pollution.

The policies map outlines Category 1 and Category 2 dark skies. Category 1 are our darkest parts of the borough, followed by Category 2.

Within the areas classed as dark skies where there is a demonstrated need for external lighting the use of dark sky friendly lighting will be used.

Elsewhere good lighting management and design will be expected to minimise and where opportunities arise reduce light spillage and glare.

Proposals for any development involving outdoor lighting schemes will be expected to demonstrate as part of the planning application that:

a. **The proposed lighting is the minimum required for security or working purposes;**

b. **Light spillage and glare are minimised, particularly in areas of open countryside or on the edge of settlements; and**

c. **There is no significant harm impact on sites of nature conservation value.**

The impact on amenity including on surrounding residents and highway safety will also be considered.

Reasoned Justification

13.34 National planning policy states that decisions should ensure new development is appropriate for its location taking into account likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or wider area to impacts that could arise from the development. Decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

13.35 Oldham's dark skies (category 1 – blue areas) are the darkest parts of the borough. These areas also fall within important areas for nature conservation (South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation / Special Protection Area / Site of Biological

Interest), making the case for protection even more important. These dark skies should be protected, and opportunities taken across the borough to reduce light pollution. Therefore, if there is a demonstrated need for external lighting for short periods the use of dark sky friendly lighting should be used.

13.36 Category 2 (green areas) overlaps with Oldham's Green Belt and several nature designations. This area has limited light intrusion.

13.37 Opportunities should be taken to reduce light pollution, including for example considering the types of materials used and landscaping measures. Choosing appropriate street lighting can make a strong contribution to reducing light pollution and reducing energy consumption.

13.38 Development proposing external lighting should consider guidance set out in GN01 For the reduction of obtrusive light 2021[102] (or any successor guidance). Developments within Category 1 should be in line with Zone E1 and developments in Category 2 should be in line with Zone E2. There may be areas outside of Category 1 and 2 where the use of Zone 2 guidance will be considered, determined on a case by case basis.

Monitoring

13.39 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt
- Number and type of developments permitted in Local Green Spaces

14 Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency

14.1 Biodiversity has a strong role to play in our lives and offers many benefits as outlined in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) including:

- Benefits for people: a green and healthy environment, more recreation and leisure opportunities, improved air quality, less noise pollution, improved physical and mental health, more resilience and adaptation to climate change and stronger communities;
- Benefits for businesses: a more attractive place to work, encouraging local economic growth, increased resilience through reduced risk of, and better adaptation to, environmental hazards, a healthier, happier and more productive workforce, higher land and property values, increased green jobs and skills, more visitors and sustainable tourism opportunities and more productive land for food security and other resources that can be grown locally;
- Ecological benefits: Protection of rare and threatened species and habitats, repaired natural cycles and natural processes, a greater abundance and diversity of wildlife and healthier ecosystems, reversing biodiversity decline, capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide, helping tackle climate change, more resilience to future changes in climate and greater resilience of species to pests and diseases.

14.2 Across the country there has been a decline in land and freshwater based species since 1970 and a rapid change in the abundance of species and declines in key indicator

[102] GM01 For the reduction of obtrusive light 2021 is available at GN01 For the reduction of obtrusive light 2021

species. The Greater Manchester State of Nature[103] report was compiled to highlight the urgent challenges faced by nature across the city-region, which was reflected in the declaration of a biodiversity emergency in GM in March 2022. The report covers trends in our wildlife, the use of land and pressures on nature, the wider benefits we receive from nature and people's access to nature and engagement with it.

14.3 Echoing national trends, key species of birds and mammals in GM and the North West of England are declining. Individual bird species population show declines of up to 40% over the last 40 years and the abundance of once common mammals has dropped by between 20-40% since 1995. GM is home to many populations of birds. Mirroring national trends, we have seen some worrying declines in our bird populations including tree sparrows, skylarks, red poll, twite, snipe, Spotted Flycatcher, Tree Pit and also Lapwings. Regionally there has been a significant decline in rabbits, red fox, brown hare and hedgehogs.

14.4 Pressures on nature as noted in the State of Nature report include competing land uses, pressures on waterbodies and water; pathogens and diseases, invasive species and climate change.

14.5 For nature to recover, species need habitats that are bigger and better but importantly connected. The Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy[104] (LNRS) sets out a shared vision for nature recovery in Greater Manchester; shared priorities, targets and actions for different habitats and species we can all work towards to help deliver them. Actions that are not mapped are applicable for consideration across the borough wherever they are relevant. For example, urban actions are not mapped but are applicable in any urban location and all habitat themes can be checked for relevance with regards to unmapped actions that can inform site layout and design.

14.6 Maps of a Greater Manchester Nature Network have been developed made up of:

- Core local nature sites - existing valuable areas for nature which include our nature designations; and
- Nature Recovery Opportunity Areas - opportunity areas where action should be focused across the city-region.

14.7 Biodiversity will also be enhanced through developments including through the use of the statutory Biodiversity Net Gain tool, which can take account of the LNRS as well as through embedding Green Infrastructure generally.

Policy N1 - Protecting Nature

The borough's hierarchy for designated sites and wider ecological networks is identified below and will be safeguarded in line with national policy:

1. **Internationally designated sites including the Peak District Moors SPA; South Pennine Moors Phase 2 Special Protection Areas for Birds (SPAs) and South Pennine Moors Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and the Rochdale Canal SAC;**

2. **Nationally designated sites including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) at Dark Peak, South Pennine Moors, Ladcastle and Den Quarries, Lowside Brickworks, Rochdale Canal and Standedge Road Cutting;**

[103] This document can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/9526/gm-state-of-nature-report.pdf
[104] This document can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/our-plan-for-nature-recovery/

3. **Irreplaceable habitat including ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees and blanket bog;**

4. **Locally designated sites including Sites of Biological Importance (SBI's), Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) and Local Nature Reserves;**

5. **Sites that are not designated for nature but contain substantive nature conservation value of local significance including priority habitats and species and other protected species, such as peat which is capable of restoration to support notable habitats, green corridors and recreational routes.**

Avoiding significant harm includes protecting biodiversity on site, whilst also avoiding harmful impacts to biodiversity outside the development site from development.

Development will not be permitted where it would impact on the integrity of the above SAC/SPAs.

An ecological assessment will be required as part of the planning application where a site contains, adjoins or may impact on a site which contains nature as described in the above hierarchy.

Reasoned Justification

14.8 Designations for nature are shown on the policies map. New designations, such as Sites of Biological Importance (SBI), may be made over time, and these will be shown on an ecological layer on the Council's website to ensure the latest information can be reflected and accessed.

14.9 PfE Policy JP-G5 sets out that development is not permitted within 400 metres of the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs boundaries unless, as an exception, the development and/or its use would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC or SPAs. The South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs SPD sets out guidance on what the exceptions may include.

14.10 PfE Policy JP-G5 also sets out that within 2.5k of the SAC/SPAs boundaries developments are required to provide assessment to determine if the application site provides foraging habitats for the qualifying bird species of the SPAs. The South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs SPD provides further guidance on the assessment and mitigation.

14.11 Planning applications which are required to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment will need to consider air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss, within the Manchester Mosses SAC with reference to PfE Policy JP-C8 and the Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations SPD, as explained under Policy T5.

14.12 Where developers are required to assess the impact on an internationally designated site Natural England must be consulted and developers are encouraged to use Natural England's conservation advice for land-based protected sites.

14.13 Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs. Natural England has produced Impact Risk Zones, which can be viewed online, to give an initial indication of potential risks to SSSIs posed by development.

14.14 Irreplaceable habitat is defined in national planning policy as habitats which would be technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed, taking into account their age, uniqueness, species diversity or rarity. They

include ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees, blanket bog, limestone pavement, sand dunes, salt marsh and lowland fen. Maps of ancient woodland can be seen on Mapping GM.

14.15 There are currently 39 Sites of Biological Importance within Oldham and the number and extent of SBIs has gradually increased since 1984. The existing SBIs within Oldham are shown on Mapping Oldham and listed at Appendix 10.

14.16 Where a new SBI, RIGS or Local Nature Reserve is proposed, the Council will seek to designate these, where they do not conflict with other strategic objectives.

14.17 Green corridors are important for ecological movement and also assist recreational movement. They are shown on the policies map. Most green corridors overlap with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy nature network. Some parts of the green corridors will include areas already important for biodiversity – core areas including nature designations, where it will be important that the biodiversity hierarchy is applied. Maps of the green corridors can be found in Appendix 11.

14.18 There are also a number of strategic recreational routes across the borough and many of these also overlap with the LNRS nature network. Development proposals on sites affecting green corridors and recreational routes, will be permitted where they do not dissect the open land corridor into sections or harm the potential for wildlife or people's access and enjoyment of the corridor.

14.19 Some brownfield sites can be of high environmental value. Open mosaic habitats can be found on sites such as railway sidings, quarries, former industrial works and brick pits. Brownfield sites with open mosaic habitats show previous disturbance through soil being removed or severely modified by previous use, or the addition of materials such as industrial spoil, with spatial variation developing across the site. The variation results in a mosaic of different habitats being supported in close proximity. This habitat diversity can support rich assemblages of invertebrates, which has led to 'open mosaic habitats on previously developed land' being added to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) as a Priority habitat listed on Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act).

14.20 Restorable peat has an important role to play in supporting notable habitats (blanket bog, lowland raised bog and fens) but also for carbon storage. Peat is not currently an irreplaceable habitat however account should be taken on any national policy changes in relation to peat should this change. Whether peat is restorable will need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

14.21 A Peat Map for England has (May 2025) been published by Natural England. This may provide useful information when looking at proposals. Natural England may request on a case-by-case basis peat surveys to inform applications where they consider that development may affect deep peat masses either directly or indirectly and may request mitigation measures for impacts on peat. Where a peat survey is needed Natural England recommend that The Peatland Code Fields Protocol[105] is used.

14.22 There can sometimes be an overlap between different levels of nature designations, for example Glodwick Lows Local Nature Reserve contains a SSSI and a RIGS. Proposals

[105] The latest Peatland Code Field Protocol can be found at Peatland Code Field Protocol: Assessing eligibility, determining baseline condition category and monitoring change : NbS Knowledge Hub

must ensure that they satisfy all relevant policy, with the highest level of nature designations taking priority.

14.23 Priority habitats are shown on Natural England's Priority Habitats Inventory. Other protected species may be identified through the planning application process.

14.24 When determining impacts on nature conservation interests any requirement for species enhancements and management would need to be considered.

14.25 Mitigation measures can vary and will depend on the site and proposal. Mitigation measures may include setting appropriate buffer zones between development plots and biodiversity, the erection of screening barriers to protect from noise and dust, measures to reduce noise or light and managing recreational pressures. Buffer zones and other mitigation measures should seek to connect to the wider green infrastructure network.

14.26 Mitigation for rivers and streams may include adopting or extending green space buffers, restoration techniques such as de-canalising or de-culverting waterbodies, restoring lost floodplain connectivity, removing invasive non-native species, removing or modifying redundant weir structures or adopting true multifunctional SUDs solutions when designing new site surface water drainage schemes. These opportunities should be assessed early in design process.

14.27 Compensation may be secured through a planning condition or obligation covering the long-term management, monitoring and / or maintenance of the site.

Policy N2 - Restoring Nature

A net increase in biodiversity will be achieved across the borough. Development will have regard to the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy and should seek to support and deliver on the priorities and actions for nature recovery within the strategy.

The core local nature sites in our nature recovery network will be safeguarded and development will avoid harm to the core network in line with national planning policy. Where mitigation measures are considered, they should have regard to the priorities and actions within the LNRS and /or any actions within relevant management plans.

Development[106] on land within an opportunity area should seek to:

1. **Protect and enhance existing habitats; and**

2. **Restore and create habitats in a way that significantly improves connectivity within the development site and beyond.**

Where the opportunities arise to enhance connectivity, particular consideration should be given to:

3. **The expansion and enhancement of existing habitats;**

4. **The strategic creation and restoration of habitat to better connect existing habitats;**

[106] This is considered to apply to major and minor developments. Change of use and householder applications should consider other ways to incorporate biodiversity as set out in Policy N3.

5. **The design and layout of the development; and**

6. **Any infrastructure that could be detrimental to achieving enhanced connectivity, such as roads, buildings and other barriers to species movements (e.g. fences).**

The LNRS opportunity areas are to be regarded as being of strategic significance in terms of the Biodiversity Net Gain metric.

Where relevant development has demonstrated, following application of the biodiversity gain hierarchy, all reasonable opportunities to achieve measurable Biodiversity Net Gain of at least 10% onsite have been exhausted, the following principles apply to the selection off-site areas:

a. **Proximity to loss – there is an expectation that off-site areas will be located as close as possible to the development site, incentivised by the biodiversity metric's spatial risk multiplier, so that the area experiencing loss of biodiversity through the proposed development benefits from the compensation.**

b. **Best biodiversity value – offsite areas should be chosen in line with local priorities and actions for nature recovery, particularly those set out in the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy.**

Reasoned Justification

14.28 The core areas of the nature network include national and local nature designations and irreplaceable habitats and these are shown on the policies map. These are areas where nature is already recognised for its importance and this will therefore include parts of the hierarchy in Policy N1. Development will not be permitted that does not adequately address the principles on biodiversity as set out in national planning policy. If mitigation needs to be considered this should consider the priorities and actions within the LNRS but also any relevant conservation objectives or management plans that may be prepared.

14.29 Across Oldham the LNRS sets out opportunities (and which species the opportunities will support) for:

- Woodlands, Trees, Scrub and Hedgerow;
- Grasslands, Farmland and Lowland Heath;
- River, Canal and Waterbodies;
- Lowland, Wetland and Mossland;
- Upland Moorland; and
- Urban green spaces and buildings.

14.30 The LNRS also identifies local species particularly at risk and practical actions for the target species or species groups.

14.31 The LNRS opportunity areas are strategically identified areas that are crucial to developing a coherent nature recovery network across Greater Manchester, through expanding or joining up our core local nature sites. These opportunity areas have no existing statutory protection and have significant potential to become of particular importance for biodiversity. They represent the best areas to connect-up spaces for nature

across Greater Manchester and are where effort should be concentrated to achieve the most for biodiversity. Developments within opportunity areas should be ambitious for nature recovery.

14.32 The LNRS notes that high-impact invasive species, such as himalayan balsam, japanese knotweed and giant hogweed, and diseases, such as ash dieback, are found across Greater Manchester and impact upon the quality of our remaining habitats and their ability to support wildlife. The actions within the LNRS also include tackling invasive species.

14.33 For implementation of statutory Biodiversity Net Gain, the areas identified in the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy as areas that could become of particular importance for biodiversity (or "opportunity areas") are to be categorised as "formally identified in local strategy" for the purposes of scoring high strategic significance in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/biodiversity-net-gain/biodiversity-net-gain-in-greater-manchester/sets out this position.[107]

14.34 Applicants should also follow advice as set out in the Greater Manchester BNG Guidance[108] in addition to relevant regulations and legislation. This guidance outlines the biodiversity gain hierarchy which is to avoid adverse effects to on-site habitats firstly, mitigate any adverse effects which cannot be avoided and enhance and then create on-site habitat before looking at offsite solutions.

14.35 Where applicants are wishing to secure a third-party habitat bank via a Section 106 with the Council it is advised that they refer to the Greater Manchester Habitat Bank Verification and Auditing Guidance[109].

14.36 In addition, biodiversity mitigation / enhancements should not be located directly over water and wastewater assets or where excavation onto the asset would require removal of the biodiversity.

14.37 Planning applications for householders and change of use are currently not required to use the Biodiversity Metric to demonstrate net gain. Instead, applicants can provide a plan or statement for the measure(s) they will undertake. These measures could include nest boxes or the planting of a native tree species, should space allow. Alternatively, the applicant could consider donating to a third party to plant a tree such as the Woodland Trust, their local Wildlife Trust or City of Trees.

14.38 The loss of irreplaceable habitat should only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where bespoke compensation has been agreed. Any mitigation and/or compensation requirements for "Habitats Sites", other statutory designated sites or irreplaceable habitats should be dealt with separately from biodiversity net gain provision.

Oldham's Green Infrastructure

14.39 Green Infrastructure is an umbrella term used to describe a range of assets such as open spaces, playing fields, woodland (including ancient woodland), residential gardens, sustainable drainage features, trees, green roofs and walls and 'blue infrastructure', such as river corridors, ponds and canals, which all offer habitats for biodiversity.

[107] The Guidance Note can be found at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/biodiversity-net-gain/biodiversity-net-gain-in-greater-manchester/
[108] This document can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/biodiversity-net-gain/biodiversity-net-gain-in-greater-manchester/
[109] The Greater Manchester Habitat Bank Verification and Auditing Guidance is available at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/biodiversity-net-gain/biodiversity-net-gain-in-greater-manchester/.

14.40 Over 75% of Oldham consists of Green Infrastructure. This includes agriculture (25%), semi-natural habitat (18%), private gardens (12%), deciduous woodland (6%) and amenity space (6%). Although Green Infrastructure is extensive, we need to manage it more effectively to better respond to the needs of people and nature, and ensure it is resilient to the changing climate.

14.41 The vision for Oldham's Green Infrastructure is that by 2037, Oldham will be a carbon neutral exemplar with a resilient, multifunctional Green Infrastructure network which brings multiple benefits to the natural and built environment and provides a solid foundation for the Council's response to climate change. Oldham will be a greener and healthier place to live, work and visit.

Policy N3 - Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development

New development is expected to make an appropriate contribution to addressing local needs and opportunities for Green Infrastructure provision by retaining, enhancing and creating green spaces and corridors.

All development will make a proportionate contribution to Green Infrastructure, taking into account the scale and type of development. Opportunities for development to enhance Green Infrastructure include:

1. **Protecting and improving the Green Infrastructure network, including the ecological network, on and around the site through providing or enhancing functional links or corridors between different Green Infrastructure assets;**

2. **Providing new Green Infrastructure and/or introduce multifunctional use of existing green spaces in response to a site-specific assessment of need and Green Infrastructure opportunity;**

3. **Protecting existing high quality and multifunctional corridors, and where present, use opportunities for riparian development sites to create a high-quality river corridor and Green Infrastructure asset; and**

4. **Aligning with the priorities and actions set out in the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy.**

Developments for 20 homes[110] or more, or non-residential development of 1,000 square metres or more, will be required, where appropriate, to:

5. **Enhance the landscape setting of the site by improving the character, appearance and condition of access corridors into the site, gateways, settlement edges and landscape features, including historic environment assets;**

6. **Enhance pedestrian and cycle connectivity between residential areas, town centres, schools and workplaces, outdoor sports, tourism and recreational facilities, public transport services and the countryside around the site; and**

7. **Facilitate for the production of food (e.g. allotments and community gardens) within residential or mixed-use developments.**

[110] Developments of 20 homes and above or those of 1,000sqm and above are of an appropriate size and scale to accommodate meaningful green infrastructure as part of the development. A higher number of homes can justify the additional requirements for green infrastructure.

Major developments[111] should use the latest version of the national Urban Greening Factor calculator, or equivalent, to demonstrate that the development will achieve Urban Greening Factor scores, or equivalent, of at least:

a. 0.3 for developments that are predominantly commercial; and

b. 0.4 for developments that are predominantly residential.

An operation and maintenance plan must also be included which satisfactorily demonstrates that the green features will be successfully retained throughout the life of the development.

Applications for householder and changes of use are not required to meet the above criteria but are expected to protect and aim to enhance Green Infrastructure and incorporate practical measures to support biodiversity such as swift bricks, hedgehog highways, bat boxes or access tiles and living walls. Applicants should provide a statement detailing the measures that will be incorporated.

Reasoned Justification

14.42 Development should have regard to the Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy[112], including the assessment of Green Infrastructure functions, needs and opportunities set out within the following seven priority themes:

1. thriving wildlife for Oldham;
2. carbon neutral Oldham;
3. healthy and active communities;
4. green access for all;
5. distinctive landscapes;
6. slowing the flow and a quality water environment; and
7. sustainable growth and green jobs.

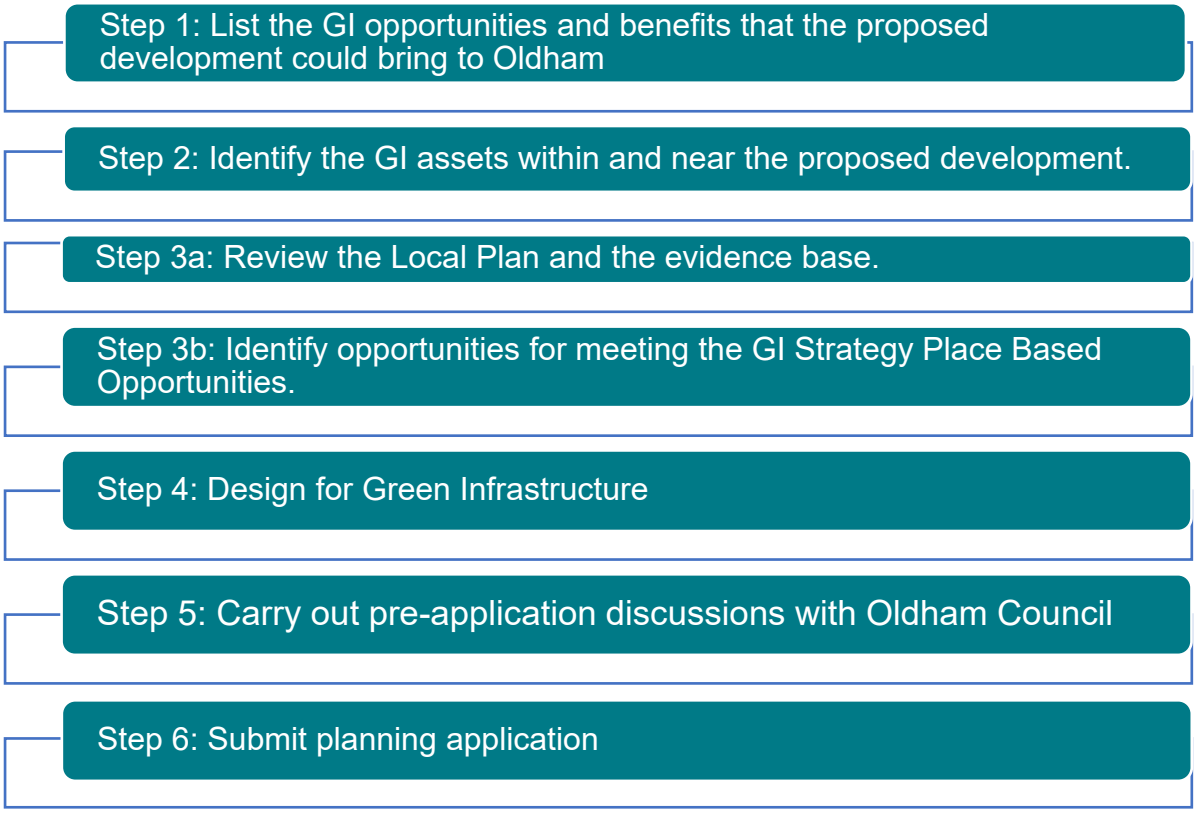
14.43 Green Infrastructure assets can each serve one or more functions. Development should aim to incorporate Green Infrastructure assets that are multi-functional by supporting as many of the above themes as possible.

14.44 The Green Infrastructure Strategy provides an up-to-date assessment of current Green Infrastructure provision and opportunities using existing data sets. The spatial data sets produced within the Green Infrastructure Strategy, highlight opportunity areas aligned to local need and can be used to guide development decisions.

14.45 The Green Infrastructure Strategy proposes place-based opportunities including Nature Recovery Networks and some of these are these are shown on the Green Infrastructure Network and Opportunity Map[113].

14.46 The Green Infrastructure Strategy sets out a step-by-step guide as to how to implement the strategy when considering a development proposal. An outline of the steps is set out below:

[111] The definition for Major Developments is set out in national planning policy.
[112] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2183/oldham_green_infrastructure_strategy
[113] This map can be found at: https://maps.oldham.gov.uk/webmap/?initialDialog=layersDialog&mapName=Green_Infrastructure



14.47 Development proposals are expected to protect the ecological network and where possible extend or enhance this network.

14.48 The Council will seek to improve the green infrastructure network by requiring that development proposals adjacent to green corridors and recreational routes provide an extension or link between green corridors and routes.

14.49 The Urban Greening Factor (UGF) is a planning tool to improve the provision of Green Infrastructure (GI) particularly in urban areas and can be used to contribute towards BNG, the Local Nature Recovery strategy and Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy. The target scores reflect the recommended targets by Natural England.

14.50 Urban Greening Factor requirements should be considered at the earliest possible stage of design development alongside mandatory BNG requirements to ensure these requirements are considered from the outset of design.

14.51 Applicants should set out in a statement detail of how this policy has been incorporated into the design of proposals. Account may also be taken of Sport England's Active Design Principles[114] and the voluntary use of other standards such as Building with Nature.

14.52 Riparian development sites can contribute to creating a high-quality river corridor by considering opportunities for creating a continuous and enlarged open space adjacent to the rivers; removing poor quality buildings that encroach up to the bank top of watercourses; restoring heavily canalised or culverted waterbodies; removing or

[114] Sport England's Active Design Principles can be found at: https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design

modifying redundant weirs; reconnecting a river to its floodplain; and removing invasive non-native species. Further policy on water quality is included within PfE.

14.53 Landscaping proposals, including proposals for tree-lined streets, should be integrated with the strategy for sustainable surface water management.

14.54 Landscaping proposals including changes in levels and proposals for ecological mitigation, will have regard to the impact on existing utility infrastructure.

14.55 Where on-site Green Infrastructure provision is not feasible, the Council will, where reasonable, seek developer contributions either towards the improvement of existing green spaces or towards the provision of new Green Infrastructure in an area of need.

14.56 Where compensation is required for the loss of existing Green Infrastructure, then the provision of new or enhanced Green Infrastructure as required by the scale of the development should be in addition to the requirement for compensation.

14.57 The Council will also seek developer contributions for the future management and maintenance of Green Infrastructure, where appropriate.

14.58 For minor applications such as householder and change of use the Local Nature Recovery Strategy outlines actions that can help enhance nature such as supporting species by installing homes for wildlife and reduce barriers to species movements across and between gardens.

14.59 This is supported by national planning guidance which states developments should integrate nest boxes (swift bricks), where possible.

Increasing Tree Cover

14.60 The National Tree Mapping dataset confirms that the average canopy cover across the borough is 13.4%. The Green Infrastructure Strategy highlights each wards canopy cover and notes the absence of tree canopy in some of the more elevated areas of Saddleworth and Shaw wards due to the presence of peatland habitat where large areas of tree planting is not always suitable.

14.61 The Green Infrastructure Strategy recommends the tree canopy should aim for 20% cover, taking account of the retention of existing trees and the future canopy growth of trees to be planted as part of the landscape for the site (The exception to this is in parts of the Shaw and Saddleworth wards, where the existing peatland habitat takes precedence).

14.62 Therefore, it is important as well as planting new trees that existing trees are protected. Where they do need to be replaced this needs to contribute towards this target.

14.63 PfE Policy JP-G7 requires replacement trees on the basis of two new trees for each tree lost, or other measures that would also result in a net enhancement in the character and quality of the treescape and biodiversity value in the local area, with a preference for on-site provision. The below policy incorporates two new trees as a minimum but adds further detail to ensure a net enhancement locally.

Policy N4 - Trees

Development proposals are required to aim to protect and retain tree cover within a development site. Developments will:

1. **Demonstrate how existing trees and hedgerows and their health have been retained, wherever possible, through careful siting and design, which avoids overshadowing of development;**
2. **As appropriate, having regard to its scale and nature, contribute to increasing the borough's tree canopy cover and its multi-functional benefits. This should take account of the Green Infrastructure Strategy, the GM LNRS, BNG metric and competing land uses which take precedence such as restorable peat.**

The loss of or damage to trees may only be justified where:

1. **Adequate replacement planting is proposed; and**
2. **It is demonstrated that the tree is dead, dying or dangerous; or**
3. **The tree is causing significant damage to structures; or**
4. **The tree has little or no amenity value; or**
5. **It has been demonstrated that all suitable options to retain the tree have been explored and its retention is not possible as part of the development; or**
6. **Felling the tree is considered good arboricultural practice.**

There will be a presumption against development that causes loss of or deterioration to ancient woodland, and ancient and veteran trees.

The Council will use a fixed number system to secure new trees in replacement for those to be removed. The number of replacement trees required will depend on the stem diameter of the tree proposed for removal as shown in Table N1. The requirement will apply to A and B category trees, category C trees will be replaced on a 2:1 basis in accordance with PfE.

Table N1: A and B Category Tree Replacement Requirements

Trunk Diameter of tree proposed for removal (mm measured in line with BS5837 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction')	Number of replacement trees required
75-199mm	2
200 – 299mm	3
300-399mm	4
400-499mm	5
500-599mm	6
600-699mm	7
700-799mm	8
800mm+	9

Veteran/Ancient/Historic / Exceptional	Case by case based on CAVAT value and current government, Woodland Trust and Ancient Tree Forum guidance.

Reasoned Justification

14.64 Size class distribution is an important factor in managing a sustainable tree population, as this will ensure that there are enough young trees to replace those older specimens that are eventually lost through old age or disease. The majority of trees in Oldham are in the lowest size categories, 72% of the trees recorded have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of less than 30cm, whilst around 40% of the trees have diameters less than 15cm. Across Oldham approximately 28% of the tree population is larger than 30cm dbh. This compares favourably with cities and towns in other regions of England, where the Trees in Towns 2 survey found that on average only 10–20% of trees have a dbh that is greater than 30cm. Large mature trees offer unique ecological roles not offered by smaller or younger trees. Furthermore, older trees with larger crowns provide greater benefits than a similar number of smaller sized trees.

14.65 To maintain or increase a level of mature trees, young trees are needed to restock the larger size classes (with surplus) to include planning for mortality. Therefore, the tree replacement requirements aims to retain mature trees by having a higher number of trees that would be required if a more mature tree was lost or damaged rather than a blanket approach of 2:1. This approach aims to ensure developments avoids loss of trees, particularly mature trees, where possible.

14.66 Section 4.5 of BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations' describes the different tree categories - Category A (trees of high quality); Category B (Trees of moderate quality); and Category C (Trees of low quality).

14.67 BS 5837 also describes how only trees with a DBH of 75mm or above are to be included within BS 5837 Tree Surveys, hence why the ratios start at 75mm.

14.68 Exceptional trees could include rare, unusual, commemorative trees or trees with significant conservation or ecological value.

14.69 In accordance with national planning policy, development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists. Where it is necessary to remove Veteran/Ancient/Historic or Exceptional trees compensation will be considered on a case by case basis using CAVAT (Capital Asset Valuation of Amenity Trees) value as well as current government guidance[115], Woodland Trust and Ancient Tree Forum guidance. A sum would be paid as a commuted sum to the Council for tree planting improvements across Oldham.

14.70 CAVAT provides a method for managing trees as public assets rather than liabilities. It is designed not only to be a strategic tool and aid to decision-making in relation to the tree stock as a whole, but also to be applicable to individual cases, where the value of a single tree needs to be expressed in monetary terms.

14.71 Replacement trees will be a minimum of 12-14cm girth trees (Containerised – bag-grown or root balled). Watering and maintenance must be included until trees are established in the landscape. Where replacement trees cannot be provided on site a contribution will

[115] Government guidance on ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees can be found at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-ancient-trees-and-veteran-trees-advice-for-making-planning-decisions

need to be paid to the Council. Trees will be planted and managed in accordance with BS8545 – Trees: form Nursery to Independence in the Landscape – Recommendations.

14.72 Species and locations for planting should be appropriate and agreed by the Council's Arboricultural and Countryside Team and where necessary highways.

14.73 Where the tree replacement requirements are not already met in full by biodiversity net gain requirements, development will still be expected to meet the tree replacement standard on-site or off-site through an appropriate legal agreement.

14.74 Where an applicant has demonstrated that replacement trees cannot be accommodated within the development site the Council will consider a monetary payment as part of a section 106 agreement so that the required trees can be planted on land nearby or where priorities are highest across Oldham. In these cases, the value per tree will be commensurate with the latest landscape institute figures for tree replacements (£412.00 – 2022).

14.75 Planning applications must include an accurate survey of the location, size, condition and species of all trees on the site and whether the trees are used by bats or breeding birds. One should not fell trees before the planning application is granted in order to fully consider the retention of trees and the policy aim.

14.76 Where trees are to be retained on a development site, buildings must be located at a sufficient distance to preserve levels of amenity for future users of the property, particularly in the case of residential development, and rear gardens must not be unduly overshadowed. It will be a planning requirement, secured by condition, that adequate measures are taken to protect trees during construction.

14.77 Landscaping proposals including proposals for tree-lined streets should be integrated with the strategy for sustainable surface water management.

14.78 Local authority consent must be obtained to carry out works to a tree with a TPO on it. Permission must also be obtained to fell or prune trees within conservation areas. Decisions are usually made within six weeks.

14.79 The Council may take out Tree Preservation Orders on sites with significant tree cover as development proposals for sites emerge.

14.80 Applicants should not fell trees in order to degrade the development site. As well as seeking to avoid loss of biodiversity existing trees should be taken into account in the biodiversity net gain metric. Where there is evidence that the existing tree cover of a site has been deliberately reduced prior to the application being submitted, the number of replacement trees required will be calculated based on the number of trees that existed on the site immediately prior to those activities taking place.

Monitoring

14.81 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented
- Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates)
- Percentage of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation
- Percentage of tree canopy cover

14.82 In addition, Biodiversity Duty Reports will be prepared including information on BNG.

14.83 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Gross area of new habitat created from the application of biodiversity net gain
- Number, area and condition of sites of biological importance (SBIs)
- Number of trees planted annually (metric to be determined with respect to tree planting programmes and on-site delivery as a result of planning decisions where available)

15 Oldham's Historic Environment

15.1 Building a Better Oldham seeks to ensure we are building quality homes; providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills; to grow local businesses and create jobs; ensuring Oldham is the greenest borough and improving health and well-being. The historic environment can contribute towards each of these objectives.

15.2 Heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource that should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance so they can be enjoyed for their contribution to quality of life.

15.3 Oldham with its hugely significant industrial past is rich in history and heritage with both designated and non-designated assets. In particular, the clusters of mills contributing to Oldham's landscape character, giving the borough an exceptionally strong identity and sense of place[116].

15.4 The Local Plan sets out a positive strategy for heritage. Two areas that the Local Plan has focussed on is a strategy for the boroughs non-designated mills[117] and an appraisal and management plan to enhance Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area with the aim of removing the conservation area from the 'at risk' register[118].

15.5 The borough of Oldham is characterised by rich and diverse heritage that plays an important part of Oldham's identity. Significant historic buildings, industrial townscapes, and landscapes amid the South Pennines, make up and provide a multitude of designated and non-designated heritage assets. Therefore, new development will be sought in a way that compliments and respects this rich history. Consisting of the historic buildings, conservation areas, parks and gardens, archaeology, waterways, areas of distinct local character and townscapes. The Local Plan seeks to proactively manage change and move forward, whilst reflecting the borough's capacity to preserve its irreplaceable heritage.

Policy HE1 – The Historic Environment

Development proposals that positively conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting, will be supported by the Council. In addition to fulfilling its statutory obligations, and working with partners we will:

1. **Secure the preservation and enhancement of Oldham's heritage assets;**
2. **Promote and support heritage-led regeneration and development;**
3. **Produce or update conservation area appraisals and management plans;**
4. **Continue to enhance Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area with the aim of removing it from the 'at risk' register;**

[116] Information on mill clusters can be found within the Oldham Mills Strategy, including the landscape overview available at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy
[117] Oldham Mills Strategy can be found at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy
[118] The Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan can be found at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

5. **Manage development proposals affecting conservation areas and ensure that elements which contribute to a conservation area's special character and appearance are preserved and enhanced;**

6. **Seek to identify and acknowledge local non designated heritage assets;**

7. **Work positively to help implement the Oldham Mills Strategy to safeguard the future of heritage assets at risk;**

8. **Protect and enable restoration and appreciation of the canals; and**

9. **Maximise opportunities to increase the understanding and interpretation of the borough's historic environment.**

Reasoned Justification

15.6 As a result of Oldham's extensive and evolving past, the borough has a rich historic environment. Oldham's heritage can be traced back for nearly 10,000 years, with worked stone tools from the Mesolithic period found in the eastern part of the borough. The Bowl Barrow of Knarr Barn, provides important information on the diversity of beliefs and social organisations amongst early prehistoric communities, thus being worthy of protection as a scheduled monument. The further scheduled monument in Oldham is the Roman Fort of Castleshaw. This fort served as permanent bases for auxiliary units of the Roman Army and provides important information on the early occupation of the north of England.

15.7 Changes in the division of land in the 16th century resulted in the escalation of farming and their associated farm complexes, folds and workers cottages. However, over time land sizes shrunk and thus profits reduced, pushing the production and sale of textiles. The emergence of independent yeoman clothiers saw the development of grander, wealthy clothier houses and by the mid 1700's rows of weavers' cottages to house the small communities of people dependent on the textile industry. Many significant examples of such are still seen across Saddleworth and are designated as listed buildings. Local market centres, such as Greenfield, Shaw and Delph were established and places such as Uppermill development on important trade routes. Many of which are now designated as conservation areas.

15.8 Through Industrialisation, a large number of water powered cotton and woollen mills were built on the rivers Irk and Irwell. With the development of steam power, resulting in large multi storey mills and associated terraced housing, to accommodate industrial workers, that had a major impact on the landscape across Oldham. Although many existing mills are designated heritage assets, the Oldham Mills Strategy[119] aims to safeguard the remaining mill stock that is non designated. The associated development of transport, such as canals and railways, had a significant impact on the industry and landscape of the district and are still evidenced across the borough. Including the listed Uppermill Viaduct and the historic canals. These assets should be protected, restored where needed and appreciated for the role they played.

15.9 In the late 1800's/ early 1900's Oldham Town Centre adopted a commercial and civic identity. A new market, civic buildings, banks, arcades, hotels and shops were built. However, the industry decline of the early 20th century and economic depression led to unemployment and thus vacancy and degradation of these grand buildings.

[119] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

15.10 Additionally, during Oldham's prosperity, middle class suburbs developed on the fringes of the historic core. Some of these around public parks with formal layouts, landscaping and structures such as the registered Alexandra Park and Garden and surrounding conservation area. Remaining large detached and semi-detached homes represent an early element of suburbanisation which helps to increase the understanding and interpretation of the borough's historic environment.

15.11 It is therefore essential that the most important elements of Oldham's historic environment are protected as positive assets whilst contributing to the ongoing growth of the borough. Therefore, change must come forward in a managed way and be informed by a proper understanding of the evidential, historic, aesthetic and communal significance of these heritage assets.

15.12 The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990[120] sets out statutory duties and responsibilities in relation to designated heritage assets, their listing and protection. It also outlines the procedures for the designation and management of conservation areas. Part I deals with listed buildings and Part II deals with conservation areas. The act includes controls for the demolition, alteration or extension of buildings, objects, or structures of particular architectural or historic interest, as well as conservation areas.

15.13 In addition, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979[121] provides specific protection for monuments of national interest and The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953[122] makes provision for the compilation of a register of gardens and other land (parks and gardens, and battlefields).

15.14 A Greater Manchester Local Heritage Listing Project is also underway and is being coordinated by Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS). The aim is to identify and recognise non designated heritage assets that make a significant contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of an area and place them on a local list. The Local List will be added to the Council's website when completed.

15.15 The Historic Environment Record (HER) is currently being updated and digitised by Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service. Details of where this can be accessed will be added to the Council's website when available.

Policy HE2 - Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets

Development proposals will be supported which sustain and enhance heritage assets and their settings. The Council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and sensitive restoration.

Proposals will be assessed in line with national planning policy having regard to circumstances of the case. Proposals affecting a designated heritage asset (or an archaeological site of national importance) and its setting should identify the degree of harm to the significance of the designated heritage asset.

[120] This Act can be found at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents
[121] This Act can be found at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46/contents
[122] This Act can be found at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/1-2/49/contents

Harm to designated heritage assets will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.

The Council will take a proactive approach to secure the appropriate restoration or maintenance of heritage assets at risk, including enforcement action which includes compulsory purchase orders, urgent works notices, repair notices and dangerous structure notices, where appropriate.

Development will be supported where it is designed sympathetically having regard to the significance of the asset, its character, features and setting.

Development proposals affecting an archaeological site of less than national importance is required to conserve those elements which contribute to their significance in line with the importance of the remains. Where developments affecting such sites are acceptable in principle, the following approach will be followed:

1. **Mitigation of damage will be ensured through the preservation of archaeological features in situ as a preferred solution; and**

2. **In cases where the balanced judgement concludes preservation in situ is not justified and should not be pursued, it will be a requirement that they are appropriately excavated and recorded, before or during development. Subsequent analysis, publication and dissemination of the findings will be required to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and deposited with the Historic Environment Record.**

Applications, which will affect an archaeological site of either less than national importance or of national importance, should submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

Proposals that would result in the total or partial loss of a heritage asset, will require the full recording of the heritage asset and the record and commentary deposited with the Local Planning Authority and the Historic Environment Record.

Applications affecting heritage assets and their setting should be fully justified and accompanied by full information necessary to assess the impact of the proposals on the heritage asset. Proposals that affect heritage assets will require the submission of a Heritage Statement (which may form part of a Design and Access Statement) proportionate to the asset's significance.

The statement should:

a. describe the significance of the asset, including its setting;

b. assess the impact / identified harm the proposal has on its significance; and

c. provide clear and convincing justification for the proposed works that outweigh any identified harm.

Reasoned Justification

15.16 The Council will work supportively with applicants on proposals to ensure the continued use of heritage assets, particularly where they are 'at-risk' or vulnerable to ensure that Oldham's distinctive character is maintained, that heritage assets play a role in helping

to meet our development needs and that heritage can be an asset for future generations to enjoy.

15.17 The Council will take a proactive approach to secure the appropriate restoration or maintenance of heritage assets at risk, including enforcement action which includes compulsory purchase orders, urgent works notices, repair notices and dangerous structure notices, where appropriate. The owners of heritage assets are encouraged to be proactive in seeking grant funding opportunities.

15.18 The setting of a heritage asset is the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral. The Council will support opportunities within new developments to enhance the setting of heritage assets for example removal or replacement of negative buildings with better design, introducing new views that add to public experience or improving public access to, or interpretation of, the asset and its setting. Applicants should follow guidance set out in Historic England Good Practice Advice Planning Note 3 (The Setting of Heritage Assets)[123].

15.19 Significance is defined as the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. The Council recognises the valuable contributions that heritage assets make to the borough, therefore, a clear understanding of the significance of these assets should be presented as part of any planning application. Historic England's Advice Note 12[124] provides guidance on analysing significance in line with national planning policy.

15.20 National planning policy identifies the degree of harm (from a designated assets alteration, destruction, or from development within its setting) as either 'total loss', 'substantial harm' or 'less than substantial harm'. Within each category, the extent of harm may vary and must be clearly articulated and justified by the applicant. Appendix 12 expands further from the national planning policy to try and help towards a potential further understanding of the scale of harm that can be used to assess the degree of harm to an asset's significance.

15.21 In terms of public benefits these could be anything that flows from the proposed development and delivers economic, social and/or environmental objectives of a scale that would make a positive contribution to the local surrounding area in terms of tackling any local issues such as low income, health deprivation, skills attainment and employment levels as well as enhancement of the environment, having regard to strategic opportunities such as those identified in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy or the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy[125].

15.22 A range of supporting evidence can be considered when considering heritage assets to enhance or better reveal their significance. These can include Landscape Character Assessments, conservation area appraisals and management plans, urban design frameworks, masterplans and design codes.

[123] This document can be found at: https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/
[124] This document can be found at: https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/statements-heritage-significance-advice-note-12/
[125] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2183/oldham_green_infrastructure_strategy

15.23 When undertaking a Heritage Statement, the Historic Environment Record should be consulted as a minimum and the Council would expect applicants to liaise with Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service, in addition to any further available evidence and expertise. The Council would expect to see which heritage assets and their settings are affected, a thorough understanding of the significance of the asset and its settings; and how significance has been considered and reflected in any proposal to ensure harm is minimised and enhancement maximised.

15.24 Historic England maintains the Heritage at Risk register[126]. The register identifies assets that are most at risk of being lost as a result of neglect, decay or inappropriate development. The register is intended as a way to focus on the heritage assets that are at greatest risk and that offer the best opportunities for positive development.

15.25 The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act provides the Council with powers to intervene where heritage within the borough is at risk. Additionally, masterplans and development frameworks should look for opportunities to use vacant heritage assets and improve the condition where they are deteriorating.

15.26 A Local List is currently being prepared and should be consulted when considering proposals for non-designated heritage assets. Occasionally, a new, undesignated asset - usually archaeological - will be found in the course of investigating a site or preparing it for development. Further investigation is usually required to understand the significance of the heritage asset, particularly archaeological sites. Development proposals which may affect archaeological heritage assets shall be informed by sufficient evidence. Information on archaeology and the planning systems can be found in Historic England's Advice Note 17 'Planning and Archaeology'[127] (or any subsequent updates).

15.27 Where potential heritage assets have not been included on the HER, they will be assessed according to the criteria set out for local listing in Historic England's Guidance Note 'Local Heritage Listing: Historic England Advice Note 7[128]', or subsequent national guidance.

15.28 Where proposals are likely to affect significant archaeological sites of known importance, or those that become apparent through the development management process, background research followed up by archaeological investigation will be required prior to their determination.

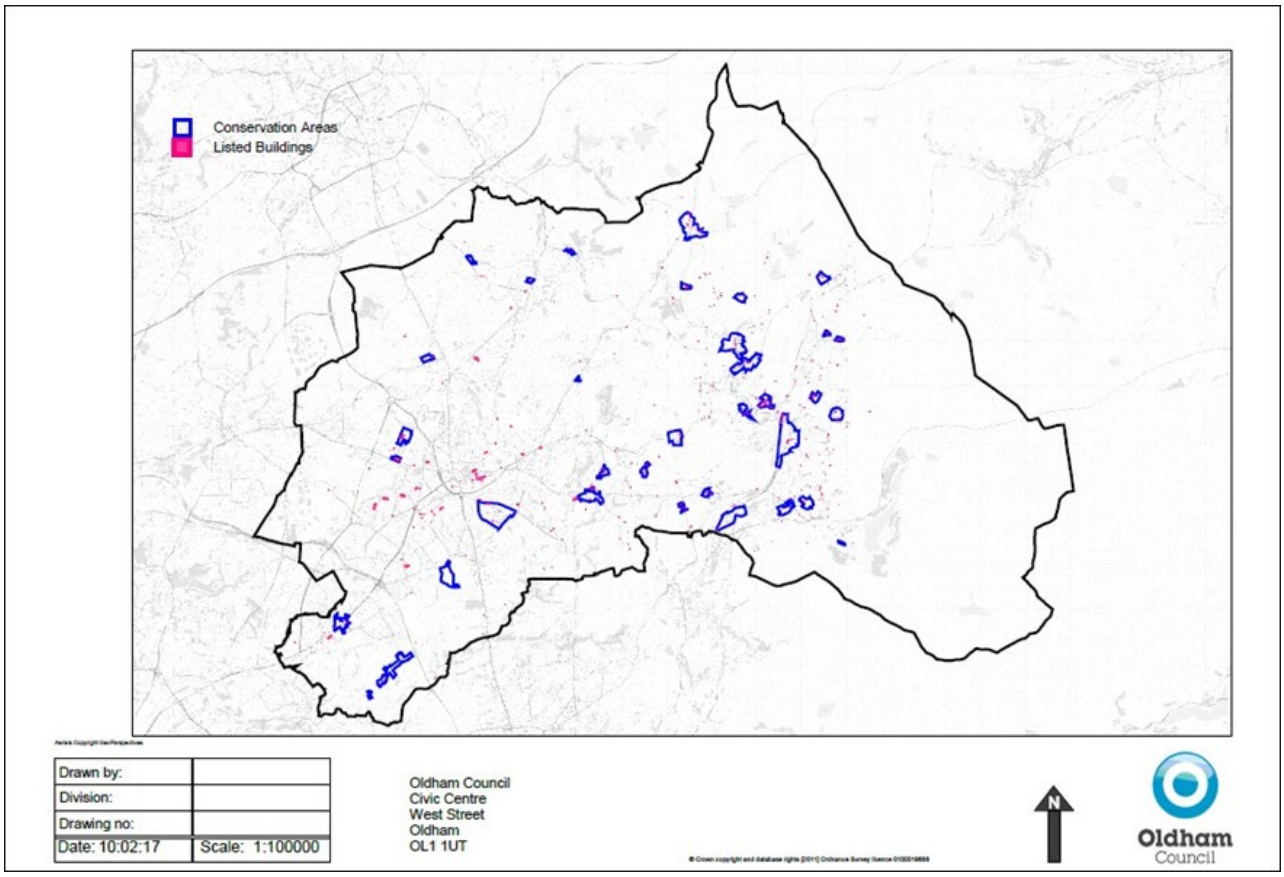
Conservation Areas

15.29 There are 36 conservation areas in the borough covering 250.79 hectares. The existing conservation areas were designated in the 1970s and 1980s and with the exception of Oldham Town Centre would benefit from updated appraisals and management plans, particularly as 20 conservation areas in the borough are 'vulnerable'. Management Plans will ensure that identified risks are appropriately managed to prevent further conservation areas from being identified on the 'at risk' register.

15.30 The existing conservation areas are shown on Figure HE1 below and will be shown on the policies map.

[126] For the latest Historic England at risk register please visit: https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/
[127] This document can be found at: https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/planning-archaeology-advice-note-17
[128] This document can be found at: https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/

Figure HE1: Oldham's Existing Conservation Areas



Policy HE3 - Development Proposals Affecting Conservation Areas

Impact on Conservation Areas:

Proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance especially any elements identified in Conservation Area Appraisals as making a positive contribution to the significance of that area.

Proposals that would result in the loss of a building or other element which make a positive contribution to the significance of the conservation area will be treated as substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) or less than substantial harm. Proposals leading to substantial harm will not be supported unless exceptional[129] circumstances apply. If the harm is less than substantial, this will be weighed against any public benefit that the same development might make.

Proposals within a conservation area or affecting the setting should:

1. **be of high quality, which respects and reflects the character and appearance of the conservation area and should be of appropriate scale, density, height, form, massing, layout, plot position, materials, colours, composition and detailed design. Imitation of earlier styles is not encouraged.**

[129] See national planning policy.

2. **retain original building plots, where their relationship with the pattern of development and other plots makes a positive contribution to the character or appearance of the conservation area;**

3. **protect existing street patterns, open spaces, walls, railings, materials and other elements that are an integral part of the conservation area; and**

4. **carefully consider the consequent changes to a use of a building, including amongst others, delivery access, parking, and external services, such as condensing units. Changes that have a detrimental impact on the conservation area will not be permitted.**

Shopfronts, retail frontages and signage within Conservation Areas:

5. **New shopfronts will be in-keeping with the character and appearance of the host building and relate to the design of the upper parts of the facade;**

6. **New shopfronts within historic buildings will preserve those elements that contribute to the traditional character of the building including historic corbels, pilasters, fascias and stall risers, or seek to reinstate them where missing. Size, scale, elaborate or simple design and detailing, the use of correct materials and colour schemes must all be considered in making shopfronts acceptable;**

7. **Signage will be sensitively designed and integrated into the shopfront and streetscene;**

8. **Signage should relate to its character, scale and architectural features, avoiding dominating the building façade;**

9. **Proposals are required to avoid internally illuminated box fascia or projecting signs;**

10. **Shop signs will be located at fascia level and follow the pattern within the street, avoiding high level signs;**

11. **The location of signage on non-retail buildings must be carefully considered so as to not harm the appearance of the building;**

12. **Opportunities should be taken to remove detracting elements of shopfronts and signage; and**

13. **Solid external security roller shutters will not be permitted unless the need for them can be robustly justified. Lattice grilles or internal roller shutters would be acceptable alternatives.**

Applications affecting the character or appearance and / or the setting of a conservation area will be required to submit a Heritage Statement.

Applicants are required to take into account statutory provisions for the protection of trees.

Reasoned Justification

15.31 The total loss of a building or element (for example open space) that makes a positive contribution to a conservation area would not be supported unless exceptional circumstances have been demonstrated, for example if the proposal allows an asset back into viable use or the loss of an asset that would better reveal or enhance another asset or the character, appearance and / or setting of the conservation area. A positive building or element may be listed or unlisted. Nearly all conservation areas within the borough have listed assets within them. Development proposals should seek to preserve the elements of the conservation area which make a positive contribution and should aim to enhance any neutral and negative contributions. There will be the presumption that only negative or neutral buildings or elements will be permitted for demolition where the public benefits outweigh the loss.

15.32 It is felt that some policies from the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) SPD[130] are applicable to many other conservation areas and therefore specific policies on shop fronts and signage (for example a conservation area including a centre) and new development have been incorporated into the local plan as the CAAMP highlighted that poor signage and shopfronts can be very detracting features therefore affecting the significance of conservation areas as well as the amenity of the area. Solid external roller shutters will not be permitted unless the need for them can be robustly justified, for example through details of unreasonable increases in insurance costs.

15.33 Trees in conservation areas are covered by Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act. Anyone wishing to carry out works to a tree in a conservation area must notify the local planning authority through a 'section 211 notice'. This may or may not result in a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) being made. Consent must be obtained, unless covered by exceptions, to carry out works to trees covered by a TPO from the Council.

15.34 Development proposals should have regard to any existing and future conservation areas appraisals and management plans.

15.35 The Council may also designate further conservation areas, where justified by robust appraisals.

Oldham's Textile Mills

15.36 The Oldham Mills Strategy was commissioned by Oldham Council and Historic England in order to develop a positive strategy for the sustainable future of the textile mill stock across Oldham. This work complements Historic England's wider project Mills of the North.

15.37 The Oldham Mills Strategy identifies the non-designated mills across Oldham which are of particular landscape and heritage value and sets out a robust strategy to ensure their sustainable future, which considers their potential for future development focussing on residential and employment uses.

15.38 This is also part of our positive approach to making the most efficient use of brownfield land and existing buildings, reducing the need for additional pressure on greenfield sites and reducing our carbon footprint. The reuse of mills can add to local

[130] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/1599/oldham_town_centre_conservation_area_appraisal_and_management_plan_caamp_supplementary_planning_document_spd

distinctiveness as part of place making, attract investment and help retain Oldham's strong identity and culture.

Policy HE4 - Oldham's Mills

The Council will proactively support, through planning decisions and in fulfilling its wider functions, proposals that establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair. Development proposals affecting Oldham's mill stock will need to be supported by a robust assessment of viability, heritage significance and structural and building condition, in line with the findings of the Mills Strategy.

Proposals should retain those elements of the mill stock which contribute to the local identity and sense of place of Oldham and ensure they are appropriately conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. Development proposals will be assessed having regard to the following criteria relevant to the identified level of priority and clusters contained within the Oldham Mills Strategy.

High Priority Mills:

The high priority mills make a clear positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness and are identified as non-designated heritage assets. The Council will support applications which include the retention and reuse of the identified high priority mills and all associated buildings and structures. Proposals which would remove, harm or undermine the significance of a high priority mill or its contribution to local distinctiveness and sense of place will be permitted only where the public benefits of the development would outweigh the harm.

Medium Priority Mills:

The Council will actively encourage and support applications that include the retention and reuse of identified medium priority mills and associated buildings and structures. Development proposals that include the alteration, extension or demolition of any medium priority mills and their associated buildings will need to demonstrate with clear justification, in relation to the significance and setting of the asset and identified public benefits.

Low Priority Mills:

The identified low priority mills are generally considerably altered and make a limited contribution to local distinctiveness and sense of place. Development proposals involving the comprehensive redevelopment of low priority mills and / or their retention will be supported in principle subject to compliance with other policies of the Local Plan.

Table HE1: Mills Level of Priority

Priority	Mills
High Priority Mills	Ace Mill (Gorse Mill No.2); Bell Mill; Briar Mill; Cairo Mill; Earl Mill; Falcon Mill; Gorse Mill No.1;

Priority	Mills
	Heron Mill; Ivy Mill; Longrange Mill (Orme Mill); Majestic Mill (Lower Mill); Malta Mill; Marlborough (No.1) Mill; Osborne Mill; Ram Mill; Rasping Mill (Valley Mill); Raven Mill; Slackcote Mill; Swan Mill; Warth Mill (Wharf Mill); and Werneth Mill (Henley Street / Featherstall Road North)
Medium Priority Mills	Adelaide Mill (Hartfold Old Works); Albert Mill; Austerlands Mill; Belgrave Mill; Delta Mill; Duke Mill; Fountain Mill; Gatehead Mill; Grape Mill; Haybottoms Mill; Jubilee Mill; Jubilee Mill (Fulling) (Woodbottom Mill); Knarr Mill; Lilac Mill; Lumb Mill; Oak View Mills; Pingle Mill (Pringle Mill); Stockfield Mill; Thornham Mill; Vale Mill (Chamber Road); Vine Mill; Waterside Mill; and Wellington Mill (Knoll Mill)
Low Priority Mills	Alliance Mill; Bee Mill; Britannia Mill; Dob Lane End Mill; Forge Mill; Greengate Mill; Kinders Lane Mill[131]; Lane End Mill (Royton Lane Mill); Morton Mill;

[131] Kinders Lane Mills scored medium on the heritage assessment and therefore planning applications for these mills must be accompanied by heritage statements proportionate to the heritage significance to provide clear justification for the proposed approach and applicants should consider incorporating social significance into the scheme.

Priority	Mills
	Prince of Wales Mill[132]; Springfield Mill; Springfield Works; Vale Mill (Stockfield Road); Werneth Mill (Manchester Road); and Woodend Mill

Mill Clusters:

The clustering of particular groups of mills provides a unique character to the local landscape and give Oldham an exceptionally strong sense of place and local distinctiveness. The Council will support applications which retain mills and their associated buildings that have been identified as contributing to an identified cluster.

Cluster 1 – Briar Mill, Lilac Mill and Duke Mill;

Cluster 2 – Majestic Mill, Cairo Mill and Longrange Mill;

Cluster 3 – Manor Mill, Werneth Mill (Featherstall Road North), Osborne Mill, Anchor Mill, Stockfield Mill and Hartford Works;

Cluster 4 – Chadderton Mill, Nile Mill, Raven Mill, Ace Mill, Gorse Mill and Ram Mill;

Cluster 5 – Vale Mill, Devon Mill, Heron Mill, Earl Mill and Bell Mill; and

Cluster 6 – Ivy Mill, Regent Mill and Marlborough Mill

Development proposals which will detract or harm a mill cluster through demolition, interruption of key identified views or through inappropriate development by virtue of its design will not be supported unless there is a clear and convincing justification.

Proposals that would result in the total or partial loss of elements of Oldham's mill stock, will require the full recording of the heritage asset and the record and commentary deposited with the Local Planning Authority and the Historic Environment Record.

Reasoned Justification

15.39 The non-designated mill stock forms a fundamental part of Oldham's historic environment and gives the landscape of the borough a clear distinctive character thereby contributing to local identity and sense of place. Proposals should retain those elements of the mill stock which contribute to the local identity and sense of place of Oldham and ensure they are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance.

15.40 The Mills Strategy has provided the Council and applicants with a policy framework, within which to assess proposals affecting textile mills. When valuing and assessing the viability of an individual mill for whatever purpose, it is essential to take into account

[132] Prince of Wales Mill scored medium on the heritage assessment and therefore planning applications for this mill must be accompanied by a heritage statement proportionate to the heritage significance to provide clear justification for the proposed approach and applicants should consider incorporating social significance into the scheme.

market conditions prevailing at the date of assessment, location, individual physical characteristics, structural condition, tenure, planning restraints (if any) covenants and all other relevant factors. The appraisals and strategies contained within the Mills Strategy are, therefore, to be taken solely as a guide and each mill should be assessed individually on its own merits and on the market conditions at the time when decisions are being made about its future.

15.41 It should also be noted that many of the mills are in employment use and are likely to continue in employment use over the medium to long term. Therefore, proposals for alternative uses, whether this is conversion / refurbishment or redevelopment will need to ensure that policies relating to the loss of employment land are met.

15.42 The high priority mills are non-designated heritage assets. Planning applications relating to high priority mills must be accompanied by detailed Heritage Statements to provide clear justification for the approach adopted and should also consider how social significance of the mills could be incorporated into the scheme (for example this could include the delivery of public art within the scheme linked to the past use of the mill or reflecting the social significance of a mill within the public realm.). Proposals involving the full demolition or partial loss of important mill elements will need to be supported by robust evidence including detailed viability assessments and evidence of marketing to demonstrate the re-use of the mill for alternative uses is not viable. Building recording must be undertaken in connection with proposals involving the loss of key elements of high priority mill building fabric.

15.43 The medium priority mills are considered as non-designated heritage assets on a case-by-case basis as planning applications come forward for their redevelopment based upon their relative heritage and landscape value. Planning applications relating to medium priority mills must be accompanied by detailed Heritage Statements to provide clear justification for the approach adopted and should also consider how social significance of the mills could be incorporated into the scheme. The alteration, extension or demolition of any buildings contributing to the landscape or heritage interest will require clear justification in relation to the significance and setting of the asset. Building recording must undertaken in connection with proposals involving the loss of key elements of medium priority mill building fabric.

15.44 Low priority mills could be considered as non-designated heritage assets on a case-by-case basis as planning applications come forward for their redevelopment based upon their relative heritage and landscape value. Planning applications relating to low priority mills must be accompanied by Heritage Statements to provide justification for the approach taken. Building recording must be undertaken in connection with proposals involving the loss of key elements of low priority mill building fabric, where deemed appropriate.

15.45 The Landscape Overview highlights the contribution that the mill stock makes in defining the distinctive character of Oldham and demonstrates that Oldham's landscape character would be irreversibly changed if particular individual mills or clusters of mills were demolished or significantly altered to the extent that the original mill character is permanently lost.

15.46 The mill names shown are as listed in the Public Gazetteer in the Mills Strategy. However, many people will know the mills by alternative mill names, and these are shown in brackets within the policy, where applicable. Sometimes a road name is also shown to clarify which mill this is where there are mills with the same name.

15.47 The policy focuses on non-designated mills, with the exception of the mill clusters. Mills that are listed (or in conservation areas) are already protected by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and covered by other planning policies.

Canals

15.48 The Huddersfield Narrow Canal and Rochdale Canal both pass through Oldham Borough. The canal network has played a significant part in the development and heritage of the settlements in Oldham since the 18th century. The conservation, development and improved access to Oldham's canal corridors will allow for the community and visitors to celebrate the unique industrial heritage of these historic manmade waterways. They also have recreational and ecological roles, contribute to the borough's local identity, and enhance Oldham's tourism offer.

Policy HE5 - Canals

The Huddersfield Narrow Canal and Rochdale Canal will be protected as heritage assets (designated and non-designated heritage), which contribute to the borough's sense of place.

To ensure that the future restoration of the canals is enabled, development alongside the line of the canal and towpath shall not prevent its restoration, conservation and enhancement of the waterway's heritage and built environment. Green Infrastructure incorporating walking, wheeling and cycling routes and heritage interpretation features along its line should be provided.

Proposed development that harms the setting or appearance of the canal will not be supported. Any new development should respect the canal frontage, ensuring active quality elevations, whilst respecting the unique character of the waterway and its associated heritage assets. Opportunities should be taken to improve the appearance and vitality of the canal side environment.

Reasoned Justification

15.49 The canal system of water transport played a vital role in the industrial revolution at a time when the road network was not able to transport mass goods from place to place.

15.50 This is especially evident at Failsworth Pole Conservation Area and Uppermill Conservation Area, where the Rochdale and Huddersfield Narrow canals respectively provide an important focal point alongside neighbouring historic former industrial buildings. The canals provide part of the setting, experience and communal value contributing to the sense of place for many of Oldham's textile mills. The canals contain several heritage assets, including lock cottages, lock features, stone walls and bridges, some of which are designated.

15.51 As well as being important heritage assets, the Huddersfield Narrow Canal and Rochdale Canal also yield other benefits to the borough, such as providing recreational routes for exercise and an associated tourism offer and ecological networks.

Monitoring

15.52 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England
- Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development
- Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills

15.53 The main PfE indicator that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Increase percentage of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use

16 Achieving High Quality Design

16.1 National planning policy places great importance on design as a key aspect of sustainable development and an essential part of good planning. This is demonstrated through the National Design Guide[133] (NDG), and the National Model Design Code[134] (NMDC) , which illustrate how well-designed places that are beautiful, healthy, greener, enduring and successful can be achieved in practice.

16.2 Well-designed places have individual characteristics which work together to create their physical character and distinctiveness. The NDG identifies the following ten characteristics which contribute towards the cross-cutting themes for good design set out in national planning policy:

- **Context** – understanding the location of a development and how it relates to its surroundings.
- **Identity** – that is attached to buildings and spaces which contributes to character and local distinctiveness.
- **Built form** – the pattern of the built environment and how this contributes to local character and sense of place.
- **Movement** – ensuring that places are accessible and easy to move around.
- **Nature** – by ensuring that nature forms an integral part of well-designed places that contribute to quality of place and people's quality of life.
- **Public spaces** – ensuring that these are safe, social and inclusive.
- **Uses** – by creating sustainable places with a mix of uses that support everyday activities.
- **Homes and Buildings** – by creating functional, healthy and sustainable homes and buildings.
- **Resources** - The creation of efficient and resilient places and buildings that conserve natural resources, including land, water, energy and materials.
- **Lifespan** – developments that are made to last and adaptable.

The policies below seek to reflect the above characteristics and clarify our design expectations and establish some of the key principles against which the design and layout of all new development will be considered.

Policy D1 – Achieving High Quality Design

All development is required to achieve a high standard of design, consistent with local design guides or design codes where available. Developments that are of a poor standard of design will be refused.

Development proposals, where applicable, should through their design:

1. **deliver buildings and spaces that are appropriate, in terms of their form, massing and height, for the site and surrounding context, and positively respond to local distinctiveness and character;**
2. **encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes and promote wayfinding for all travel modes;**

[133] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide
[134] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code

3. **be based on a clear street hierarchy, with clearly defined public and private environments;**
4. **ensure that site layout, orientation, design, and where applicable, common spaces provide privacy, adequate daylight and active frontages with the public realm. Noise from any common areas to individual dwellings should be reduced;**
5. **provide adaptable and resilient buildings and places, that are easily maintainable and resistant to the effects of ageing, weather and climatic conditions;**
6. **ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability);**
7. **ensure that recycling and waste disposal, storage and any on-site management facilities are conveniently located, appropriately screened and are designed to work effectively;**
8. **promote health and well-being through active design;**
9. **incorporate appropriate landscaping and urban greening, such as green roofs, green walls, trees and shrubs and support nature through the incorporation of wildlife-friendly features (such as nest boxes) and integration with the nature recovery network;**
10. **adopt a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to development, respecting existing site constraints including utilities situated within, and running through, the site;**
11. **ensure that the design and layout minimises actual and perceived opportunities for crime, anti-social behaviour, disorder and terrorism;**
12. **ensure parking areas reduce their visual impact through landscaping and boundary treatments; and**
13. **in the case of residential development, make appropriate provision for gardens and / or outdoor amenity space that reflects the type and size of each dwelling.**

In addition to the above development proposals involving tall buildings should:

a) **ensure the lower section or base of the building is designed to relate well to the street environment and context, through the use of architectural detailing and definition of any upper storey setback;**
b) **not unduly affect their surroundings adversely in terms of microclimate, wind turbulence, overshadowing and shading, noise, reflected glare, aviation, navigation and telecommunication interference; and**
c) **incorporate active frontages at ground level where appropriate.**

Where required details of how the proposal addresses these principles are to be set out in a Design and Access Statement.

Proposals for strategic developments should be supported by a design-led masterplan or framework and, where appropriate, a site-specific design code to show how it achieves the principles above.

Developments that raise significant design issues will be expected, where appropriate, to undergo a local design review[135] before any planning application is determined.

Reasoned Justification

16.3 The goal of a design-led approach is to ensure that new development not only meets functional and regulatory requirements but also enhances the overall quality of life in a community. It aims to create places that are not only visually appealing but also sustainable, functional, and resilient, fostering a sense of identity and belonging among residents and visitors.

16.4 High quality design can respond to a wide range of issues such as tackling climate change, improving local biodiversity, enhancing a sense of place, promoting inclusivity and providing healthier and more active places. Important design considerations therefore feature in other policies in this plan, particularly in relation to the historic environment, biodiversity, flood risk and transport. Being able to respond appropriately to these considerations and understanding how they interact is a key part of achieving high quality design.

16.5 As part of the preparation of any statements, applicants may consider referring to guidance produced by specialist organisations in relation to specific design issues, such as:

- Streets for All Design Guide published by TfGM;
- Greater Manchester's Sustainable Drainage Guide published by TfGM;
- Active Design Guidance and The Ten Principles of Active Design published by Sport England;
- Designing Out Crime published by the Design Council;
- Manual for Streets
- Raising the healthiest generation in history: why it matters where children and young people live published by the TCPA;
- Building with Nature;
- Building for a Healthy Life (formerly Building for Life 12) published by Homes England;
- Green infrastructure Planning and Design Guide published by Natural England; and
- In relation to historic buildings, sites and landscapes, technical guidance notes from Historic England.

16.6 For the purposes of this policy, a tall building is defined as any building that is significantly taller than its surroundings and/or any building of five storey's or more.

16.7 Strategic developments that are required to be supported by a design-led masterplan or framework include relevant allocations within Places for Everyone as well as other sites that come forward which may be of strategic importance, in for example Oldham Town Centre or comprising multiple landowners or where it is necessary to secure consistency in layout and/or design across more than one site.

[135] An independent consideration of the planning application proposal undertaken by a panel of relevant professionals prior to the formal determination of the proposal by the Council, with all costs met by the applicant.

16.8 Where required, the format of design reviews for any development should have regard to the Design Council's guidance Design Review Principles and Practice[136].

16.9 It is intended that this policy will be supplemented by design guides and codes as appropriate which will set out more detailed advice on achieving high standards of design that reflect the local character of the area. Regard will be given to the National Design Guide and National Model Design Code where no locally produced design guides or codes are in place.

Policy D2 – Advertisements, Signage and Shop Fronts

Advertisements and Signage

Advertisements and signage shall contribute positively to the visual amenity and safety of the built environment. To ensure this, advertisements and signage will be supported where they:

1. **have regard to the character and appearance of the local area, site and host building;**

2. **are appropriate in terms of siting, design, size, scale, number, colour, and method and level of illumination;**

3. **would not lead to an excessive, cluttered or overbearing appearance on the host building or vicinity of the site;**

4. **would not interfere with public highway safety or management (including associated footpaths), cause or worsen light pollution or any other safety hazard;**

5. **would not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of nearby residents and / or occupiers of sensitive uses; and**

6. **do not harm the significance of any listed buildings, conservation areas, or other designated heritage assets in accordance with the heritage policies.**

Shop Fronts

Shop fronts should be designed to fit with the character and context of the building itself and the surrounding area. When determining planning applications, the Council will have regard to whether a proposal contributes positively to the visual appearance of the area during opening and non-opening hours. Considerations will include:

7. **how the fascia design respects the proportions of the shop front by being appropriately scaled, and follows the vertical and horizontal symmetry of the building;**

8. **how the fascia takes into account the height, position, design and scale of adjacent shop fronts in the same parade;**

[136] This document can be found at: https://www.designcouncil.org.uk/fileadmin/uploads/dc/Documents/Design%2520Review_Principles%2520and%2520Practice_May2019.pdf

9. **how the design of the entrance ensures safe and easy access for all;**
10. **that the colours and materials proposed do not clash with building materials of the host and adjoining buildings; and**
11. **the use of solid security shutters, which should be avoided wherever possible and will not be permitted in Oldham Town Centre, any of the borough's other centres, local shopping parades or along main arterial routes, unless the need for them can be robustly justified. Lattice grilles or internal roller shutters would be acceptable alternatives.**

Applications affecting heritage assets or conservation areas should comply with policies HE2 and HE3 respectively.

Reasoned Justification

16.10 The design of shop fronts is important as firstly they can attract the attention of customers in order to ensure economic success and secondly they can improve the appearance and attractiveness of our shopping streets and our centres. The shop front, advertisements, signage, canopies, external lighting, shop security measures and access facilities are all elements, which if well designed can help to promote a confident image of the shop itself. They can make positive contributions to the character and trading success of the street or centre in which it is located.

16.11 The policy aims to set clear criteria to enable adverts to be placed in the right places without detriment to the amenity of the surrounding area and whilst protecting character and appearance, as well as public and highway safety. The policy applies to all advertisements requiring consent under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) England) Regulations 2007.

16.12 The borough has a mixture of different places from town centres to rural communities and countryside. The type of advertisements prevalent in these areas can vary greatly but often the concerns remain the same, to protect visual amenity and highway and public safety. However, there are also key differences between what may be accepted in a town centre and what will be appropriate in a rural settlement. Applicants should be aware of this when considering aspects such as scale and the method and level illumination, taking into account Policy OL5.

16.13 It is important that any advertisements do not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of nearby residents or occupiers of sensitive uses such as schools, nurseries and care homes. In addition, the Council will resist advertisements where they contribute to or constitute clutter or lead to an unsightly proliferation of signage in the area.

16.14 Where advertisements are displayed on buildings, they should complement the facade and must not obscure architectural features. On buildings with heritage value this will be particularly critical where features contribute to heritage significance. Some commercial areas are set within places that contribute to the distinctive character of the borough, such as the predominantly Georgian townscape of Greenfield, Diggle, Delph and Uppermill and the historic character of Oldham Town Centre. The design of advertisements should not detract from the heritage value of these areas and where possible should be used as an opportunity to enhance their distinctive character and sense of place.

16.15 Applications for advertisements in areas where there are already a high number displayed will be considered in relation to existing advertisements, or signage for the

same business. Where the need for additional controls over advertisements in particular areas can be demonstrated, for example through conservation area appraisals or neighbourhood plans, the Council may consider the introduction of Areas of Special Control of Advertisements, as appropriate.

Policy D3 – Creating a Better Public Realm in Oldham

Development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable:

1. **ensure it is well-designed, easy to understand, and related to the local and historic context;**
2. **ensure it is inclusive and fully accessible to all users, including people with disabilities, older people, and families with children;**
3. **create a sense of place, with opportunities for social activities and interaction during, formal and informal play and social interaction during different times of the day and night, days of the week and seasons;**
4. **ensure that appropriate shade, shelter, seating and, where possible, areas of direct sunlight, are provided having regard to microclimatic considerations such as temperature and wind;**
5. **ensure that lighting is carefully considered and well-designed in order to minimise intrusive lighting infrastructure and reduce light pollution in line with policy OL5;**
6. **use durable, attractive, and locally appropriate materials in paving, street furniture, and landscaping and ensure appropriate management and maintenance arrangements are in place;**
7. **support biodiversity, and integrate green infrastructure and surface water management in line with policy N3;**
8. **prioritise active travel through providing safe, legible and well-connected routes whilst discouraging travel by car and excessive on-street car parking; and**
9. **ensure that any buildings are of a design that activates and defines the public realm and provides natural surveillance.**

Where appropriate, opportunities should be identified for the meanwhile (temporary) use of phased development sites to create attractive public realm.

Reasoned Justification

16.16 Public realm has a significant influence on quality of life because it affects people's sense of place, security and belonging, as well as having an influence on a range of health and social factors. As such, development proposals must contribute positively to the public realm by delivering well-designed, accessible, and safe spaces that reflect local character and support social interaction and environmental sustainability.

16.17 The public realm includes all the publicly accessible space between buildings, whether public or privately owned, from alleyways and streets to squares and open spaces. It should be seen as a series of connected routes and spaces that help to define the character of a place. Legibility and signposting make an important contribution to

whether people feel comfortable in a place and are able to understand it and navigate their way around.

16.18 The specific balance between the different functions of any one space, such as its place-based activities, its function to facilitate movement and its ability to accommodate different uses, should be at the heart of how the space is designed and managed. The Streets for All approach[137] explains how the design and management of streets can support a wide range of activities in the public realm as well as encourage and facilitate a shift to active travel.

16.19 Places should be distinctive, attractive and of the highest quality, allowing people to meet, congregate and socialise, as well as providing opportunity for quiet enjoyment. Public realm is valuable for Oldham's cultural activity, providing a stage for informal and everyday culture and for organised cultural activity. The opportunity to incorporate these uses should be identified and facilitated through community engagement, careful design and good acoustic design. Careful consideration is needed of the benefits of using the public realm for events and the impact of the events on the use and enjoyment of the space by the public.

16.20 The effective management and ongoing maintenance of public realm should be a key consideration in its design and secured through the planning system where appropriate. Materials used for paving, street furniture and landscaping must be durable, attractive, and locally appropriate. Lighting also requires careful consideration to ensure it is appropriate to address safety and security issues and make night-time activity areas and access routes welcoming and safe, while also minimising light pollution.

16.21 Whether publicly or privately owned, public realm should be open, free to use and offer the highest level of public access. These spaces should only have rules restricting the behaviour of the public that are considered essential for safe management of the space.

16.22 Opportunities should be identified by applicants for the meanwhile (temporary) use of phased development sites to create attractive public realm. Parameters for any meanwhile use, particularly its longevity and associated obligations, should be established from the outset and agreed by all parties. Whilst the creation of temporary public realm makes the best use of land and provides visual, environmental and health benefits to the local community, planning permission for more permanent uses is still required.

Policy D4 – Extensions and alterations to, and development within the curtilage of, a dwellinghouse

Where planning permission is required, developments for extensions and alterations to, and within the curtilage of, a dwellinghouse, will be supported where it meets the following relevant criteria.

An extension or alteration to an existing dwelling, or the construction of an ancillary outbuilding, structure, boundary treatment or hardstanding within the residential curtilage, will be supported where, having regard to any previous development affecting the original building or its curtilage, the following criteria are met:

[137] Further information can be found at: https://tfgm.com/strategy/streets-for-all

1. **it is in keeping with the character and appearance of, and is subordinate to, the original dwelling and surrounding properties;**

2. **it would not have a significantly adverse effect on the amenity of nearby residential properties, or the future occupiers of the dwellinghouse;**

3. **suitable provision is included for:**

    a. **access and parking;**

    b. **waste and recycling storage; and**

    c. **private residential amenity space;**

4. **there is the implementation of sustainable surface water management by directing surface water to a permeable surface or an infiltration system wherever possible; and**

5. **where the building was originally constructed for a non-residential purpose e.g. agricultural, religious or industrial use, the resulting development would be of a scale consistent with the architectural and functional character of the original building.**

In the case of a replacement dwelling these will be supported where criteria 2) and 3) above are met, and it would not be significantly larger than the existing dwelling and is in keeping with the scale, character and appearance of its surroundings.

Proposals within the Green Belt will need to meet Policies OL2 and OL3 and proposals within a Local Green Space will need to meet Policy OL4.

Reasoned Justification

16.23 This policy seeks to ensure that extensions or alterations to an existing dwelling, or development within the curtilage of a residential property (such as ancillary outbuilding, structure, boundary treatment or hardstanding) is in keeping with the character and appearance of the original dwelling and surrounding property / area, without having a detrimental impact on amenity.

16.24 When permitting such development, it is important to ensure that there continues to be suitable provision for access and parking; waste and recycling storage; and private residential amenity space.

16.25 Surface water should be directed to a permeable surface or an infiltration system wherever possible.

16.26 Ensuring that the extension or alteration to, or the replacement of, an existing residential dwelling respects the character, appearance and scale of the original building and its surroundings will also help to ensure a diverse range of dwelling sizes and types.

16.27 As a general guide:

- subordinate and small-scale extensions/outbuildings are less likely to be approved where they would increase the size of the original dwelling by more than 40% (notwithstanding permitted development rights); and

- replacement dwellings are less likely to be approved where they are significantly larger (i.e. more than 40%) than the existing dwelling.

16.28 This policy does not relate to development within the Green Belt. These are required to be in line with policy OL3.

16.29 The increase in size of the original or existing dwelling will generally be determined by assessing the net increase in floorspace (measured externally). In cases where the increase proposed involves an increase in the overall building height, the net increase in volume (measured externally), will also be taken in to account. This assessment will not include any allowance or credit from the demolition of existing detached buildings or structures. If planning permission is granted, planning obligations/conditions may be applied to remove permitted development rights where necessary.

16.30 All outbuildings or structures within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse which are built after the construction of the original dwelling, will be treated as being an extension to the original building.

16.31 The assessment of whether a development is in keeping with the character and appearance of, and is subordinate to, the original dwelling and surrounding properties, and the wider setting, will have particular regard to the design, scale, height, massing, material finishes, visual appearance and character of buildings, and the prevailing layout and landscaping of the development.

Monitoring

16.32 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds
- Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code

17 A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham

17.1 Oldham's Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan[138] sets the strategic direction for travel and mobility within Oldham, identifying transport requirements that align with our future growth needs and in response to changing travel technologies.

17.2 It reflects the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040[139] which sets out the long-term vision for how the transport system needs to change across Greater Manchester and the key priorities for achieving this, including reference to:

- the "Right-Mix" ambition for at least 50% of all journeys to be made by active travel and public transport by 2040;
- details of the Greater Manchester Mayor's 'Our Network' plan to create an integrated, modern and accessible transport network;
- an increased emphasis on the importance of cycling and walking; and
- the climate emergency declared by GMCA and all ten councils; and the development of the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan.

17.3 As set out in Oldham's Transport Strategy, planning for transport that is suitable for the future requires a balance of healthier travel behaviours and reducing harmful transport emissions. The Strategy is structured around six principal transport ambitions which have a focus on:

- Healthy Oldham: providing for healthier active travel choices through, for example, improving walking, wheeling and cycling routes and facilities to enhance connections across our neighbourhood, the borough and beyond;
- Safe Oldham: improving road and travel safety;
- Thriving Oldham: supporting Greater Manchester's ambitions to grow economically and connecting our communities to services and opportunities across the borough and beyond;
- Clean Oldham: improving air quality and supporting Greater Manchester's ambitions for becoming carbon neutral by 2038;
- Connected Oldham: prioritising the maintenance of highways, footways and Public Rights of Way; and
- Accessible Oldham: improving access to public transport and active travel reflecting its importance for reducing deprivation whilst supporting our communities.

17.4 The Local Plan will help deliver an integrated transport system that enables and encourages sustainable and active travel choices, provides good accessibility for the borough's population to jobs and services, and supports a healthy environment.

17.5 The Bee Network[140] was launched in September 2023 and is Greater Manchester's vision for a joined up, touch in, touch out, London-style transport system. Since its launch the Bee Network has delivered transformational change, with growing numbers

[138] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7693/oldham_transport_strategy_and_delivery_plan
[139] This document can be found at: https://tfgm.com/2040-transport-strategy
[140] Further information can be found here: https://tfgm.com/the-bee-network#bee-network

of people travelling on more reliable bus services. It's also seen the introduction of affordable fares, new and extended routes and better, more accessible buses connecting communities to jobs, skills and education opportunities. All local bus and tram services are now part of the Bee Network with eight commuter rail lines planned to join in three phases through to 2028, with improved services and stations. The continued delivery of the Bee Network will encourage much higher levels of both walking, wheeling and cycling and help to address low levels of physical activity and promote mental wellbeing.

17.6 Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) have produced Streets for All[141] which places a strong emphasis on reducing traffic and road danger, and on improving the street environment for everyone travelling along, spending time in, or living on them. It is a people-centred approach to street planning, design and network management and is needed to deliver the Bee Network, support growth and productivity and enable us to meet our decarbonisation targets. The Streets for All vision is that 'We will ensure that our streets are welcoming, green and safe spaces for all people, enabling more travel by walking, cycling, and using public transport while creating thriving places that support local communities and businesses' and the policies within this Local Plan aim to support that vision.

Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities

To support Oldham's role in the Greater Manchester economy, measures will be supported where they:

1. **Help improve connectivity and accessibility from Oldham to the key growth locations identified in PfE[142].**
2. **Encourage and enable the movement of people and goods in the most efficient, sustainable, safe way using on the most appropriate modes, on the most appropriate routes, at the most appropriate times.**
3. **Demonstrate a reduction in congestion and emissions.**

The Local Plan will support the delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy by ensuring that new development:

4. **Prioritises and promotes active travel to key points of interest by integrating Active Design principles into their design.**
5. **Maintains and improves the Public Rights of Way network, including by increasing the networks accessibility.**
6. **Ensures the amenity and safety of the public realm is protected, avoiding street clutter and unnecessary obstructions.**
7. **Maintains safe and suitable access for all users and mitigates any significant impacts from the development on the existing transport network or on highway safety.**

The Council will seek developer contributions[143], where appropriate, towards the provision or enhancement of highway, public transport and / or active travel schemes.

[141] This can be found at: https://tfgm.com/strategy/streets-for-all
[142] Policies JP-Strat1 to JP-Strat12 in PfE set out the key growth locations in Greater Manchester.
[143] This will include through section 106 agreements and section 278 agreements.

The Council will support improvements to our public transport network and facilities to promote more sustainable transport choices and reduce reliance on private motor vehicles.

The Local Plan will support future transport projects, including Standedge Tunnels, Diggle Station and Cop Road Metrolink stop and Park and Ride.

Any development that may impact the Strategic Road Network (SRN) should involve National Highways at the earliest opportunity.

Reasoned Justification

17.7 A key requirement of Oldham's sustainable transport network going forward is that people are easily able to travel between neighbourhoods and that connectivity and accessibility from Oldham to the key growth locations identified in PfE is improved. This will require an integrated, high quality, sustainable transport system, which the Bee Network will provide. People need sufficient travel choices so that they can conveniently travel to visit friends and relatives, community facilities, and services, across Oldham and Greater Manchester.

17.8 Freight and logistics are essential for both our economy and productivity. Government's Future of Freight: a long-term plan[144] states that the multi-modal freight and logistics sector is critical to every supply chain into, across and out of the UK and is fundamental to our economic wellbeing. It goes on to say that the planning system has a crucial role in promoting development that supports the efficient supply of goods.

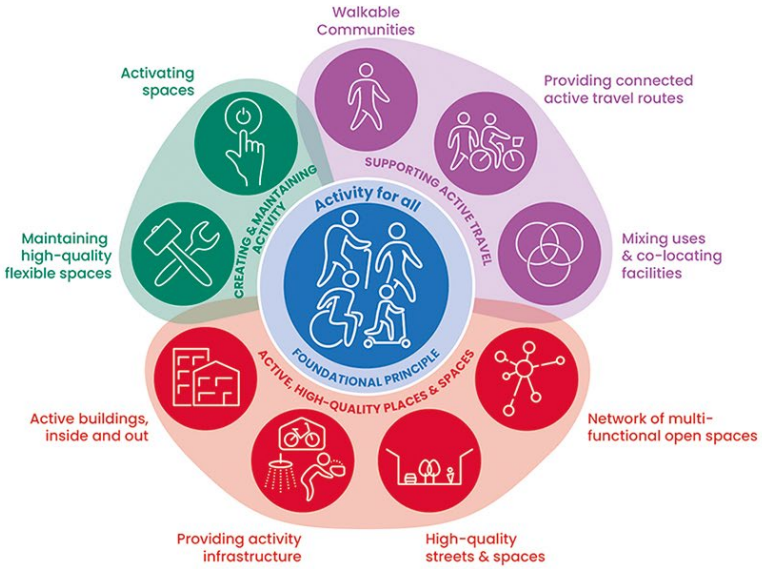
17.9 In Oldham, the distribution of people and goods by sustainable modes, and methods that reduce the number of vehicular trips, will be encouraged and supported. Innovative solutions such as urban distribution centres, last mile access by cargo bikes or electric vehicles, and emerging technologies, all have the potential to service the demand for deliveries in a more sustainable way.

17.10 Transport planning and investment can play a significant role in delivering a healthy borough in three primary ways. Firstly, through encouraging active travel such as walking, wheeling and cycling, with the significant direct health benefits that are derived from physical exercise; secondly, through making it easier for people to get to services they need for their personal well-being and the things that will help them live healthier lives; and thirdly, through designing a safer, more accessible and more environmentally sustainable transport system.

17.11 Integrating Sport England's Active Design principles[145] is one way to help create a safer, more accessible, and environmentally sustainable transport system.

[144] The document can be found at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62b9a2ec8fa8f53572e3db68/future-of-freight-plan.pdf
[145] This document can be found at: https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design

Figure T1: Sport England's Active Design principles



17.12 The design of transport infrastructure should be high-quality and appropriate to the location in terms of getting the right balance between place and movement, supporting the public realm, protecting the setting of historic assets and removing street clutter and barriers, thereby making it easier for people to move around. The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 explains that truly connected neighbourhoods enable everyone to access work, local facilities and recreation and to interact with other people in a pleasant environment.

17.13 Designing new infrastructure and services to improve accessibility for people with mobility problems, including reducing street clutter and unnecessary obstructions, will have the additional benefit of future-proofing the transport network to meet the needs of an ageing society.

17.14 Streets for All places a strong emphasis on reducing traffic and road danger, and on improving the street environment for everyone travelling along, spending time in, or living on them. Developers and applicants will be expected to have regard to the vision and principles within Greater Manchester Streets for All Design Guide[146] which sets the standard for how our streets and public spaces will look, feel and function in the years ahead.

17.15 Oldham's Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network covers around 450km, and the Council are committed to maintaining and improving the network. A key focus for improvement is to increase the network's accessibility to make it more inclusive for all users. Measures could include substituting stiles for gates or surface and/or drainage works to provide more level surfaces for those with mobility impairment.

17.16 An attractive, efficient and cost-effective public transport network that is fully integrated with other forms of transport and which provides a genuine alternative to travelling by private motor vehicle will be key if public transport is to play a fundamental role in achieving a modal shift in the way we travel. In Greater Manchester our public transport network is known as the Bee Network and proposals to improve this network and its

[146] This document can be found at: https://downloads.ctfassets.net/nv7y93idf4jq/2RzPPk1drrKMvdlfPtZwYP/365c591edec7439b449d385d745b831f/Greater_Manchester_Streets_For_All_Design_Guide_v1.2.pdf

facilities will be supported, particularly where they are in line with Greater Manchester and Oldham's Local Transport Plans.

17.17 In line with DfT Circular 01/2022 The Strategic Road Network and the delivery of sustainable development[147] ('the Circular') policies must not compromise the SRN's prime function to enable the long-distance movement of people and goods. The SRN within Oldham consists of sections of the M60 and M627(M) motorways, as well as the A663 Broadway trunk road. Development within Oldham might also impact the SRN outside of our boundary, such as the M62 motorway.

Policy T2 – Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities

The Council will support schemes for new and improved travel hubs and park and ride facilities where it can be demonstrated that the proposed facility:

1. **Forms part of a wider strategy for increasing the use of public transport and active travel and has been developed in conjunction with Transport for Greater Manchester and, where appropriate, other organisations such as Highways England and Network Rail;**
2. **Will improve the attractiveness and increased use of public transport thereby reducing overall levels of private vehicular traffic on the borough's highway network;**
3. **Will not lead to unacceptable levels of traffic congestion in the vicinity of the facility;**
4. **Ensures a safe and secure environment for users and where appropriate provide a high standard of vehicle security; and**
5. **Includes provision for secure non-motorised vehicles such as bicycles and scooters.**

In the case of replacement provision this should be of equivalent or greater capacity and have equivalent or improved connections to the relevant transport infrastructure, where appropriate.

Reasoned Justification

17.18 The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 sets out that the aim in Greater Manchester is to work with partners to improve access to public transport, including enhanced park-and-ride provision and the evolution of park-and-ride towards multi-modal travel hubs that improve access and integration. These facilities are essential for enabling seamless and convenient multi-modal journeys and to improve access to the Bee Network, particularly for residents without direct links to rapid transit.

17.19 Transport hubs are designed to co-locate transport modes, improve first and last mile connectivity, and deliver a consistent, high quality customer experience. They are central to supporting modal shift, reducing car dependency, and expanding access to sustainable travel. Park and ride facilities, when appropriately located, can complement this approach by intercepting longer car journeys and connecting users to the rapid transit network.

17.20 It is important that any such facilities are provided in the right location and are designed in a way that actively encourages their use whilst avoiding potential issues of congestion in the vicinity of the facility. Poorly located and designed proposals can

[147] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-road-network-and-the-delivery-of-sustainable-development/strategic-road-network-and-the-delivery-of-sustainable-development

sometimes actively encourage more car journeys and may generate significant traffic levels on surrounding roads to the detriment of residential amenity and highway function. Therefore, it is important that any such facilities are provided in the right location and are designed in a way that actively encourages their use whilst avoiding potential issues of congestion in the vicinity of the facility.

17.21 It is also important that the needs of cyclists are met within the facility in terms of including provision for safe and secure cycle parking.

Policy T3 – Parking provision

To ensure the careful management of parking, development[148] will be supported that provides appropriate levels of parking spaces.

The level of parking proposed as part of new developments should:

1. **Support the efficient use of land;**
2. **Reflect the type, mix and use of the development;**
3. **Ensure the safe and efficient use of the highway is maintained; and**
4. **Take account of the location of the development site, including its accessibility by walking, wheeling and cycling and public transport.**

Parking spaces will be expected to be provided for general car parking, accessible parking, cycle and motorcycle parking and parking for electric vehicle charging (See Policy T4 for more details on electric vehicle charging).

In justifying the parking levels proposed as part of any development, the applicant should, either in the Design and Access Statement or the Transport Statement/Assessment, have regard to the following:

a. **Consideration of likely trip generation and parking needs for the proposed development evidenced as appropriate;**
b. **Parking capacity and occupancy levels in the surrounding area;**
c. **Local car ownership levels;**
d. **Evidence that there is no alternative way of accommodating all the travel demands likely to be generated by the development, and that all reasonable efforts are being made to minimise reliance on the private car;**
e. **The public transport accessibility of the site, including the distance to bus and tram stops and to train stations, along with the frequency of those services;**
f. **Details of road safety and traffic management in the area;**
g. **The quality of provision for pedestrians and cyclists such as width of footways, quality of surfaces, access and egress points to the site, provision of street furniture and lighting, cycle parking and any restrictions on cycle movement; and**

[148] This includes planning applications for the material changes of use

h. **Details of how the parking will be managed and how that will mitigate any potential under or over-provision.**

The information provided in relation to the above would be expected to be proportionate to the scale and nature of development proposed.

The design of parking areas needs to include pedestrian-only safe routes through and around parking areas.

In relation to non-residential developments there is a need to increase the attractiveness of commuting to work by walking, wheeling and cycling. Appropriate facilities should therefore be provided for staff, including the provision for lockers and changing and showering facilities.

Provision of coach and lorry parking will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the proposed development's use, volume of users/visitors and location. Storage and distribution uses (B8 uses) should accommodate all lorry parking within the site.

Where development would be likely to lead to levels of off-site car parking that would have a negative impact on the surrounding area, appropriate mitigation measures will be required. This could include, for example, developments funding, or contributing towards, resident parking schemes, public transport provision, and on-street parking restrictions and their enforcement.

Reasoned Justification

17.22 The level of parking within developments should strike a balance between accessible, cycle, electric vehicle and general spaces to ensure that it supports the successful functioning of the site, whilst also discouraging unnecessary private car journeys and the inefficient use of land. Parking that minimises land consumption and reduces congestion can contribute to a more efficient use of land.

17.23 Oldham is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030 and the transport choices that individuals make will strongly influence the Council's ability to achieve this target. One of the ways in which we can make a positive difference is through effective parking provision for all vehicle types in new developments. We want to encourage more walking, wheeling and cycling for shorter journeys, and for longer journeys encourage more sustainable options such as using public transport wherever possible. The level of parking provision in new developments can have a key influence on the choice of travel mode.

17.24 Providing sufficient parking for all types of vehicles will be necessary so that parked vehicles do not dominate the street scene or prevent access for pedestrians, cyclists and buses.

17.25 Certain development will require the production of a Travel Plan (in line with Policy T5) which must include measures to significantly reduce the use of private car travel to and from the development.

17.26 When determining the public transport accessibility of a site, Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) should be used[149]. GMAL is a detailed and accurate measure of the accessibility of a point to both the conventional public transport network (i.e. bus, Metrolink and rail) and Greater Manchester's Local Link (flexible transport

[149] Or any future measures of accessibility that become available and are relevant to assessing the accessibility of development.

service), taking into account walking time and service availability. The method is a way of measuring the density of the public transport provision at any location within the Greater Manchester region. The GMAL measure reflects:

- Walking time from the point-of interest to the public transport access points;
- The number of services (bus, Metrolink and Rail) available within the catchment;
- The level of service at the public transport access points - i.e. average waiting time; and
- The operating areas of Local Link (flexible transport) services.

17.27 Areas are scored on a scale of 1-8, with 8 being the most accessible. GMAL scores are published online at data.gov.uk.

17.28 The quality of parking provision is as important as the quantity and it should be attractive and practical to use. Pedestrian routes need to be direct, safe, level, and should emphasise pedestrian priority. Cars should not be able to overhang footpaths or cycle paths and pedestrians should be able to cross entrances to car parks safely.

17.29 Accessible parking spaces should be located as close as possible to the main entrance to the facilities served by the parking. The route between the spaces and the main entrance should be well maintained with no obstructions to access. Accessible spaces should be larger than regular parking spaces to provide extra room for wheelchair users and people with mobility and other impairments to get in and out of a vehicle.

17.30 Providing secure cycle parking at people's homes and other locations is critical to increasing the rates of cycling. Internal cycle storage is preferable for security reasons and to avoid impacting on the street scene. Where internal storage is not possible, external cycle stores can be provided should be secure and weatherproof. In relation to non-residential development if staff are using a different entrance, their cycle parking needs to be well related to their entrance. Safe, secure, and accessible cycle parking for long term and short-term visitors is needed, and cycle storage should be provided in an obvious, overlooked and well-lit location and be supported by clear signage.

17.31 The location of electric vehicle charging spaces has a strong influence on how often and how easily they are used by residents, businesses and visitors, therefore careful consideration should be given to the location and design of these spaces. In addition, they should also be positioned to avoid negatively impacting on walking, wheeling and cycling.

17.32 Certain uses will be frequently serviced by larger vehicles including Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs). Where this is the case, parking, loading and standing areas should be provided. Consultation with the Council at an early stage on all applications that would involve the use of HGVs and other large commercial vehicles is recommended.

17.33 Pedestrians should be able to move around parking areas safely and easily. The design of parking areas will need to consider likely pedestrian desire lines, both in respect of pedestrians arriving from outside the site and walking towards the entrances, and in respect of people arriving in cars, and the movements they will make between where they will park and the entrances to the development. This should be an early consideration in determining the overall layout of the site, and the layout of the spaces.

Policy T4 – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

New development shall make provision for electric vehicle charging infrastructure, using dedicated charge points specifically designed for charging all types of electric vehicle, in accordance with the following standards (unless superseded by higher standards in the Building Regulations):

1) **For dwellings with off-street parking, at least one dedicated charge point per dwelling**
2) **For non-residential developments, 10% of spaces shall accommodate a dedicated charge point. In addition to this, a further 20% of spaces shall accommodate appropriate ducting infrastructure to facilitate future provision. A reduced requirement will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the specific characteristics of the development would result in lower levels of demand for electric vehicle charging.**

These standards will be applied to the total scale of car parking provision that is proposed in the development in line with Policy T3. Additional car parking spaces should not be provided in order to meet these electric vehicle charging points.

Shared active charging points should be located so that they can be accessed by the maximum number of parking spaces possible at the development.

Electric vehicle charging infrastructure within new development shall meet the minimum technical specification list published by the Office for Low Emission Vehicles.

Exceptions

There may be limited circumstances where, due to the exceptionally high cost of securing the necessary additional electrical capacity to a site, it is not feasible to make provision for electric vehicle charging infrastructure in accordance with criteria 1 to 2 above. Where this is the case, the applicant will be expected to demonstrate that the costs associated with the installation of charge-points would compromise development viability and shall instead incorporate appropriate ducting infrastructure to facilitate future provision.

Reasoned Justification

18.34 The transport network is one of the biggest contributors to carbon emissions and this means measures must be taken locally and nationally to reduce vehicle carbon emissions or enable travel by zero emission modes.

18.35 Creating a carbon neutral city region by 2038 is part of the vision outlined in the Greater Manchester Five-Year Environment Plan. It is acknowledged in the plan that to meet Greater Manchester's ambition of reaching carbon neutrality by 2038, there is a need for a fundamental shift in attitudes towards car journeys, alongside a major shift to sustainable transport modes, as both are essential to reduce the number and use of fossil fuel vehicles. Delivering a major shift to electric vehicles is seen as key to help make that shift from high carbon transport modes to more sustainable modes and supporting the transition to electric mobility is cited as one of the plans objectives.

18.36 New development can make an important contribution to enabling the use of electric vehicles. Whilst it is acknowledged that there is potential for significant advances in

low emission technologies, electric vehicles are a key part of this, and it is therefore considered important that this Local Plan supports the development of the electric vehicle infrastructure network.

18.37 Ensuring that residential properties with garages and drives incorporate a charging point will help to facilitate home charging, and the additional cost of providing this infrastructure is considered to be minimal. Non-residential development can also have a significant role to play, for example by providing dedicated charging points for a proportion of parking spaces to support workplace and visitor charging.

18.38 Whilst the historic environment should not be a barrier to the installation of charge points, in the limited circumstances that making provision for electric vehicle charging infrastructure would be considered to cause unacceptable harm to a heritage asset, the requirements detailed in criteria 1) to 2) in the above policy will not apply.

Policy T5 – Vison-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Development

Proposals for developments that are likely to generate significant travel demands should be designed in way that maximises the opportunity for walking, wheeling and cycling, and public transport trips.

Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans will be required on a case-by-case basis when a proposed development would generate significant amounts of movement.

Factors that will be taken into consideration when determining whether an application needs to be accompanied by a Transport Statement, Transport Assessment and Travel Plan include:

1. **the scale and type of the proposed development and its potential for additional trip generation;**
2. **the public transport accessibility of the site;**
3. **the cumulative impacts of multiple developments within a particular area, including known committed future developments; and**
4. **any known transport issues in the surrounding area – such as peak time congestion.**

Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans will be required, where applicable, to:

5. **Outline how the development will support access by active travel and public transport.**
6. **Commit to the implementation of measures and initiatives to facilitate and encourage active travel and public transport use.**
7. **Set out how the design and use of the site will not result in an unacceptable impact on highway safety for all users.**
8. **Consider how trips generated by the development can be adequately served by the local and strategic road network to ensure that the residual cumulative impacts on the road network would not be severe.**

9. **Identify where there are any significant impacts of development and ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are identified and in place before the development is occupied as agreed with the Council.**

The information provided in relation to the above would be expected to be proportionate to the scale and nature of development proposed.

Where applications will affect the Strategic Road Network (SRN), applicants should provide confirmation from National Highways that the scope and detail of the Transport Statement and Travel Plan is sufficient for the purposes of assessing the application within the statutory timescales.

Any developments that are required to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment will need to consider air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss, within the Manchester Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC) in accordance with Policy JP-C8 of PfE[150].

Reasoned Justification

17.39 Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements are all ways of assessing and mitigating the negative transport impacts of development to promote sustainable development.

17.40 In line with NPPF all developments that will generate significant amounts of movement should be required to provide a travel plan, and the application should be supported by a vision-led transport statement or transport assessment so that the likely impacts of the proposal can be assessed and monitored.

17.41 In setting out a vision-led transport strategy for new development, applicants should reinforce the transport vision for the site, explain what the proposals are seeking to achieve in terms of walking, wheeling and cycling and then test a set of scenarios to determine the optimum design and transport infrastructure to realise this vision.

17.42 Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements should be:

- proportionate to the size and scope of the proposed development;
- established at the earliest possible stage of a development proposal;
- be tailored to particular local circumstances; and
- be brought forward through collaborative ongoing working between the local planning authority/transport authority, transport operators, rail network operators, National Highways where there may be implications for the SRN and any other relevant bodies.

17.43 When ascertaining the public transport accessibility of a site, Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) should be used[151]. GMAL is a detailed and accurate measure of the accessibility of a point to both the conventional public transport network (i.e. bus, Metrolink and rail) and Greater Manchester's Local Link (flexible transport service), taking into account walking time and service availability. The method is a way of measuring the density of the public transport provision at any location within the Greater Manchester region. The GMAL measure reflects:

[150] [150] This document can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/joint-supplementary-planning-documents/holcroft-moss-planning-obligations-spd/

[151] Or any future measures of accessibility that become available and are relevant to assessing the accessibility of development.

- Walking time from the point-of interest to the public transport access points;
- The number of services (bus, Metrolink and Rail) available within the catchment;
- The level of service at the public transport access points - i.e. average waiting time; and
- The operating areas of Local Link (flexible transport) services.

17.44 Areas are scored on a scale of 1-8, with 8 being the most accessible. GMAL scores are published online at data.gov.uk.

17.45 As set out in PfE, in order to assess the cumulative impacts of growth, developers will need to consider committed development. In consultation with the local highways' authority, developers should agree the committed developments and allocations that should be considered in the assessment.

17.46 In relation to applications that affect the SRN, applicants should set out how DfT Circular 01/2022 The Strategic Road Network and the delivery of sustainable development[152] ('the Circular') has been reviewed and considered. The Circular explains in paragraph 15 that transport planning is moving away from predicting future demand to provide capacity ('predict and provide') to planning that sets an outcome communities want to achieve and provides the transport solutions to deliver those outcomes. It goes on to say in paragraph 44 that Travel Plans are an effective means of incentivising the use of sustainable modes of transport and that where they are required development promoters must put forward clear targets and commitments to minimise the traffic impact of development and maximise the accessibility of and within sites by walking, wheeling, cycling, public transport and shared travel.

17.47 PPG Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements[153] and 'the Circular' includes further details and advice on what Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements should contain.

17.48 Further information regarding the consideration of air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss, within the Manchester Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC) can be found in PfE Policy JP-C8 and the Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint SPD.

Monitoring

17.49 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
- Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year
- Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission
- Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher

17.50 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

[152] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-road-network-and-the-delivery-of-sustainable-development/strategic-road-network-and-the-delivery-of-sustainable-development
[153] This document can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-plans-transport-assessments-and-statements

- Exceedance of the legal level of NO2 (as an Annual Mean) in local AQMA and Clean Air Plan Monitoring
- Percentage of daily trips made by active travel, public transport, car and other (monitoring subject to further analysis of data collection methods – TRADS monitor undertaken by TfGM)
- Percentage of new housing (net) within 800m of good public transport accessibility and percentage of new employment floorspace within 800m of good public transport accessibility *definition of good public transport accessibility to be agreed with TfGM
- Number of EV charging points (% change can be monitored year to year or over longer time series)

18 Communities

Open Space, Sport and Recreation

18.1 Open space is an important part of the borough's green infrastructure network. It has a key role to play in the protection of the environment, enhancing the biodiversity of the borough and mitigating against climate change. Access to quality open space is essential to the health and well-being of communities, enabling increased physical activity, opportunities for social interaction and inclusion and contributing to improved mental health.

18.2 Open spaces, include allotments and community gardens, amenity greenspaces, churchyards and cemeteries, green corridors, natural and semi-natural greenspace, outdoor sports facilities, parks and gardens and play spaces[154].

Policy CO1 – The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision

The Council will protect existing open space, sport and recreation provision, in the borough.

The loss of open spaces[155] through development (in whole or part) will only be acceptable in the following circumstances:

1. **The development is for alternative open space, sport or recreation provision, where the need for a change in typology can be clearly demonstrated based on local evidence[156]; or**

2. **Based on local evidence, the Council consider that the open space is surplus to local needs and the land is not required to meet deficiencies in other open space typologies within the appropriate accessible standard distance to the development site[157]; or**

3. **A small-scale loss of part of the open space is required to enable development on adjacent land which would not prejudice the overall open space function of the site.**

With the exception of circumstance 2 above, the loss of open space resulting from proposed development should be replaced by at least equivalent or improved open space (having regard to the open space standards) either onsite in a different part of the proposed development, or offsite in a suitable location which should be determined by the identified deficiencies and accessibility standard. All replacement provision should be provided in line with the requirements for new or improved open space provision set out in policy CO2.

<u>Playing fields, pitches and outdoor sports provision</u>

All playing fields, playing pitches and outdoor sports provision will be protected in line with this policy, national planning policy and other relevant policy and guidance.

[154] Also known as open space typologies.
[155] Including strategic open spaces which will be identified on the policies map, and all other open spaces as identified in the Open Space Study (2022), or any subsequent update.
[156] Oldham's Open Space Study (2022) and Playing Pitch Strategy (2025), or any subsequent updates.
[157] As identified by the accessibility standard and measured from the centre of the proposed development site and/or the site which would be lost.

The proposed loss (in whole or part) of a playing field, playing pitch or outdoor sports provision will be considered on a site-by-site basis, having regard to Oldham's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2025) (PPOSS)[158]. In line with circumstance 2 above, consideration should also be given to whether the site could be used for an alternative sport in need of provision and/or facilities.

Where appropriate, any loss of provision should be replaced by at least equivalent or improved provision in another location, as agreed by the Council, and relevant sporting bodies.

Reasoned Justification

18.3 Open space generally refers to several types of spaces which are available to the public, from formal sports pitches to allotments and community gardens to open areas within developments.

18.4 Oldham's open spaces are identified on the Policies Map[159] and the Green Infrastructure Network Opportunity Maps[160]. Open spaces make up a significant part of Oldham's Green Infrastructure Network and can contribute to providing Biodiversity Net Gain, on appropriate sites.

18.5 As such, it is important to ensure that open spaces are protected from development. The policy sets out that the loss of, or part-development of open spaces will only be considered acceptable in specific circumstances and, where appropriate, any lost provision should be replaced in line with policy CO2. The Council will consider whether a particular development would comply with the circumstances listed above on a case-by-case basis and based on the information provided as part of the application. The Council's Open Space Study (2022) and PPOSS (2025) provide key evidence of local needs and will be considered when assessing whether the loss of a site is acceptable.

18.6 Specifically, any loss of a playing field, pitch or outdoor sport provision is required to be in accordance with national planning policy and other relevant policy and guidance, such as Sport England Guidance[161]. The PPOSS provides evidence of needs and opportunities on a site-by-site basis. Any proposed loss will be considered against the evidence set out within the PPOSS and should not compromise the delivery of actions within the PPOSS Action Plan or worsen existing and future deficiencies of sports provision.

18.7 It should also be considered whether the site which is proposed to be lost could be used to alleviate provision deficiencies in other areas in the borough, and for other sports that could realistically be played on the site, other than what the site was last used for.

18.8 Where appropriate, any lost provision of playing fields, pitches or outdoor sports provision should be replaced by at least equivalent or improved provision in another location, as agreed by the Council, and other relevant sporting bodies. The PPOSS should be used to inform where replacement provision should be located. In delivering

[158] Oldham's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (2025) (PPOSS), or any subsequent update.
[159] The open spaces have been identified by the Open Space Study (2022). These will be updated as part of future updates to the Open Space Study, or other available evidence.
[160] Oldham's Green Infrastructure Network Opportunity Maps: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2183/oldham_green_infrastructure_strategy
[161] Sport England's Playing Fields Policy, available at: https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport/playing-fields-policy

replacement provision, the Council can support discussions with local clubs, sporting governing bodies and Sport England, where required.

Policy CO2 – New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision

The Council will support the enhancement of existing, and the creation of new, open space, sport and recreation provision in the borough.

Residential developments of 10 homes and above will be required to provide sufficient public open space, sport or recreation provision onsite. Where it is not possible to provide onsite, a financial contribution towards new or enhanced existing offsite public open space, sport or recreation provision will be sought.

Onsite provision or contributions to offsite new/ replacement provision and enhanced existing provision, should be determined by local open space needs and deficiencies and accessibility to existing provision, as set out in local evidence[162].

Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) with 10 or more occupants, will be required to contribute to offsite new or enhanced open space, sport and recreation provision to meet the needs of the residents.

Proposals for built sports facilities and formal sports provision will be supported where they are in accordance with other Local Plan policies, national planning policy and other relevant policy and guidance.

Oldham's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy and Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator[163] should be used, where appropriate, to inform where and what type of new or enhanced playing pitch and outdoor sports provision is provided, based on identified deficiencies/ need.

Open space provided onsite should:

1. **be appropriately located within the development proposed and accessible to all users, including those with mobility impairments[164];**
2. **deliver multi-functional benefits, where appropriate;**
3. **be of a high-quality design, in line with policy D1; and**
4. **be well connected to the existing green infrastructure network having regard to the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.**

Where appropriate, contributions to new or improved open space provision will be secured through planning obligations or conditions, as necessary, in line with policy IN2.

<u>Open Space Standards</u>

[162] As identified in the Open Space Study (2022) and the Playing Pitch Strategy (2025), or subsequent updates.
[163] See Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator for further information: https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-canhelp/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/playing-pitch-calculator
[164] Active design guidance can inform the creation of inclusive and sustainable open space, sport and recreation provision: https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design

Open Space Standards (table CO1) have been developed to ensure that open space provision is of a high quality and contributes towards meeting local needs. New or improved provision should seek to achieve the standards set out below.

Site-by-site needs and opportunities for outdoor sports provision are identified within the PPOSS[165]. This should be used when considering the development of new or improved outdoor sports provision, to ensure provision contributes to meeting local needs.

Table CO1: Current Open Space Standards[166]

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
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 Strategic Natural and Semi-Natural over 20ha - 7.85km
Parks and Gardens	0.40	At least 70%	Local Parks and Gardens - 720 metres Strategic Parks and Gardens of 15ha and above - 7.85km
Provision for Children and Young People	0.25	At least 70%	480 metres

<u>Value Standard</u>

In addition to table CO1, a value standard has also been introduced to ensure that the borough's open spaces are meaningful and beneficial to the local community.

Proposals for new open spaces are required to demonstrate (through a value audit) that they meet the following value standards:

1. **Destination or flagship sites should achieve a high value score (60-100%)**

[165] Namely the Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan (2025, or subsequent updates), which sets out needs on a site-by-site basis.
[166] Open Space Standards will be kept under review and updated, if necessary, through relevant evidence.

2. **All other open space sites should achieve a medium value score (40-59%)**

Further guidance on the value standard and how value should be audited is provided below and in the Open Space Study (2022).

Reasoned Justification

New Open Spaces

18.9 It is important that new development does not place undue pressure on existing open space provision in the borough and ensures that all residents have access to high quality open space close to where they live. This supports sustainable development.

18.10 As such, major residential development is required to provide sufficient public open space, sport or recreation provision. It is also considered appropriate to seek developer contributions towards open space provision as part of the development of HMOs which have 10 or more occupants because the additional number of residents could impact on existing open space provision, in a similar way to major residential development.

18.11 New onsite open spaces provided as part of development should seek to improve open space deficiencies in the area in which the site is located. For example, where a development site is not currently accessible to a particular typology of open space (as identified by the Open Space Accessibility Maps[167]) the new space should seek to include provision of the deficient typology. Where a site is accessible to all forms of open space, the development should seek to provide appropriate onsite open space which is in line with the Open Space Standards.

18.12 Where it is not possible to provide adequate onsite open space, a financial contribution towards the creation of new or the improvement of existing offsite provision should be provided. The location and typology of which should be identified in line with the deficiencies (in terms of accessibility, quantity, quality and value) within the ward, or close to the development site, as identified in the Open Space Study[168].

18.13 A developer contributions calculator has been developed, as part of the Open Space Study which will guide the Council in determining appropriate open space contributions towards offsite provision. Costings included within this calculator will be updated over the lifetime of the plan as required.

Playing Pitches and Outdoor Sports Provision

18.14 Where appropriate, for new residential developments (of 10 homes and above), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator may be used to estimate the demand that may be generated for the use of playing pitches by the new population of the development. The calculator is based on the deficiencies and needs identified in Oldham's PPOSS and is intended to inform what provision should be included onsite as part of new development.

18.15 New outdoor sports provision should be provided onsite, however contributions towards new or enhanced provision offsite will also be permitted, as agreed by the Council.

[167] The Open Space Accessibility Buffers are also available to view interactively at: https://maps.oldham.gov.uk/webmap/?initialDialog=layersDialog&mapName=Green_Infrastructure
[168] Appendix F identifies the open space deficiencies by ward. This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022.

18.16 Offsite contributions towards new or enhanced playing pitch and outdoor sports provision should be informed by Oldham's PPOSS to ensure provision contributes to meeting local needs.

18.17 Proposals for new outdoor sports facilities and formal sports provision should also consider Sport England guidance[169].

Open Space Standards

18.18 New and enhanced open space provision should be provided in line with the identified Open Space Standards (table CO1) which have been devised as part of the Councils Open Space Study (2022).

18.19 Open Space provision in the borough has been assessed against the Standards of Quantity, Quality, Accessibility and Value, to identify deficiencies in provision. The Study assessed the current (at 2021) and predicted future (at 2037) levels of open space provision and population-based demand against these standards to identify current deficiencies and where they are expected to arise over the plan period, and therefore where new or improved open spaces will be most needed. The Open Space Study identifies the open space deficiencies by ward.

18.20 The requirements for outdoor sports provision are not included within table CO1, as these are considered on a site-by-site basis as set out above.

18.21 The Standards are explained in turn below.

Accessibility

18.22 The accessibility standard is a measure of distance which reflects the accessibility needs of potential users of that type of open space provision. In general, smaller, local types of open spaces such as Children's Play Areas, Amenity Greenspaces, smaller Natural and Semi-Natural spaces and Outdoor Sports Pitches (playing fields etc) should be accessible within a short 10-to-15-minute walk time.

18.23 Larger spaces, such as Golf Courses, large scale strategic Natural and Semi-Natural spaces (such as Oldham Edge and Strinsedale Country Park) and large-scale strategic Parks and Gardens (such as Alexandra Park and Tandle Hill) are often considered to be 'destination locations' that might be visited for the day or an extended period and should be accessible within a 20-minute drive.

18.24 Due to the characteristics of the type of provision, accessibility standards have not been set for Allotments and Community Gardens, Cemeteries and Churchyards, Civic Spaces and Green Corridors. The Council will continue to ensure that any new spaces provided within these typologies are sustainably located where appropriate.

18.25 Open Space Accessibility buffers are available to view online[170].

Quantity

18.26 Quantity is a measure of how much open space is available against a measure of population (the number of hectares required per 1,000 population). The quantity standard has been determined based on the premise of protecting existing open space as much as possible and securing new open space, where appropriate, ensuring that

[169] This guidance can be found at: https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/planning-sport

[170] See Green Infrastructure Network and Opportunity Map and Open Space Study documents https://maps.oldham.gov.uk/webmap/?initialDialog=layersDialog&mapName=Green_Infrastructure and https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022

new residential development does not adversely impact upon existing open space provision.

18.27 Due to the characteristics of the type of provision, quantity standards have not been set for Cemeteries and Churchyards, Civic Spaces and Green Corridors. The Council will continue to ensure this type of provision is protected and enhanced where appropriate[171].

Quality

18.28 Quality is a measure of how the site performs against specific criteria, based on the Green Flag Award criteria[172], including indicators related to 'welcoming place', 'healthy, safe and secure' and 'well maintained and clean'. The borough's open space sites were scored in quality bandings of 'excellent – 90% to 100%', 'very good – 80% to 89%', 'good – 70% to 79%', 'fair – 50% to 69%' and 'poor 0% to 49%'. The Open Space Study (2022) recommended that a standard of 70% should be introduced to ensure that the borough's open spaces aim for at least a good standard to provide a positive benefit to the local community and the environment.

18.29 Quality is closely linked to value and together the standards can be a useful guide for investment, for example some high value sites may be poor quality and as such contributions could be spent improving these spaces to enhance and support community use.

Value

18.30 Open space value is a measure of functionality and usage by communities. As part of the Open Space Study (2022), sites were assessed against several 'value criteria' including, context, historical/ heritage, contribution to local amenity, sense of place, recreation, play, ecological and biodiversity. The Study scored sites as 'high (60-100%)', 'medium (40-59%)' and 'low (0-39%)' based on the value criteria. The Study recommended that a value standard of high value be applied for destination or flagship sites and a standard of medium value be applied for all other open space sites. The Council will advise in terms of identifying flagship sites - examples include Alexandra Park, Waterhead Park and Westway in Shaw.

18.31 Where new open spaces are proposed, the provider must demonstrate through a 'value audit' that the proposed provision meets the relevant value standard set out within the policy. The audit should be proportionate to the size and typology of provision that is proposed and be completed by a competent person, reflecting the criteria and scoring set out within the Open Space Study[173].

18.32 In most cases, financial contributions towards existing offsite open space should go towards those spaces assessed with either a low or medium value score and a low or fair quality score. In some instances, to improve provision, it may be appropriate for contributions to go towards sites which are high quality but low value, or vice versa.

18.33 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, including, for example, adding street furniture, planting, improving signage and accessibility, and promoting spaces for

[171] Cemeteries, churchyards and green corridors also form a significant part of the borough's green infrastructure network which are protected under Policy N3.
[172] Open Space Study (main document) (2022), Chapter 3, Table 2.
[173] Open Space Study (main document), (2022), Chapter 3, pages 24-26.

events or sports use, to promote or improve their contextual, heritage, local amenity, sense of place, recreation, play and ecological value.

Policy CO3 - Community Facilities

The Council will support development proposals for new and improved community facilities where:

1. **Any unacceptable impacts on neighbouring uses, the local environment, highway safety and traffic generation can be mitigated; and**
2. **They are accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling.**

Development proposals relating to new residential care homes and nursing homes, non-residential education and training facilities, and health facilities will be assessed against Policy H4, Policy CO4 and Policy CO6 respectively.

The loss of sites and premises used for community facilities will only be supported where:

a. **It is proved the existing use has insufficient demand to support it or is no longer needed; or**

b. **The loss is part of a wider proposal to improve service provision in the locality; or**

c. **It is demonstrated that existing facilities nearby can adequately serve identified needs, in an equally accessible manner.**

The views of the local community, including existing users, and relevant parish Councils will be important to establish the significance of, and demand for, individual facilities and to develop solutions to enable their retention.

Reasoned Justification

18.34 The purpose of this policy is to allow for new community facilities and services in sustainable locations and to prevent the premature loss of important local facilities where their continued use is considered to remain a reasonable prospect.

18.35 Community facilities within the borough provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational and leisure and cultural needs of the community. Some serve a local community (e.g., post office), while others serve a wider area. These facilities and services help create supportive communities by meeting day to day needs of residents and businesses, such as:

- Public halls, (including community and youth centres)
- Post Offices
- Non-residential education and training facilities
- Children's nurseries and creches
- Childcare centres

- Doctors surgeries, dentists, health centres and clinics, chemists and hospitals
- Residential care homes and nursing homes
- Village shops
- Village pubs
- Places of worship and church halls
- Museums, libraries and art galleries
- Performance spaces

18.36 New and enhanced community services and facilities will be supported where they are well related to the communities they serve and cause no adverse impacts upon neighbouring uses. Facilities should be easily accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling.

18.37 Oldham Council is committed to place-based integration where public services work collaboratively in place to provide timely and effective support to our residents and communities. Through this policy and the Local Plan the establishment of Family Hubs across Oldham as a network of integrated health and community resources will be supported. These hubs will enable and support people in the local community to live independently and to access support at the earliest opportunity as part of the Oldham prevention framework to improve health and well-being and reduce escalation of demand within the public sector.

18.38 The Council will seek to minimise the loss of land and buildings that are being used as community facilities. A loss of a community facility will only be supported where it meets one of the criteria a to c above and proposals for the redevelopment of a community facility will therefore be carefully assessed, particularly where there is no alternative provision planned. The approach taken within the policy recognises that there will be instances where facilities and services are no longer needed, in their entirety or in their current form, and that the impact of their loss has been considered as part of a wider strategy.

18.39 The Localism Act 2011[174] allows local groups within a community (including Parish Councils) the right to identify and protect facilities that are important to them from immediate disposal. Communities can nominate a building or an area of land to be listed as an 'Asset of Community Value'. An asset can be privately or publicly owned and can vary from local shops and pubs, through to parks, open space areas and community centres.

18.40 Once listed, the process allows community organisations the opportunity to bid to buy listed assets under the 'Community Right to Bid' process. However, there is no obligation for owners to sell their asset to a community organisation and there is no control over who takes ownership.

18.41 The impact of a development proposal on a registered Asset of Community Value is a material planning consideration.

[174] This Act can be found at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted

Policy CO4 - Education and Skills

Development proposals for early years, schools and post-16 facilities shall be supported where they are:

1. **located within the community it is intended to serve and will be accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling;**

2. **located, designed and managed to minimise the impacts of associated traffic and car parking on the surrounding area, including the safe provision of drop-offs and pick-ups to avoid congestion; and**

3. **providing high-quality indoor and outdoor facilities suitable for the intended number, and age range, of students.**

Where opportunities arise through new built development and change of use, the shared use of facilities by the local community will be encouraged through planning conditions or planning obligations as appropriate and where such usage can be accommodated without compromising the quality and accessibility for new and/or existing users.

Land and buildings in educational use will be protected. Proposals that result in the net loss of educational facilities will be considered in accordance with Policy CO3: Community Facilities.

The Council will work with the local education authority to identify suitable sites for educational use where a need has been identified.

Reasoned Justification

18.42 National policy requires local planning authorities to take a proactive, positive, and collaborative approach to ensure that there is a sufficient choice of school places available to meet the needs of existing and new communities.

18.43 The Council is committed to ensuring that all young people get the education that they deserve and that there is a good school within reach of every child in the borough. This requires an assessment in collaboration with education partners of the current capacity of schools and their ability to cater for new growth together with determining where and how the additional capacity to support new growth should be provided.

18.44 Access to adequate, affordable, and high-quality childcare (pre-school and school-age) provisions can play a key role in children's development. Where it enables increased parental employment rates of low-income households, it may also help to reduce income inequalities. Childcare facilities should be safe, accessible for all, and provide both indoor and outdoor learning opportunities.

18.45 Enabling the shared use of facilities within schools can be an important and valuable resource for the local community, where this does not compromise the day to day use of the land or buildings. Through for example, allowing the use of playing fields, gym halls and classrooms by the local community during after-school hours.

18.46 The Council will support improvements to the education and skills of the borough's population by working with a range of education partners, including the University Campus Oldham, Oldham College and Oldham Sixth-Form College and with developer contributions to facilitate the development of new and improved education facilities.

Policy CO5 - Securing Educational Places through New Residential Development

Where a residential development of 10 dwellings or more would create or exacerbate a shortfall in the number of local school places, the Council will seek to secure new and/or improved education facilities. This is to address the unmet need, proportionate to the number of people aged 0-19, that the development is likely to accommodate.

Such provision will typically involve making a financial contribution towards the expansion of an existing education facility in agreement with the local education authority.

Where it is not practicable or desirable to meet the unmet demand through expanding capacity on-site provision may be required and the Council will negotiate with developers to secure the setting aside of land to accommodate the additional education provision.

For each relevant type of education provision, the scale of any financial contribution will be calculated using the following formula:

Pupil yield factor x Cost per pupil place = Financial contribution

Reasoned Justification

18.47 The Council has a statutory duty under the Education Act 1996 to ensure that there are sufficient school places available within the borough to meet the educational needs of the population.

18.48 Whilst the Government provides funding to local authorities for the provision of new school places, the funding is reduced to take account of developer contributions to avoid double funding of school places. DfE therefore, expects local authorities to seek developer contributions towards school places that are created to meet the need arising from housing development.

18.49 It is important that the impacts of new residential development are addressed including:

- The education needs arising from a new development, based on an up-to-date pupil yield factor;
- The capacity of the existing schools that would serve the development; and
- The extent to which developer contributions are required and the degree of certainty that these will be secured at the appropriate time.

18.50 The Council will seek to secure new and/or improved education facilities and provision through S106 developer contributions where the existing provision is unable to accommodate the additional demands arising from a new residential development.

18.51 Where it is demonstrated that the number of pupils generated by a development is greater than the number of school places available, the Council may require a contribution to fund the provision of the additional school places.

18.52 Financial contributions will be calculated based upon expected pupil yields resulting from the proposed development and identified costs per school place to accommodate expansion of provision. Expected pupil yield will be identified in accordance with the Department for Education's (DfE) guidance on estimating pupil yield from housing

development[175] and be informed by local evidence. At present, one dwelling, proposed as part of a new residential development, will yield 0.46 of a primary school place and 0.29 of a secondary school place.

18.53 Costs per school place will be identified using the DfE's most recently published local authority school places scorecards[176].

18.54 In addition to primary and secondary school places, developer contributions will be sought for early years, post-16 and SEND places, recognising the duty placed on the local authority to secure sufficient education and training provision for young people with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan up to the age of 25. Costs associated with providing places in special schools and alternative provision are likely to be higher than those for mainstream school places and the DfE's Developer Contributions Guidance provides further guidance on this matter.

18.55 Engagement with the local education authority early on, as part of pre-application discussions, will be important to ensure that the education demands generated by the development proposed are appropriately met.

Policy CO6 - New Development and Health

Proposals for new health facilities will be supported where they:

1. **Are located in areas of identified need, as evidenced by the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and relevant NHS strategies;**
2. **Are co-located with other community services where appropriate, to support integrated care delivery.**

Improvements in the quality and accessibility of health and social care facilities will be supported.

The loss of a healthcare facility will only be supported where it has been formally declared surplus to the operational healthcare requirements of the NHS or identified as surplus as part of a published estates strategy or service transformation plan.

Health Impact Assessments

In line with PfE Policy JP-P6 a Health Impact Assessment will be required for all developments screened for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and other proposals which, due to their location, nature or proximity to sensitive receptors, are likely to have a notable impact on health and wellbeing.

The HIA should demonstrate how the development will impact on health and wellbeing through the consideration of the following, where relevant:

a) **Housing standards and affordability;**
b) **Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure**
c) **Access to open space and the natural environment;**
d) **Air quality, noise and amenity;**

[175] Estimating pupil yield from housing development, August 2023; Department for Education - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64d0f71be5491a00134b5940/Estimating_Pupil_Yield_from_Housing_Development.pdf
[176] The DfE's most recently published local authority school places scorecards are available at https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/local-authority-school-places-scorecards/2024

e) **Accessibility and active travel;**

f) **Crime reduction and community safety;**

g) **Adaptation to climate change;**

h) **Access to work and training; and**

i) **Access to healthy food choices.**

Where a development is found to have significant negative impacts on health and wellbeing the Council may require applicants to provide for the mitigation of such impacts through the use of planning conditions and / or financial contributions secured via a planning obligation.

Development that would have an unacceptable impact on health or wellbeing will not be permitted.

Residential development and providing for health facilities

Where the demand resulting from a residential development (of 10 dwellings and above) will create or exacerbate a shortfall in health provision the Council will seek the provision of new or improved health facilities to address the unmet need generated by the development, as appropriate.

Developers should engage with the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and Integrated Care Board at the earliest opportunity to determine the health care requirements associated with new development.

Reasoned Justification

19.56 Through creating Healthier Happier Lives, the Council aims to build a community where everyone has access to the care, support, and opportunities they need to live a good life. We are committed to tackling poverty, improving health and wellbeing, providing high-quality social care, and promoting lifelong education. Being resident focussed this also means providing support and care that is as close to, and connected with, homes and community as possible[177]. The health estate must be supported to develop and modernise, or be protected in line with integrated NHS strategies, and planning has a key role in helping to deliver these ambitions, through helping to secure quality and accessible health provision that meets the needs of our local communities.

19.57 It is important to ensure that the demands placed on health provision are met by new residential development as it comes forward and that a proportionate contribution is made towards funding the healthcare needs. The local planning authority will work with the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and Integrated Care Board to ensure that the capacity of health facilities in Oldham increases in line with growing and changing needs. New or improved health facilities required to address unmet need generated by a new residential development of 10 dwellings and above will be secured through a Section 106 Planning Obligation in accordance with Policy IN2 Planning Obligations. Early dialogue with the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and Integrated Care Board is essential to ensure that appropriate provision is provided.

[177] Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2030 can be found at: https://www.jsnaoldham.co.uk/cms-data/depot/profile-depot/HealthAndWellbeingStrategy_Approved210323.pdf

19.58 Developers have the potential to positively influence health and well-being through maximising the health benefits of a proposal, minimising the potential harm, and reducing inequalities. Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is an objective assessment tool for identifying the health impacts of a proposed development and can be used to inform its design, thereby leading to a development that is sustainable and which positively contributes to the borough's health and wellbeing.

19.59 To ensure that new developments have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of new and existing residents, the Council will require a HIA for relevant development proposals.

19.60 The HIA should identify the health impacts of the proposed development having regard to the matters a) to i) listed above as relevant. In doing so the assessment should consider and identify the following:

a) The potential positive and negative impacts on health and wellbeing, both on end users and the local population;

b) The impacts on different groups, taking into account that some groups will be more vulnerable to negative impacts, and identify those groups that will be most affected; and

c) Actions to maximise positive impacts, and minimise and mitigate adverse impacts, on health and wellbeing, having regard to the most affected groups.

19.61 Applicants are advised to seek advice from the local planning authority before carrying out a HIA to ensure that the correct level of HIA is being prepared and that it is proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed.

Policy CO7 - Hot Food Takeaways and Fast-food Outlets

Within Oldham Town Centre planning permission for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets may be permitted provided it is demonstrated it would not result in an unacceptable concentration of uses.

Outside of Oldham Town Centre planning permission for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets will not be granted where:

1. **They are within 400m of a primary or secondary school; or**

2. **They are within 400m of places where children and young people congregate.**

Proposals for all hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets will be required to demonstrate that:

a) There would be no unacceptable impact on residential amenity;

b) There would be no adverse implications for traffic management, parking or highway safety;

c) The hours of operation are appropriate for its location and having regard to neighbouring uses;

d) Appropriately designed and sited fume extraction systems and/or noise insulation are provided;

e) An appropriate location for commercial trade waste including recycling facilities has been identified;

f) Litter will be contained within the curtilage of the premises, stored to avoid odour nuisance, be convenient for refuse collection and screened to protect visual amenity. Any litter bin provision should be retained in perpetuity; and

g) Healthier food and drink options will be promoted and made available as a standard part of the menu.

Applications for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets must be supported by a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) that is proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed and in line policy CO6.

Reasoned Justification

18.56 National planning guidance states that local planning authorities should refuse applications for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets under certain criteria linked to distance to schools and / or where there is evidence that such uses have adverse impacts on local health, pollution or anti-social behaviour.

18.57 There is a growing body of evidence on the association between exposure to fast food outlets and obesity. There are also concerns about the effect fast food consumption is having on children's diets and eating behaviour, with health problems such as obesity starting to develop at primary school age and behaviour that's established early in life following through to adulthood.

18.58 In Oldham 38.6% of year 6 aged children are overweight or obese. This is higher than the England rate of 35.8% (2032/24). For adults, the latest figures highlight that 71.3% of adults in Oldham are classified as overweight or obese. This is higher than the England average of 64.5% (2023/24).

18.59 The density of fast-food outlets in Oldham is also above that in England. With there being 124.4 per 100,000 population as opposed to 96.5 across England (2017).

18.60 High levels of deprivation in Oldham coincide with a high prevalence of unhealthy weight and high numbers of fast-food outlets, as all tend to be within the inner Oldham wards. The latest Joint Service Needs Assessment shows that 35% of areas in Oldham are amongst the 10% most deprived areas in England (this is 7 out of 20 wards). This mirrors the position nationally, where increased access to fast food outlets in the most deprived areas has been shown to adversely impact unhealthy weight and health inequalities.

18.61 The policy applies a 400m walking distance from a primary or secondary school and from places where children and young people congregate.

18.62 For the purposes of this policy, places where children and young people congregate include the following:

- Parks;
- Leisure facilities such as cinemas, climbing walls, sports centres;
- Out of centre retail parks such as Elk Mill and Alexandra Retail Park;

- Sixth forms and colleges
- Libraries;
- Community, children's and youth centres; and
- Places of worship.

18.63 This list will be kept under review throughout the lifetime of the Plan and will be updated as appropriate.

18.64 Seeking to limit the proliferation of hot food takeaways, having regard to such issues as the proximity to locations where children and young people congregate; evidence indicating high levels of obesity and health inequalities; the over-concentration of certain uses within a specified area; and other issues such as odours and noise impact, refuse and litter will both also help to maintain and support the economic vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres.

18.65 See Policy CO6 (New Developments and Health), for further details regarding what is required as part of a HIA and how to ensure the assessment is proportionate to the scale and nature to development proposed.

Monitoring

18.66 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space
- Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision
- Life Expectancy
- Proportion of physically active adults
- Childhood obesity rates
- State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts
- Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities
- The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate

18.67 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Number of hectares of green infrastructure (metric will consider publicly accessible GI where information is available)
- Numbers of school places
- Consideration of 'headroom' statistics where available.
- Percentage of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and percentage of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.

19 Protecting Our Local Environment

19.1 Quality of life is affected by the local environment. Addressing amenity and tackling pollution will have impacts on health and wellbeing and the environment. The purpose of these policies is to maintain, protect and enhance living and working conditions that will maintain a high standard of amenity for all users and occupiers.

Policy LE1 – Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development

All developments will be expected to provide and maintain a high standard of protection from noise pollution and vibration for all users and occupiers, including both future occupants and users of the proposed development as well as existing occupants and users of neighbouring land and buildings. This should be achieved and maintained without preventing, or unreasonably restricting, the continued operation of established authorised neighbouring uses and activities.

Proposals will be required to demonstrate, at planning application stage, that where applicable the following matters have been adequately addressed in relation to both the construction and operational life of the development:

1. **noise and vibration (particularly with regards to noise-sensitive uses), including internal and external levels, timing, duration and character; and**

2. **traffic movements to, from, and within, the site including car parking and arrangements for deliveries.**

The Council will not support proposals where new residents and occupiers would be likely to raise complaints about neighbouring existing uses. Where new developments could be affected by an existing operation or business in its vicinity, the applicant (or 'agent of change') is required to provide suitable mitigation to be agreed with the Council.

Depending on the scale and nature of the development proposed, a detailed assessment to be agreed with the Council may be required to address criteria 1 and 2 above.

Reasoned Justification

19.2 A key role of the planning system is to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on the amenity[178] of existing properties and that adequate levels of amenity will be enjoyed by future occupiers of the proposed development.

19.3 All development (including minor developments and extensions) can cause a disturbance to nearby residents or users of neighbouring land and buildings resulting in the quality of their amenity being impacted. However, the continuance of established existing businesses should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them because of the introduction of new and incompatible land uses. Such matters are an important planning consideration in relation to amenity.

19.4 Noise generating development should, wherever possible, be located away from noise-sensitive development (e.g., housing). Conversely noise-sensitive development will not be supported in the vicinity of established noise-generating uses unless appropriate

[178]For the purposes of this policy, 'amenity' is defined as those desirable features of a place that ought to be protected in the public interest.

measures are taken to ensure that the noise does not adversely affect levels of amenity. Considerations will include the internal and external levels, timing, duration, and character of noise.

19.5 Where noise-sensitive uses are proposed close to an existing noise source, or when noise-generating uses are proposed, the Council will require noise impact assessments and/or vibration surveys to accompany a planning application. The remit and methodology should be agreed in advance with the Council and should be undertaken in accordance with the most relevant national guidance and industry codes of practice.

19.6 Traffic and parking provision can have a significant impact on the amenity of occupiers and users in relation to vehicle movements to and from the destination. The resulting disturbance from the noise and vibration of passing vehicles can have a significant impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties – especially if it involves Heavy Goods Vehicles.

19.7 Light pollution is also an important consideration and is addressed by Policy OL5.

Policy LE2 - Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land

Development proposals for sensitive end uses will be permitted on contaminated land, or land which may have been subject to previous industrial activity or affected by landfill gas or land instability, where appropriate measures can be taken to remediate and/or satisfactorily mitigate the risk of contamination and/or existing ground conditions.

Planning applications for proposals on land that is potentially unstable or contaminated shall be accompanied by an appropriate Coal Mining Risk Assessment, land stability or slope stability risk assessment or Contaminated Land Assessment carried out by a qualified professional showing:

1. **The nature and extent of contamination or instability issues and the potential effects this may have on the development and its future users; and**

2. **The measures needed to allow the development to go ahead safely considering the potential end users.**

Where remedial measures are required to allow the development to go ahead safely, these will be secured by a condition of planning permission.

Reasoned Justification

19.8 Activities associated with industrial/commercial and agricultural processes can result in adverse ground conditions which can pose a risk to development, future site users and the environment. Oldham has a rich industrial heritage and previous manufacturing, engineering and industrial processes have resulted in the potential for contaminated land across the borough. Typical causes of land contamination include industrial or commercial usage, mining, and landfilling. Contamination can also occur naturally due to certain types of minerals being present in rocks and soils.

19.9 Where contamination is known or suspected, applicants should ensure that any potential issues are identified and discussed with the Council as early as possible in the development process. Development proposals will be expected to seek sustainable solutions to the remediation of contaminated land.

19.10 To ensure that a sufficient and proportionate level of information is provided, a Contaminated Land Assessment will need to be submitted with all new development proposals where contamination is suspected or known on the site (or adjacent land) and/or where the proposed development for a sensitive end use would be particularly vulnerable to the presence of contamination, for example, residential schemes, care homes, holiday lets, allotments etc.

19.11 A Coal Mining Risk Assessment will need to be submitted with all new development proposals where the site lies within an area that is known to be at risk of historical mine workings.

19.12 Land stability or slope stability risk assessment will also be required where land is potentially unstable.

19.13 Remediation will need to remove unacceptable risks and make the site suitable for its new use. As a minimum, after carrying out the development and commencement of the new use, the land should not be capable of being determined as contaminated land under the Environmental Protection Act (1990).[179]

Policy LE3 - Air Quality

The Council will seek to improve air quality within the borough and contribute towards the achievement of national air quality objectives and Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan.

Development will be supported in line with PfE policies that does not:

1. **Impede the achievement of any air quality objective(s), particularly in locations declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs);**

2. **Introduce a significant new source of any air pollutant, including odour, fumes, smoke, dust and other sources; and**

3. **Increase exposure to poor air quality, particularly where vulnerable people are located (such as health care facilities, care homes or schools).**

Air Quality Assessments will be required to support planning applications for the following:

4. **Residential development of over 100 dwellings**

5. **Development involving more than 10,000m^2 of floorspace**

6. **Developments which introduce new exposure into an area of existing poor air quality (e.g., an AQMA)**

Depending on the scale and nature of the development proposed, Air Quality Assessments may be required to support other applications including industrial processes where there are direct emissions to the air, as well as proposals with significant vehicle movements and significant changes to highways infrastructure.

[179] This Act can be found at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/43/contents

Development that is likely to produce an odour, should demonstrate that there is no negative impact on residential amenity by providing an Odour Impact Assessment.

Reasoned Justification

19.14 Air pollution can arise from many sources and activities, including traffic and transport, industrial processes, commercial premises, energy generation, agriculture, waste storage treatment and construction sites. Increasing temperatures can heighten the impact of air pollutants, and so climate change further raises the importance of addressing air quality issues.

19.15 This policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources in any potential form and includes dust, fumes, and odour.

19.16 Good practice for air quality should be applied to all developments. Development should be designed to minimise public exposure to pollution sources for example by locating habitable rooms away from busy roads, or directing combustion generated pollutants through well sited vents.

19.17 In accordance with Policy T5, where development generates significant additional traffic, the provision of a detailed Travel Plan will be required, which sets out measures to encourage sustainable means of transport such as subsidised or free-ticketing, improved links to bus stops, improved infrastructure and layouts to improve accessibility and safety. The provision of a Travel Plan should include measures to help reduce the impact of transport related emissions which are likely to have an impact on air quality (such as the provision of cycle parking and changing facilities).

19.18 Some developments may require an Air Quality Assessment where there is the risk of an adverse air quality effect, either from a new development causing an air quality impact or creating exposure to high concentrations of pollutants for new residents. Where the need for an Air Quality Assessment is triggered, it should show the likely changes in air quality or exposure to air pollutants as a result of the proposed development, including a review of monitoring data. Where monitoring is not currently undertaken, it may be requested to inform the application or to confirm the effects. The purpose of the assessment will be to determine the predicted impact of a development on local air quality, public health and/or the local environment, to help determine the appropriate level of mitigation from a development.

19.19 Planning applications which are required to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment will need to consider air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss, within the Manchester Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC) in accordance with PfE Policy JP-C8.

19.20 It is recommended that developers contact the Council's Environmental Health team to confirm whether an Air Quality Assessment is likely to be needed in support of a future planning application. Air Quality Assessments will need to be proportionate to the nature and scale of development proposed and the potential impacts (considering existing air quality conditions), and because of this are likely to be location specific.

19.21 Where proposals have the potential to release significant odours or where a sensitive use is being proposed close to a wastewater treatment works or other sources of odour, applicants will be required to provide an Odour Impact Assessment. The Assessment must be carried out in consultation with the relevant statutory undertaker to confirm that there are no adverse amenity impacts on future occupiers or that the adverse impacts can be appropriately mitigated.

19.22 Odour can arise from activities such as wastewater treatment works, intensive livestock farming and some industrial processes. An Odour Impact Assessment will be required

to accompany any proposal that would introduce new sources of odour close to sensitive receptors, or the development of sensitive uses close to existing sources of odour. The Odour Impact Assessment will be required to be undertaken by a suitably qualified person in accordance with good practice guidance and consultation with the relevant statutory undertaker.

Monitoring

19.23 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land
- Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher
- Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
- Annual mean nitrogen dioxide

19.24 The main PfE indicator that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Exceedance of the legal level of NO2 (as an Annual Mean) in local AQMA and Clean Air Plan Monitoring

20 Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham

Digital Infrastructure

20.1 To facilitate residents demand to access services digitally, Oldham Council is implementing a digital strategy, so that where possible and there is resident demand, end-to-end digital services are available. Much of the strategy focuses on what the Council can do to improve its digital presence. However, for the digital infrastructure to be a success, there is a need for Oldham's digital fibre infrastructure to be strengthened so that homes and businesses can access digital connections that reflect current and future demand.

Planning Obligations

20.2 Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) are a mechanism that may be used to make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms, that would not be otherwise. They should only be used where it is not possible to address unacceptable impacts through a planning condition.

20.3 A planning obligation must only be sought where they meet the test set out in national planning guidance, which is that it is:

a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;

b) directly related to the development; and

c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

20.4 Common uses of planning obligations across Oldham are to secure affordable housing, and provide for open space, sport and recreation provision and infrastructure such as school places. A planning obligation can be used to:

1. restrict the development or use of the land in a specified way;
2. require specified operations or activities to be carried out in, on, under or over the land;
3. require the land to be used in a specified way; or
4. require a sum or sums to be paid to the authority on a specified date or dates or periodically.

20.5 The planning obligation is a formal document, a deed, which states that it is an obligation for planning purposes, identifies the relevant land, the person entering the obligation and their interest and the relevant local authority that would enforce the obligation. The obligation can be a unitary obligation or multi-party agreement. If the planning obligation is not complied with, it is enforceable against the person that entered into the obligation and any subsequent owner of the land against which it was made.

Policy IN1 Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications

The Council will support the provision of infrastructure that extends and improves digital connectivity across the borough, particularly where it provides access to 5G and gigabit-capable full fibre technology.

Where new telecommunication sites are proposed, including those for prior approval, proposals will be considered in accordance with the relevant Government guidance.

New masts or telecommunications equipment will be permitted where:

1. **it has been demonstrated that there are no reasonable opportunities for sharing a site, mast or facility with existing telecommunications infrastructure in the area before new sites are considered;**

2. **the siting, height and design of the equipment will not cause harm to the character and appearance of the area in which it is located, including the significance and setting of historic assets;**

3. **any building-mounted installations would be located and designed to minimise the appearance on the host building;**

4. **it can be demonstrated that the equipment will not cause any interference with other electrical equipment or detrimental impact on air traffic safety;**

5. **the development does not impact on the movement of pedestrians or cyclists or highway safety; and**

6. **provision is made for the removal of the structures and reinstatement of the site as soon as reasonably practicable after it is no longer required for telecommunication purposes.**

All new residential and employment developments should enable Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) broadband infrastructure. Where it is demonstrated that FTTP is not viable, proposals should ensure that new development is broadband ready through the installation of appropriate ducting and equipment. Where no broadband provision is included, developers will be required to demonstrate through consultation with broadband providers that such connections are not deliverable or viable.

Reasoned Justification

20.6 The purpose of this policy is to improve digital connectivity across the borough. The Council is committed to securing a high-quality communication infrastructure that is essential for growing

20.7 a sustainable economy and for social wellbeing. Access to high quality digital infrastructure supports productivity and new business opportunities. It can also facilitate social inclusion, enable home working, diversify the rural economy, enhance educational and social opportunities, as well as improve access to a wide range of services that are increasingly provided online. It can also help to mitigate air quality impacts by reducing the need to travel. As technology advances the demand for new telecommunications infrastructure will continue to grow.

20.8 Part 16 of the General Permitted Development Order (1995)[180] (as amended) allows telecommunications operators to install and replace certain types of telecommunications equipment without the need for planning permission provided certain criteria are met.

20.9 Some smaller scale masts fall within 'permitted development' but require the 'Prior Approval' of the local planning authority. In these instances, the Council can exercise control over the siting and appearance of telecommunications equipment in the interests of protecting amenity. Appearance of a mast includes its materials, colour and design, and consideration of siting will involve its impact on the ecological value of the site, the wider landscape and its proximity to buildings and housing and the availability of alternative infrastructure in the area. The criteria in the policy will be applied in these cases and for those more significant radio and telecommunications infrastructure that do not constitute permitted development.

20.10 Maximising the use of existing infrastructure and facilities will be prioritised. It is essential that the proliferation of new telecommunications structures is controlled, their visual impact appropriately mitigated, and opportunities for the rationalisation or screening of equipment already installed on existing masts, buildings and associated street cabinets provided.

20.11 Planning applications must be accompanied by detailed supplementary information which provides the technical justification for the proposed development, details of any consultation undertaken, the proposed structure and measures to minimise its visual impact.

20.12 The provision of gigabit-capable connectivity to new build developments is a crucial element of meeting the Government's ambitious broadband targets. These are fibre-based networks and certain advanced wireless networks capable of delivering reliable high speeds. The Government has therefore secured commitments from network operators, outlining their commitment to work with housing developers on providing gigabit-capable connections to all new build developments across the UK. These commitments alongside the amendments to the Building Regulations 2010 to require all new build developments to have gigabit broadband will ensure that 99% of all new homes will be able to be built with gigabit-capable broadband.

20.13 It is important that new developments must be 'future-proofed' with appropriate digital infrastructure that will meet existing and future communication needs. New sites (residential and non-residential) should be provided with in-built broadband infrastructure to enable the delivery of high-speed broadband services. It is essential that the Council works with developers to make sure that the appropriate digital infrastructure is incorporated, including 5G networks (or future technologies as they become available).

Policy IN2 – Planning Obligations

Where developments would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required.

Planning obligations will also be sought to secure the ongoing maintenance and management of provision where necessary.

[180] This can be found at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/596/schedule/2/part/16/made

Where a site is in multiple ownership it will be ensured that all developers make a proportionate contribution to any planning obligations required, to enable the delivery of the whole site, as well as those obligations specific to their individual development parcel.

In some circumstances, it may be more appropriate for planning obligations to go towards new or enhanced provision off-site. For large-scale development or strategic sites subject to phasing it may also be appropriate to pool S106 monies raised from planning obligations, to contribute towards a piece of infrastructure or project that will support delivery of the whole site and its comprehensive development. The Council will work with developers to facilitate the delivery of provision as appropriate.

Developers are encouraged to enter into early discussions with the Council to discuss planning obligations and requirements.

Further information and detailed guidance in respect of planning obligations and policy requirements can be found in individual policies throughout the Plan.

Viability

In some cases, a site-specific viability assessment may be submitted where the need for such is evidenced by a change in circumstance which could not have been evident in the whole plan Viability Assessment, in line with NPPF and PPG.

Where the site-specific viability assessment provides evidence to demonstrate that it is not financially viable to provide the level of planning obligations proposed, reduced planning obligations will only be permitted where:

1. **The value of the planning obligations has been maximised having regard to likely viability;**

2. **A clawback mechanism has been incorporated into the legal agreement where appropriate, to ensure that additional mitigation is provided if final development viability is better than anticipated in the initial viability assessment; and**

3. **The benefits of the development outweigh the lack of full mitigation for its impacts, having regard to other material considerations.**

The viability assessment of any such application will be independently verified by the Council, at the expense of the applicant.

Reasoned Justification

20.14 New development should make a positive contribution to local communities and should not place unnecessary pressure on existing services, facilities, infrastructure and open spaces. As such, new development will be expected to contribute to new, and/or enhance existing, provision of services and facilities to ensure sustainable development.

20.15 Further information and detailed guidance in respect of planning obligations and policy requirements can be found in individual policies throughout the Plan.

20.16 In some cases, such as in terms of delivering affordable housing, it may be more appropriate to secure provision through planning conditions rather than planning obligations. This is set out in the relevant policy where appropriate.

Viability

20.17 A whole plan Viability Assessment has been carried out as part preparing the Publication Plan. The assessment has tested local plan policy requirements alongside anticipated development costs, to ensure that the local and national planning policy requirements are realistic, both individually and cumulatively, and accordingly do not undermine the delivery of the Local Plan.

20.18 It will be the responsibility of the applicant to demonstrate whether circumstances justify the need for a site-specific viability assessment at the application stage.

20.19 Any such site-specific viability assessment should be proportionate, comply with national planning policy and guidance and should refer to the methodology and approach set out within the whole plan Viability Assessment. All assessments will be made publicly available as part of the planning application process, ensuring transparency in line with national planning policy.

20.20 The price paid for land is not a relevant justification for failing to accord with relevant policy requirements in the Local Plan. Landowners and site purchasers should consider this when agreeing land transactions.

20.21 The weight to be given to any such site-specific viability assessment is a matter for the Council as the decision maker on a case-by-case basis, having regard to all the circumstances in the case, including whether the plan and the underpinning evidence remains up to date and any if there has been a change in circumstances since the adoption of the plan.

20.22 Following the outcomes of the individual site-specific viability assessment, if the Council is satisfied that there are overriding viability issues which prevent full compliance with policy requirements, it may be necessary to forgo a particular policy requirement to deliver another. Decisions in this respect will be made based on the evidence of local needs and priorities set out within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

20.23 Where development is permitted which does not fully comply with policy requirements on the grounds of viability a clawback mechanism will be incorporated into the legal agreement to enable the review of viability over the course of development, or after planning permission is granted, and to ensure that additional mitigation is secured where viability has been improved. This will ensure the fullest possible compliance with the Local Plan is secured.

Policy IN3 - Delivering Social Value and Inclusion

All development shall be located, designed, constructed and operated in such a way as to maximise its social value.

All planning applications for major developments shall be supported by a Social Value Strategy.

A condition will be included on all relevant planning permissions to ensure the preparation and implementation of a Social Value Strategy, to be approved by the Council. This will include a requirement for compliance with the relevant parts of the strategy to be confirmed prior to the commencement and occupation of the development as appropriate.

The Social Value Strategy shall identify how the development will support and deliver social value and inclusion throughout its lifetime. Where relevant this shall include consideration of how the proposed development will:

1. **Help to reduce inequalities in Oldham and their adverse impacts on residents;**
2. **Support local residents and vulnerable groups to participate in society;**
3. **Create inclusive places through its design in accordance with Policy D1;**
4. **Promote opportunities for good mental and physical health and wellbeing;**
5. **Promote economic inclusion, through (but not exclusively) the following:**
    a) **Ensuring that access arrangements cater for all needs, including maximising opportunities for walking, wheeling and cycling;**
    b) **Promoting on-site employment opportunities to Oldham residents;**
    c) **Providing training opportunities for Oldham residents;**
    d) **Utilising local supply chains; and**
    e) **Signing up to Greater Manchester's Good Employment Charter.**

Further guidance on delivering social value may be developed through a supplementary planning document (SPD).

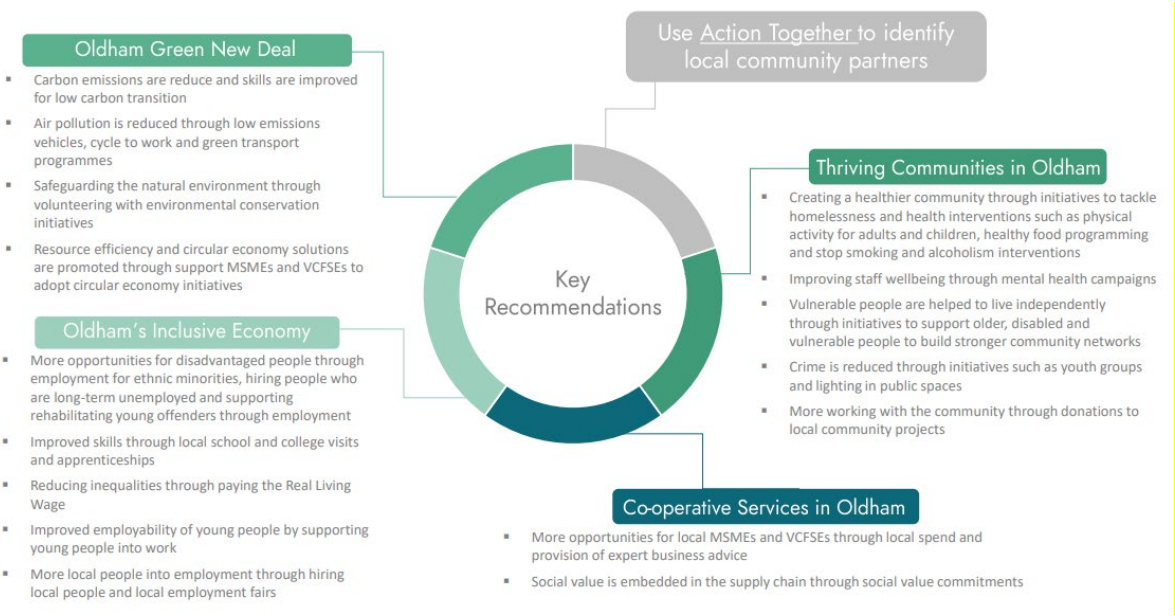
Reasoned Justification

20.24 The Oldham Partnership's ambitions for Oldham are set out within the Oldham Plan 2024-30. The Plan identify three priorities – A Great Place to Live, Healthier Happier Lives, and Green and Growing. These reflect the Partnership's shared ambitions for Oldham, which are for vibrant, safe neighbourhoods where people are proud to live; opportunities for healthier, more fulfilled lives; and a sustainable, thriving economy. At the heart of this is the creation of a borough where residents feel a deep sense of belonging and ownership, where they can celebrate the unique identity and heritage of Oldham. Ensuring new major development coming forward has regard to social value through the completion and implementation of their Social Value Strategy is a

key part of how, through planning, we can help to support and deliver these ambitions and priorities.

20.25 A Local Needs Analysis[181] was carried out by the Social Value Portal on behalf of the Council in 2022 with the aim to provide guidance for stakeholder, suppliers, developers, contractors and others working in Oldham to develop robust social value strategies and inform procurement. The recommendations coming out of the 2022 local needs analysis as shown below at Figure IN1 illustrate the importance of social value and the role that planning can play in achieving it.

Figure IN1: Recommendations from the Local Needs Analysis



20.26 A key aspect of delivering social value through planning is economic inclusion and ensuring that residents share in the benefits of future development and economic growth. In Oldham, unemployment currently stands at 7.0% (June 2025). This is the highest claimant rate in GM and higher than that for England (4.3%). In 2024 the average household income in Oldham was £30,414, as opposed to England's average of £37,861, and in 2022/23 42.2% of children lived in relative low-income families, which is more than double the national figure of 19.8%. Furthermore, 22.7% of areas (7 wards) in Oldham are among the 10% most deprived areas in England (2019). This above average unemployment rate, low incomes and high levels of deprivation across parts of the borough highlight the importance of taking every opportunity to improve economic inclusion for the borough's residents, including through the promotion of social value. Through for example helping Oldham residents into employment and/or training, new development can help to tackle deprivation by raising people out of poverty and reducing inequalities, whilst benefiting directly in terms of improved access to a larger, healthier and more highly skilled labour supply.

20.27 As a Co-operative borough we also want to build a fair and prosperous local economy where everyone does their bit and everybody benefits. We believe that fair employment is central to our ambitions for Oldham and will help to create thriving business with proud and committed staff. As part of demonstrating economic inclusion in the Social Value Strategy applicants are also encouraged to be part of

[181] This document can be found at: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200195/business/1901/procurement

and sign up to Greater Manchester's Good Employment Charter, a voluntary membership and assessment scheme that aims to raise employment standards across GM, for all organisations of any size, sector or geography.

20.28 Further guidance on what to include within a social value strategy and the type of measures that could be used to assist developers in identifying how development can maximise its social value may be developed through an SPD.

Monitoring

20.29 The main Local Plan indicators that will be used to monitor this chapter are:

- Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend)

20.30 The main PfE indicators that will be used to help monitor this chapter are:

- Links provided to each Districts Infrastructure Funding Statement / Annual section 106 monitoring report
- Number of premises with full fibre connectivity

21 Monitoring

21.1. This chapter sets out a framework for the monitoring of policies contained within the Local Plan.

Policy M1 – Monitoring Framework

This monitoring framework will enable the Council to assess the implementation and effectiveness of the policies contained within the Local Plan. Monitoring of the plan is essential to ensure that it delivers its vision and objectives, and to identify where policy intervention or review may be required.

An Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) will be published annually. The AMR will:

1. **Report on progress made against the Local Development Scheme (LDS);**
2. **Assess housing delivery including net additional dwellings and affordable housing;**
3. **Monitor the implementation of Local Plan policies;**
4. **Provide updates on neighbourhood planning activity across the borough;**
5. **Report on planning obligations (Section 106) receipts and expenditure; and**
6. **Detail actions under the Duty to Co-operate.**

Each policy in the Local Plan will be monitored using specific indicators as set out in the policy's linkages box found at the end of each chapter and listed in Table M1 below.

Where monitoring identifies underperformance or unintended outcomes:

a) **Further guidance on the relevant policy matter may be produced through the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents.**

b) **Policy revisions and an early review of the Local Plan may be triggered.**

c) **Engagement with stakeholders may be undertaken to address delivery barriers.**

Reasoned Justification

21.2 National planning guidance states that 'Local planning authorities must publish information at least annually that shows progress with local plan preparation, reports any activity relating to the duty to cooperate, any information collected which relates to indicators in the plan, and any policies which are not being implemented'. A key component of the monitoring framework will therefore be the annual preparation and publication of the authorities Monitoring Report.

21.3 Aswell as reporting on the progress against the Council's LDS, assessing housing delivery, updating on preparation of neighbourhood plans across the borough and providing information on planning obligation secured, this framework will monitor the implementation of Local Plan policies. At the end of each chapter the Council has identified local indicators that will be monitored to ensure effective implementation of the plan. These indicators will be monitored to identify when a future review may be required and are set out in Table M1 below.

21.4 As part of the Integrated Assessment (IA) of the Local Plan several proposed IA Objectives have been identified along with corresponding indicators. More information on the methodology used to identify these can be found in the Integrated Assessment of the Local Plan Review: Scoping Report Update 3. These are also identified in Table M1 below.

Table M1: Local Plan Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented	Oldham Council	IA1
Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates)	Natural England and GMEU	IA1
Percentage of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation	Oldham Council / GMCA	IA1
Percentage of tree canopy cover	Oldham Council / GMCA	IA1, IA9, IA13
Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space	Oldham Council	IA2, IA8
Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision	Oldham Council	IA2, IA7, IA8
Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds	Oldham Council	IA3
Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England	Historic England	IA4
Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals	Oldham Council	IA4
Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills	Oldham Council	IA4
Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code	Oldham Council	IA5
Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt	Oldham Council	IA6, IA11
Number and type of developments permitted in Local Green Spaces	Oldham Council	IA3, IA6

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend)	Oldham Council	IA7
Life Expectancy	Oldham JSNA	IA8
Proportion of physically active adults	Oldham JSNA	IA8
Childhood obesity rates	Oldham JSNA	IA8
The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate	Oldham Council	IA8, IA15
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds	Oldham Council	IA10
Number of new developments agreed with the Council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM)	Oldham Council	IA1, IA7, IA9, IA10, IA13
Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land	Oldham Council	IA11
Percentage of households living in fuel poverty	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy	IA12
Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher	Oldham Council	IA14, IA15
Annual mean nitrogen dioxide	Oldham Council	IA14, IA15
Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors	Department of Energy Security & Net Zero	IA14, IA15, IA16, IA17
Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year	Reported Road Casualties, Great Britain	IA15
Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission	Oldham Council	IA16
Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type square metres (sqm) gross	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm gross)	Oldham Council	IA6, IA18, IA19
Employment land available by type (ha)	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19
Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19
Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses	Oldham Council	IA20
Number of homes completed within the borough's centres	Oldham Council	IA20
Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough	Marketing Manchester	IA21
The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England	IMD	IA8, IA18, IA19
Unemployment rate	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19
Youth unemployment rate	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19
State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts	Department for Education	IA7, IA22
Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities	Oldham Council	IA7, IA22
Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings - in previous years; Net additional dwellings - for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings - in future years; and Managed delivery target	Oldham Council	IA23
New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land	Oldham Council	IA6, IA11, IA23
Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate	Oldham Council	IA6, IA23
Total housing completions by size and type on major sites	Oldham Council	IA23, IA25
Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size	Oldham Council	IA23, IA25

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision	Oldham Council	IA23
Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation	Oldham Council	IA23
Number of vacant properties	Oldham Council	IA6
Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller)	Oldham Council	IA23, IA25
Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above	Oldham Council	IA17

21.5 In addition to the above Local Plan indicators a number of indicators are also monitored by GMCA to monitor Places for Everyone, The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document and the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document. These indicators are also useful for monitoring the Local Plan. For completeness, those indicators are listed in Appendix 13.

22 Glossary

Accessible, Accessibility – The terms 'accessible' and 'accessibility', as used in this document in relation to transport and other services, refer to the proximity of services and to the ability of all sectors of the community to use those services.

Affordable Housing - National Planning Policy Annex 2 defines affordable housing as housing that meets one of the following definitions:

a. Social Rent - the rent is set in accordance with the Government's rent policy for Social Rent; the landlord is a registered provider; and it includes provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households, or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision

b. Other affordable housing for rent – including Affordable Rent; Build-to-Rent or Affordable Private Rent. Rent is set in accordance with the Government's rent policy or is at least 20% below local market rent;

c. Discounted Market Sales Housing – housing sold at a discount of at least 20% below local market value; and

d. Other affordable routes to home ownership – including shared ownership, relevant equity loans, other low-cost homes for sale (at a price equivalent to at least 20% below local market value) and rent to buy (which includes a period of intermediate rent).

Air Quality Management Areas – an area which has failed to meet national air quality guidelines.

Amenity - desirable features of a place that ought to be protected in the public interest.

Ancient Woodland - An area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD. It includes ancient semi-natural woodland and plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS).

Biodiversity – Biodiversity is the variety of life on earth, including us. It is the animals, plants and all the other lifeforms which interact and depend on each other to survive in every corner of the globe – from the driest deserts to the deepest oceans.

Biodiversity Net Gain – an approach to new development that aims to leave nature in a measurably better state than it was found.

Care Leaver - defined by the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 as someone aged 16 or 17 who has been looked after by a local authority for a prescribed period, or periods amounting in all to a prescribed period, which began after they reached a prescribed age and ended after he reached the age of 16.

Climate Change - Climate change is caused by accumulating greenhouse gases in our atmosphere, resulting in large-scale, long-term shifts in our planet's weather patterns and an increase in the average temperature often referred to as 'global warming'.

Community facilities – includes uses such public halls, (including community and youth centres), Post Offices, non-residential education and training facilities, children's nurseries and creches, childcare centres, doctors surgeries, dentists, health centres and clinics, chemists and hospitals, residential care homes and nursing homes, village shops, village

pubs, places of worship and church halls, museums, libraries and art galleries and performance space

Community Right to Build Order - An Order made by the local planning authority (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) that grants planning permission for a site-specific development proposal or classes of development.

Comparison Retailing - The provision of items not purchased on a frequent basis, such as clothing, footwear and household goods.

Conservation Areas - Areas designated by the local planning authority which are considered of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Contaminated Land - Defined in The Environment Protection Act Part IIA, Section 78A(2) as 'any land which appears to the local authority in whose area it is situated to be in such a condition, by reason of substances in, on or under the land, that: significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused, or; pollution of controlled waters is being, or is likely to be, caused.'

Convenience Retailing - The provision of everyday essential items, such as food, drinks and newspapers.

Deliverable – National planning policy says to be considered deliverable, sites for housing should be available now, offer a suitable location for development now, and be achievable with a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within five years. In particular:

a) sites which do not involve major development and have planning permission, and all sites with detailed planning permission, should be considered deliverable until permission expires, unless there is clear evidence that homes will not be delivered within five years (for example because they are no longer viable, there is no longer a demand for the type of units or sites have long term phasing plans).

b) where a site has outline planning permission for major development, has been allocated in a development plan, has a grant of permission in principle, or is identified on a brownfield register, it should only be considered deliverable where there is clear evidence that housing completions will begin on site within five years.

Derelict Land - Land damaged by industrial or other development that cannot be put to beneficial use without prior treatment.

Design concepts and terms –

- Character - relates to the distinct and recognisable features and qualities of an area, neighbourhood, or place. It includes the architectural style, historic significance, and visual and functional attributes that make a place unique.
- Form - relates to the shape, size, and overall design of buildings and developments. It encompasses the architectural style, massing, and overall aesthetic qualities of structures.
- Inclusive design - aims to create environments that are welcoming, accessible, and usable by everyone, regardless of their abilities or disabilities. It's a crucial aspect of creating an equitable and socially inclusive built environment, and it helps ensure that public spaces and facilities are designed to be enjoyed and utilized by a diverse range of people.

- Layout - the way in which buildings, open spaces, roads, and other elements are arranged within a development or site. It includes the organization and distribution of various components in a coordinated and efficient manner.
- Ongoing maintenance - the regular care, repair, and management required to keep buildings, infrastructure, and public spaces in good working order. It ensures that the built environment remains safe, attractive, and functional over time.
- Orientation - the positioning of buildings or structures in relation to the sun, wind, and surrounding context. It involves the direction in which a building faces and how it interacts with its environment.
- Outside space - areas of land that are not enclosed within a building but are instead open to the external environment. Outside space can include a variety of open areas, such as gardens, courtyards, public parks, plazas, playgrounds, and other outdoor spaces. These spaces play a significant role in urban and rural planning and development, as they contribute to the quality of life, environmental sustainability, and overall well-being of communities.
- Quality - in the context of planning, refers to the standard of design, construction, and materials used in a development. It assesses the overall excellence of the design and how well the development meets established design and sustainability criteria.
- Usability - the degree to which a building, infrastructure, or space can be easily and efficiently used for its intended purposes. It assesses how well a development or facility meets the needs of its users.

Design Code - A set of illustrated design requirements that provide specific, detailed parameters for the physical development of a site or area. The graphic and written components of the code should build upon a design vision, such as a masterplan or other design and development framework for a site or area.

Designated heritage asset - A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.

Employment Land - Land allocated in Development Plans for business, industrial and storage/distribution uses.

Flood Risk Assessment - An assessment of the risk of flooding from all flooding mechanisms, the identification of flood mitigation measures and should provide advice on actions to be taken before and during a flood.

Geodiversity - The range of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils and landforms.

Green Belt - Areas of land where development is particularly tightly controlled. The purposes of Green Belt are to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas; to prevent neighbouring towns from merging; to safeguard the countryside from encroachment; to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and to aid urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

Greenfield Land - Land which has not been previously developed. It can include land which used to have built development on it but where little development remains; land where the development on it is limited by a planning condition which requires the land to be restored to its original pre-development condition when it's useful life ends (i.e. a quarry); and land where development has been used for forestry or agriculture and that development is no longer needed for that purpose.

Green Infrastructure – A network of multi-functional green and blue spaces and other

natural features, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities and prosperity.

Heritage asset - A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Historic Environment - All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) - A ward-level index made up from six indicators (income; employment; health deprivation and disability; education; skills and training; housing; and geographical access to services). IMD can help to identify areas for regeneration.

Infrastructure - Services necessary to serve development, such as roads and footpaths, electricity, water, sewerage.

Irreplaceable habitat - Habitats which would be technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed, taking into account their age, uniqueness, species diversity or rarity. They include ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees, blanket bog, limestone pavement, sand dunes, salt marsh and lowland fen.

Landscape Character Assessments - Landscape character assessment (LCA) is the process of identifying and describing variation in character of the landscape. LCA documents identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive by mapping and describing character types and areas. They also show how the landscape is perceived, experienced and valued by people.

Local Green Space - Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities.

Local Housing Need - The number of homes identified as being needed for a local authority determined by national planning policy and guidance.

Local Nature Reserves - Nature reserves are managed areas of land that protect wildlife, habitats and natural features. They support scientific research and can provide educational and recreational opportunities.

Main town centre uses - defined in national planning policy as retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment and more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, nightclubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities).

Major Development - For housing, development where 10 or more homes will be provided, or the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more. For non-residential development it means additional floorspace of 1,000m2 or more, or a site of 1 hectare or more, or as otherwise provided in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

Nature Conservation - The practice of protecting Earth's natural resources such as air, water, soil, plants, and wildlife—and managing ecosystems to ensure their health, diversity, and survival for current and future generations, preventing depletion and habitat loss through responsible management and restoration.

Nature Recovery Network - A growing national network of wildlife-rich places, stretching from our cities to countryside, mountains to coast. It is supported by green and blue spaces that buffer and connect these wildlife-rich sites.

Open Space – All open space of public value which can offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity. There are several typologies of open space, including: allotments and community gardens, amenity greenspace, cemeteries and churchyards, civic spaces, green corridors, natural and semi-natural greenspace, outdoor sports facilities, parks and gardens and provision for children and young people. Outdoor sports facilities can include or constitute playing fields/ pitches, as well as other types of outdoor pitches.

Original building – defined in national planning policy defines as “A building as it existed on 1 July 1948 or, if constructed after 1 July 1948, as it was originally built.”

Peak District National Park – As a designation was founded in 1951. The Peak District National Park Authority oversees the planning function of the Park. The statutory purposes of the Authority (as defined by the Environment Act 1995) are:

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park;
- to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park by the public.

Planning Obligation – An agreement made between the council and another party that concerns a particular aspect of, or is associated with, a development. It is usually made in connection with the granting of planning permission through Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Playing Field - The whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

Policies Map – A map with an Ordnance Survey base that illustrates the policies and proposals of a Development Plan Document.

Previously Developed Land (often referred to as brownfield land) - Land which has been lawfully developed and is or was occupied by a permanent structure and any fixed surface infrastructure associated with it, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed). It also includes land comprising large areas of fixed surface infrastructure such as large areas of hardstanding which have been lawfully developed. Previously developed land excludes: land that is or was last occupied by agricultural or forestry buildings; land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill, where provision for restoration has been made through development management procedures; land in built-up areas such as residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments; and land that was previously developed but where the remains of the permanent structure or fixed surface structure have blended into the landscape.

Housing provision that is suitable for older people - set out in Planning Practice Guidance and includes Age-restricted general market housing, Extra Care Housing, Sheltered Housing/ Assisted Living and Nursing and Care Homes.

Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) - non-statutory sites selected to protect the most important places for geology, geomorphology and soils, complementing the network of legally protected Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). RIGS are selected for their scientific, educational, historical and aesthetic features.

Renewable and low-carbon energy - Includes energy for heating and cooling as well as generating electricity. Renewable energy covers those energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment – from the wind, the fall of water, the movement of the oceans, from the sun and also from biomass and deep geothermal heat. Low carbon technologies are those that can help reduce emissions (compared to conventional use of fossil fuels).

Self-build and Custom-build Housing - Housing built by an individual, a group of individuals, or persons working with or for them, to be occupied by that individual. Such housing can be either market or affordable housing. A legal definition, for the purpose of applying the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015 (as amended), is contained in section 1(A1) and (A2) of that Act.

Significance (for heritage policy) - the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Sites of Biological Importance (SBI's) – Areas designated by local authorities due to significant local wildlife, habitats and species.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) – Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Special Areas of Conservation - Is the land designated under Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Special Protection Areas - A Special Protection Area (SPA) is the land classified under Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds.

Strategic environmental assessment - A procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) - An assessment of land availability which identifies a future supply of land which is suitable, available and achievable for housing development uses over the plan period. The assessment is an important source of evidence to inform plan-making and decision-taking, and the identification of a 5-year supply of housing land. These assessments are required by national planning policy.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – Documents which add further detail to the policies in the development plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. Supplementary planning documents are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.

Sustainable development – Defined by the Bruntland Commission (1987) as “Development which meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to achieve their own needs and aspirations".

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) - A sustainable drainage system controls surface water run off close to where it falls, combining a mixture of built and nature-based techniques to mimic natural drainage as closely as possible, and accounting for the predicted impacts of climate change. The type of system that would be appropriate will vary from small scale interventions such as permeable paving and soakaways that can be used in very small developments to larger integrated schemes in major developments.

Travel Plan - A Travel Plan is a document that lays out the strategy for managing travel to and from a site and improving accessibility, particularly by sustainable modes, to reduce the impact of a site on the surrounding road network and to manage the use of local car parking capacity.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendices 2

January 2026

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 2a

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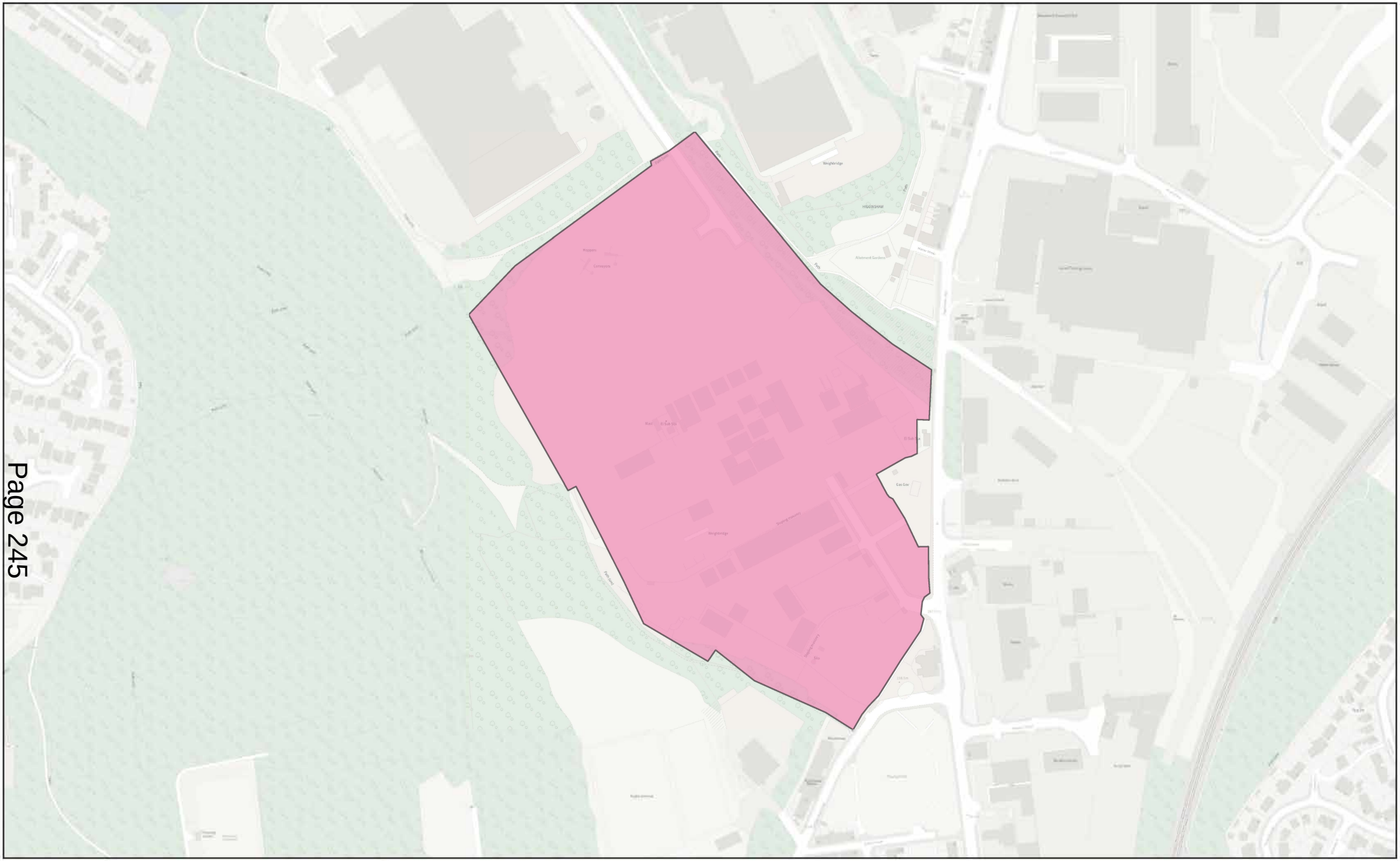

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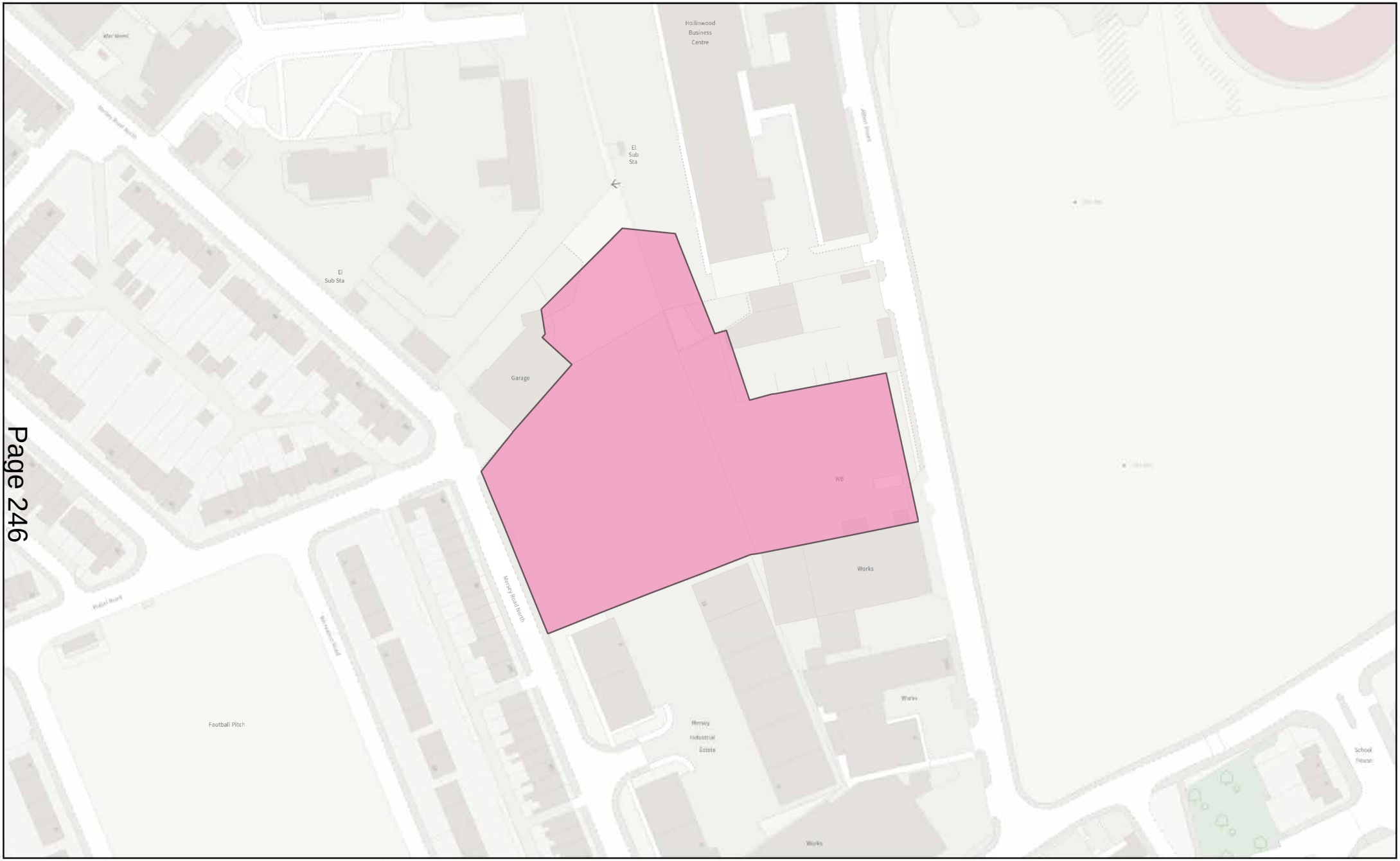

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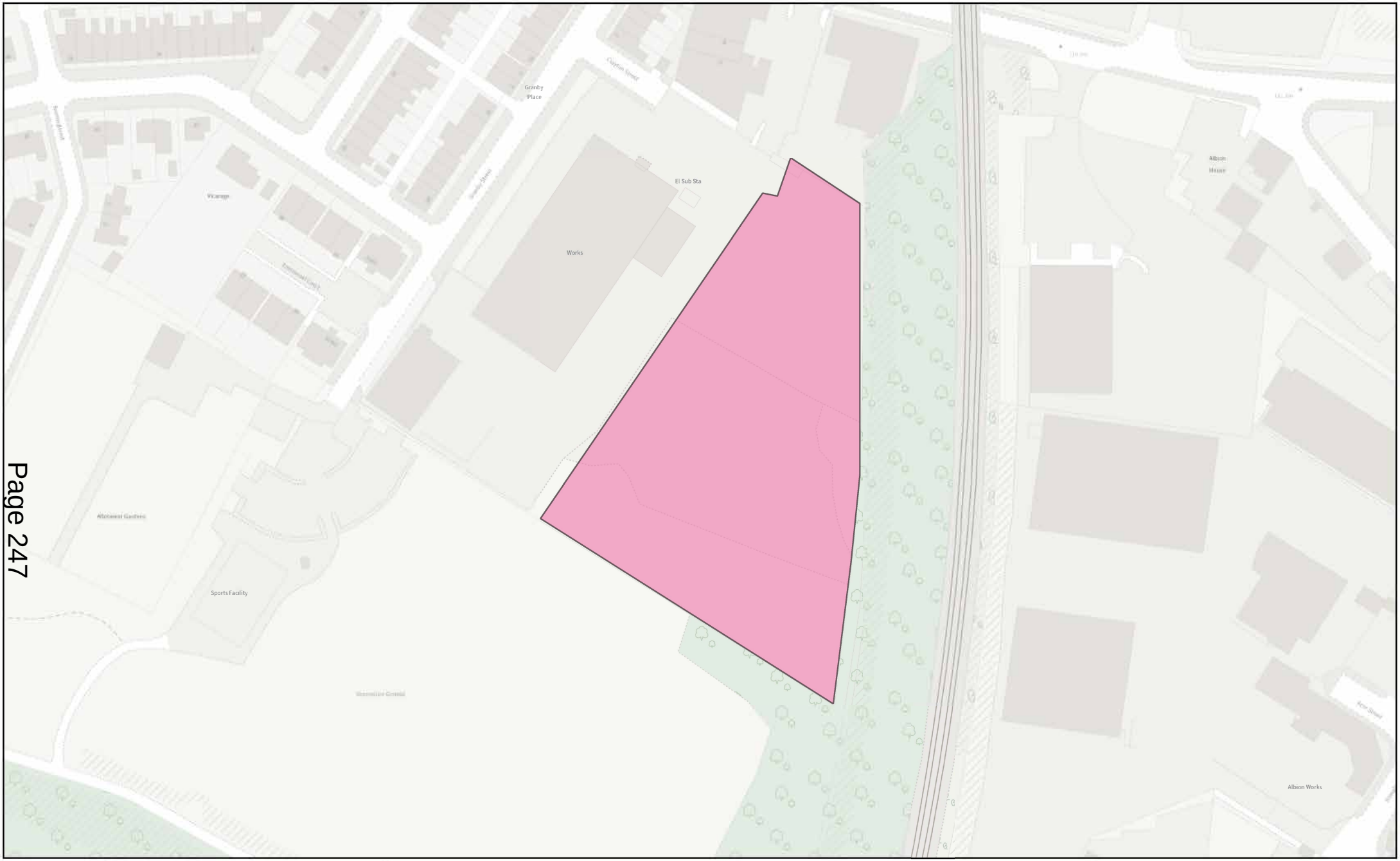

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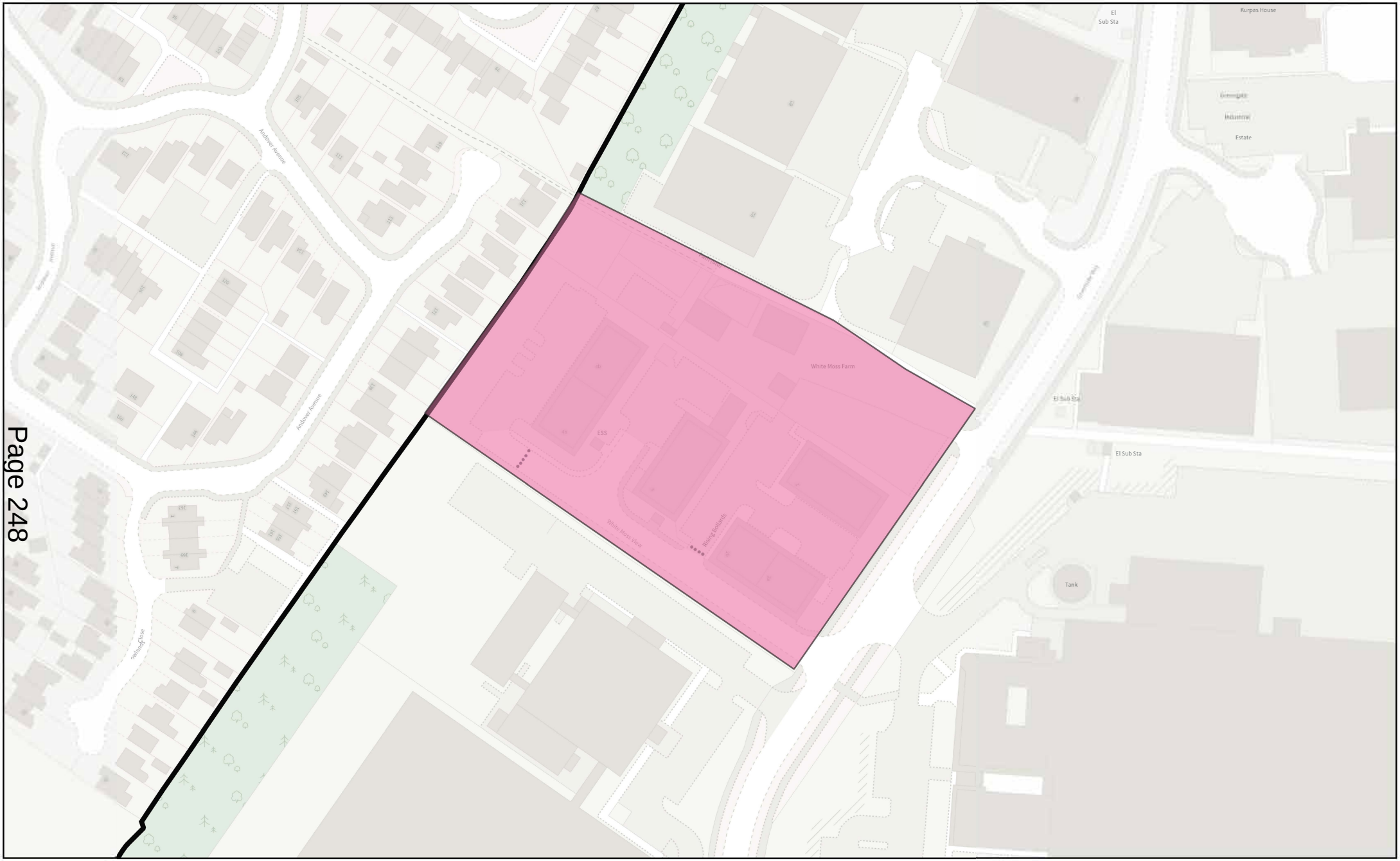

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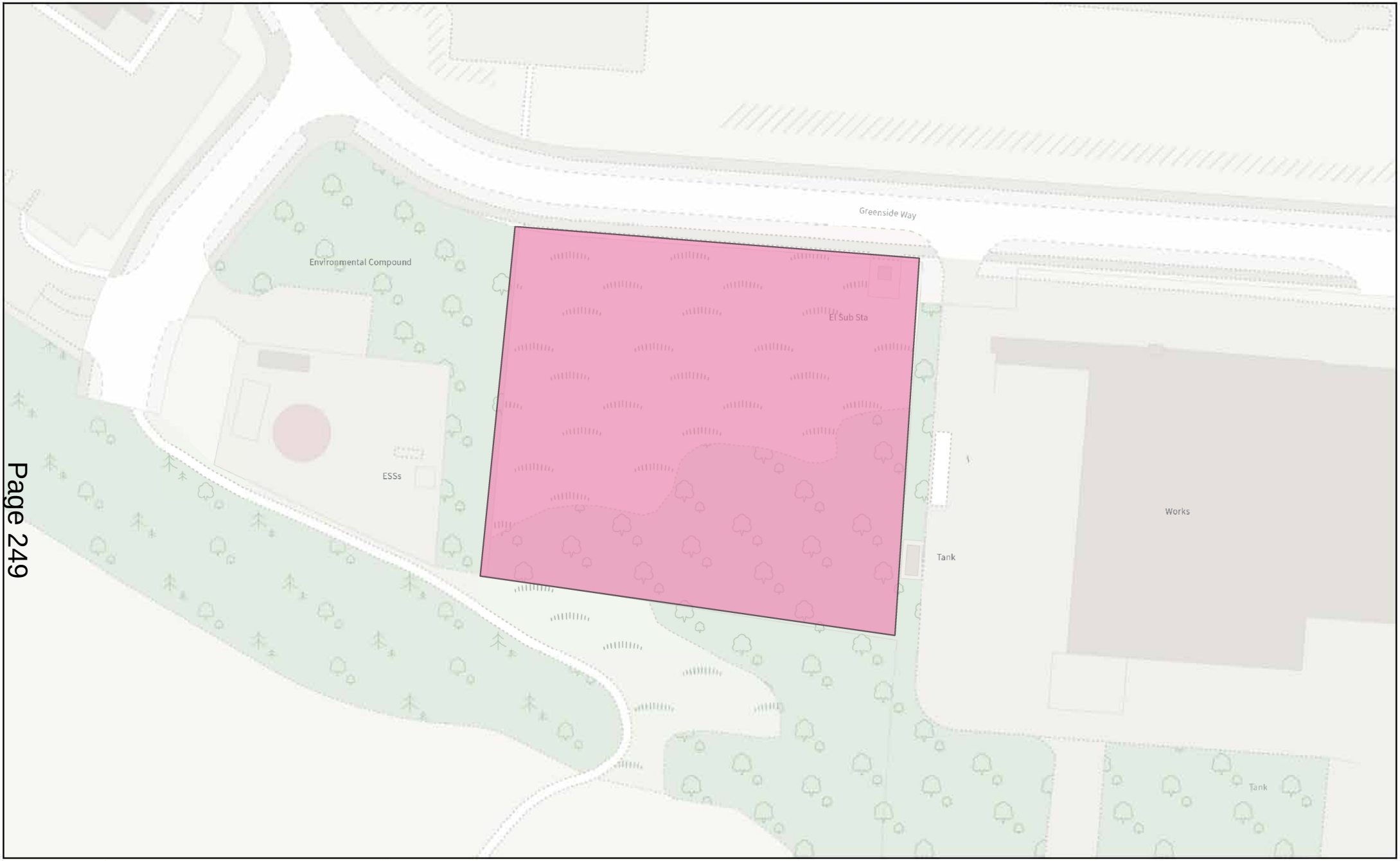

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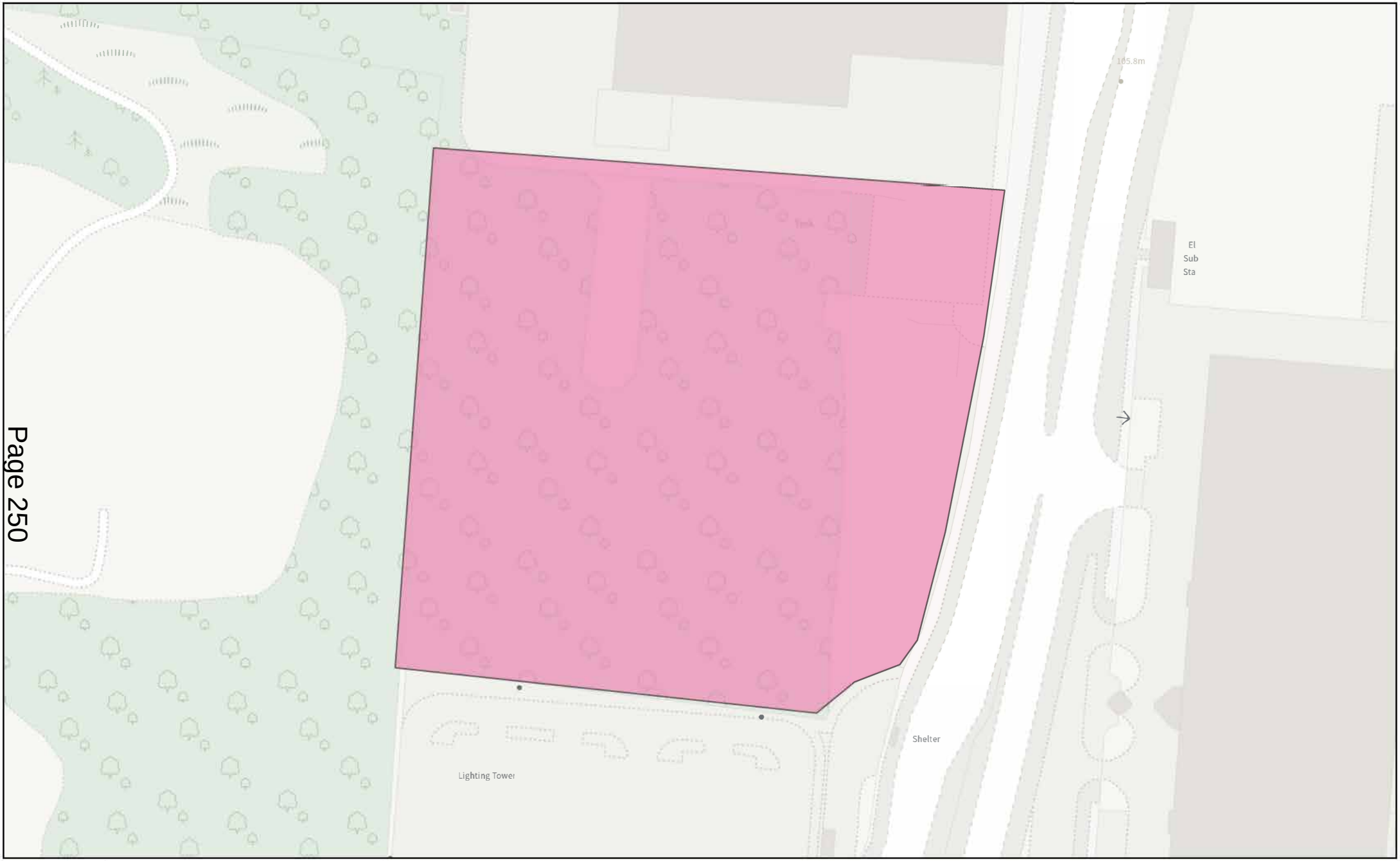

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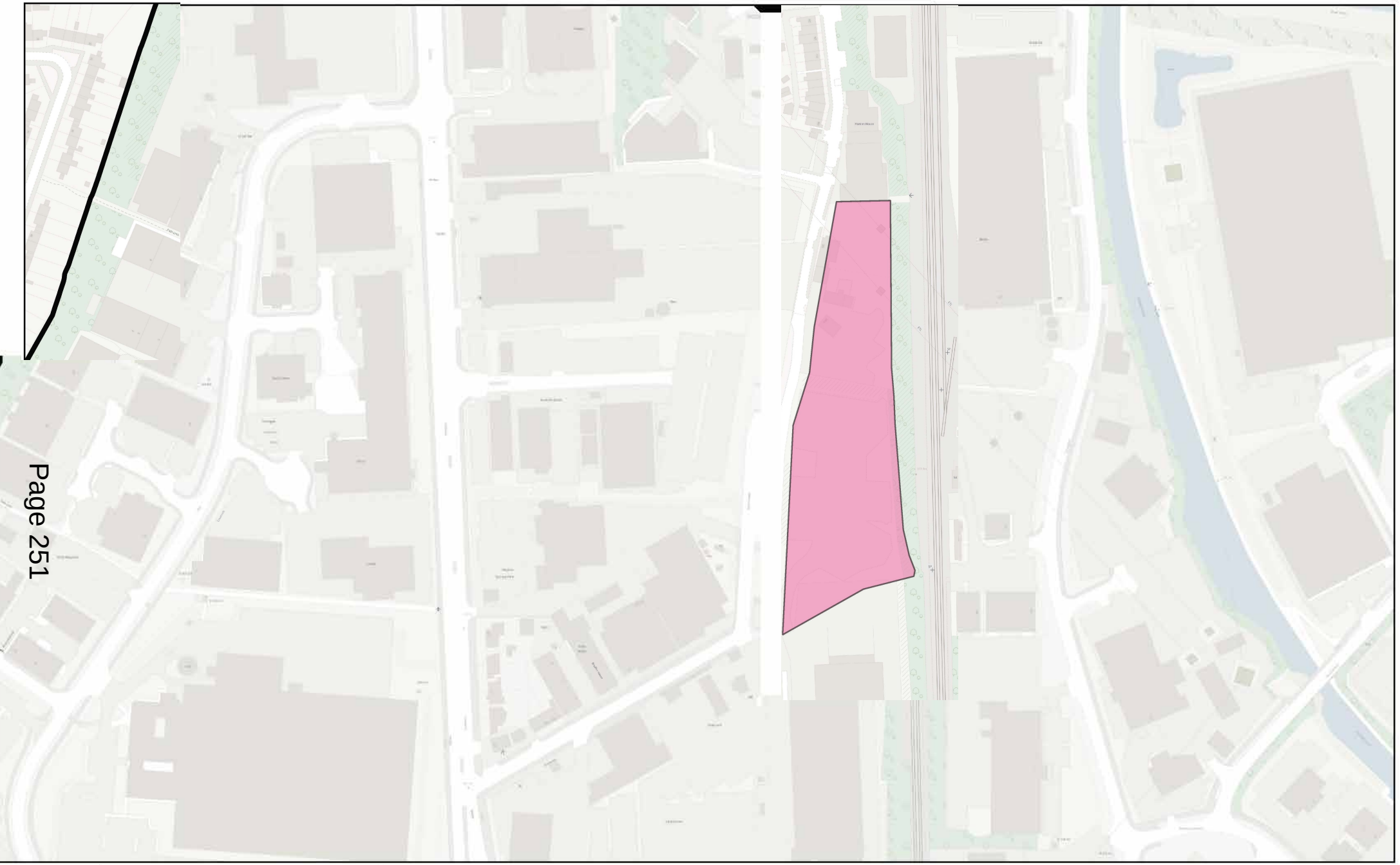

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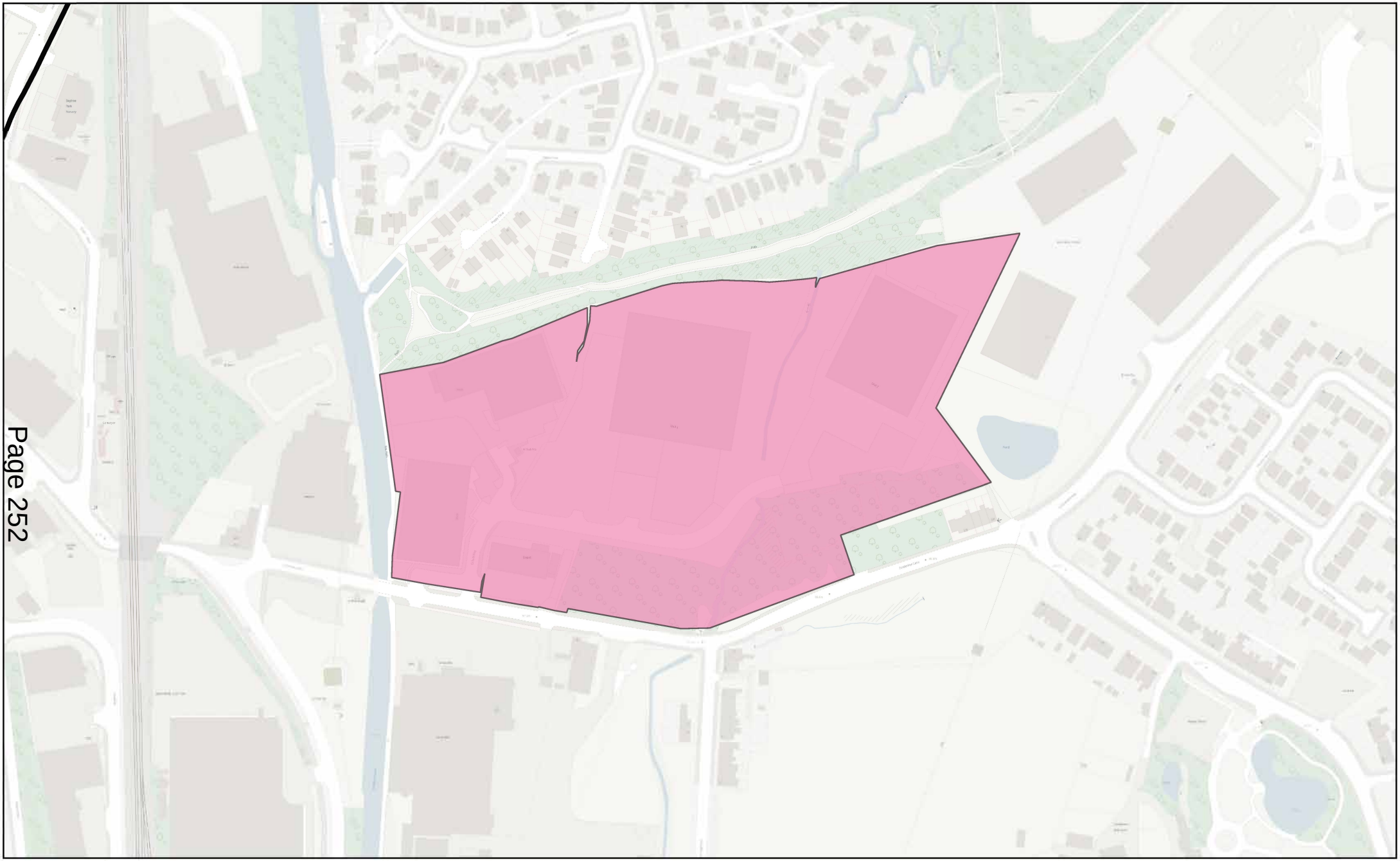

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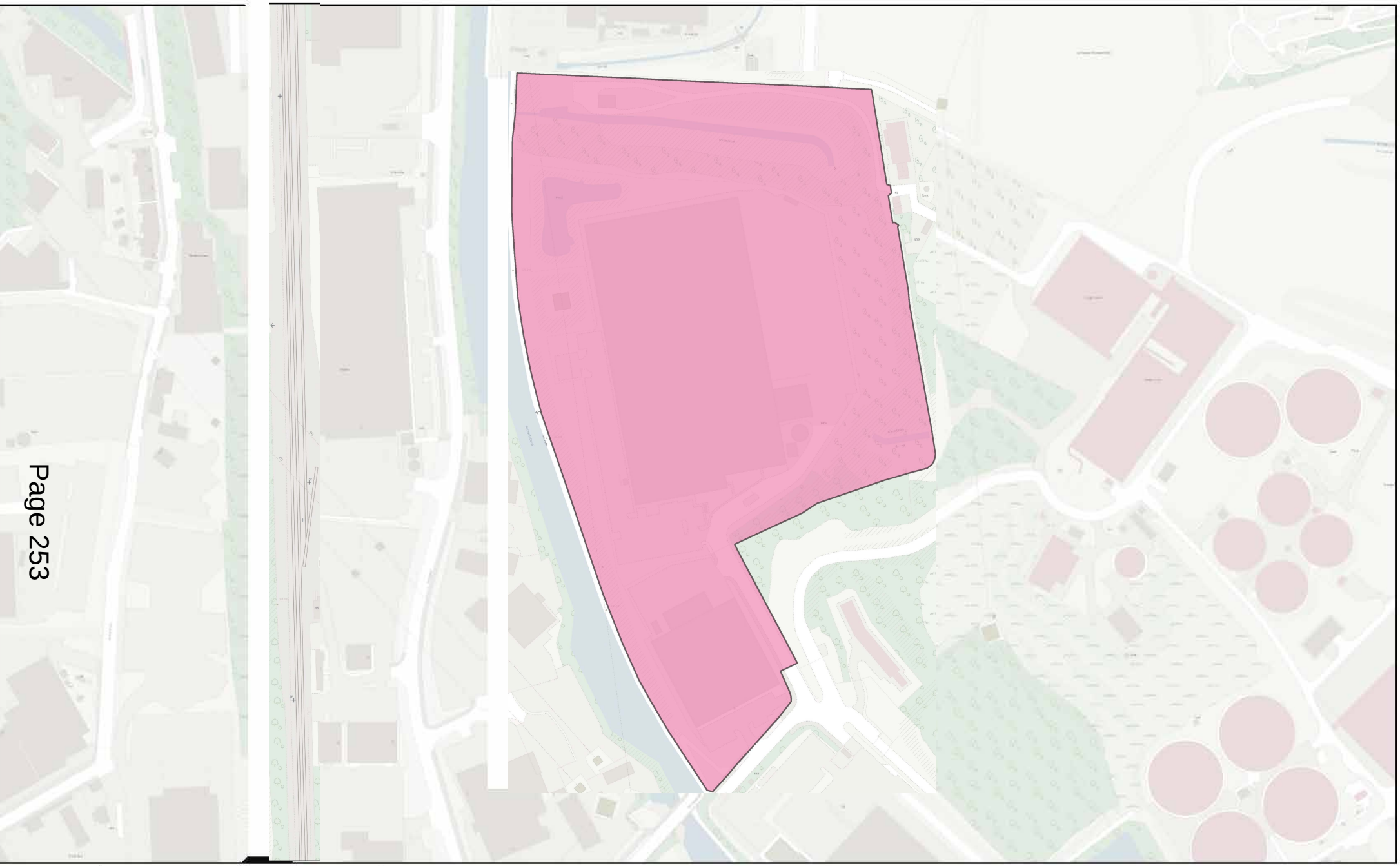

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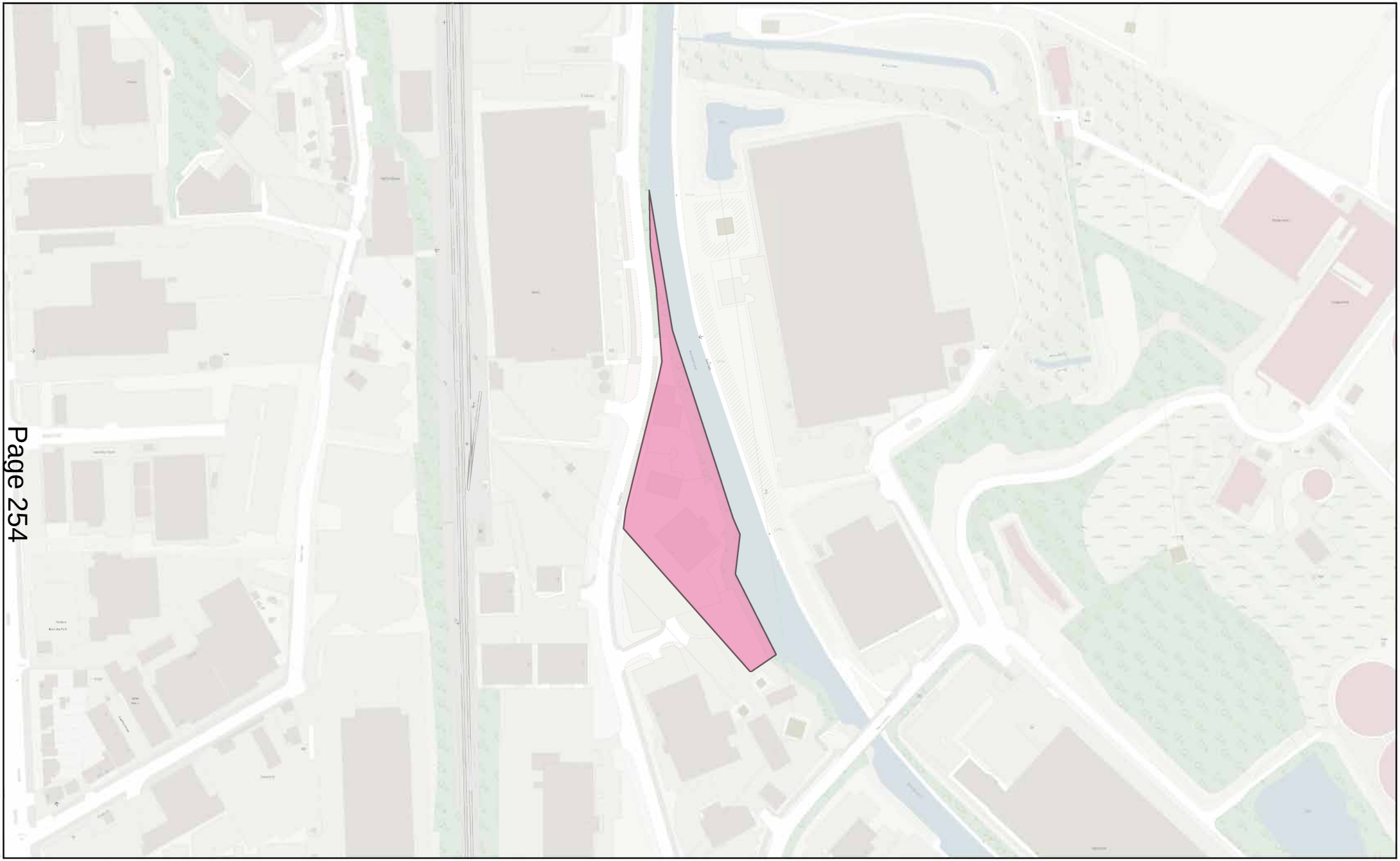

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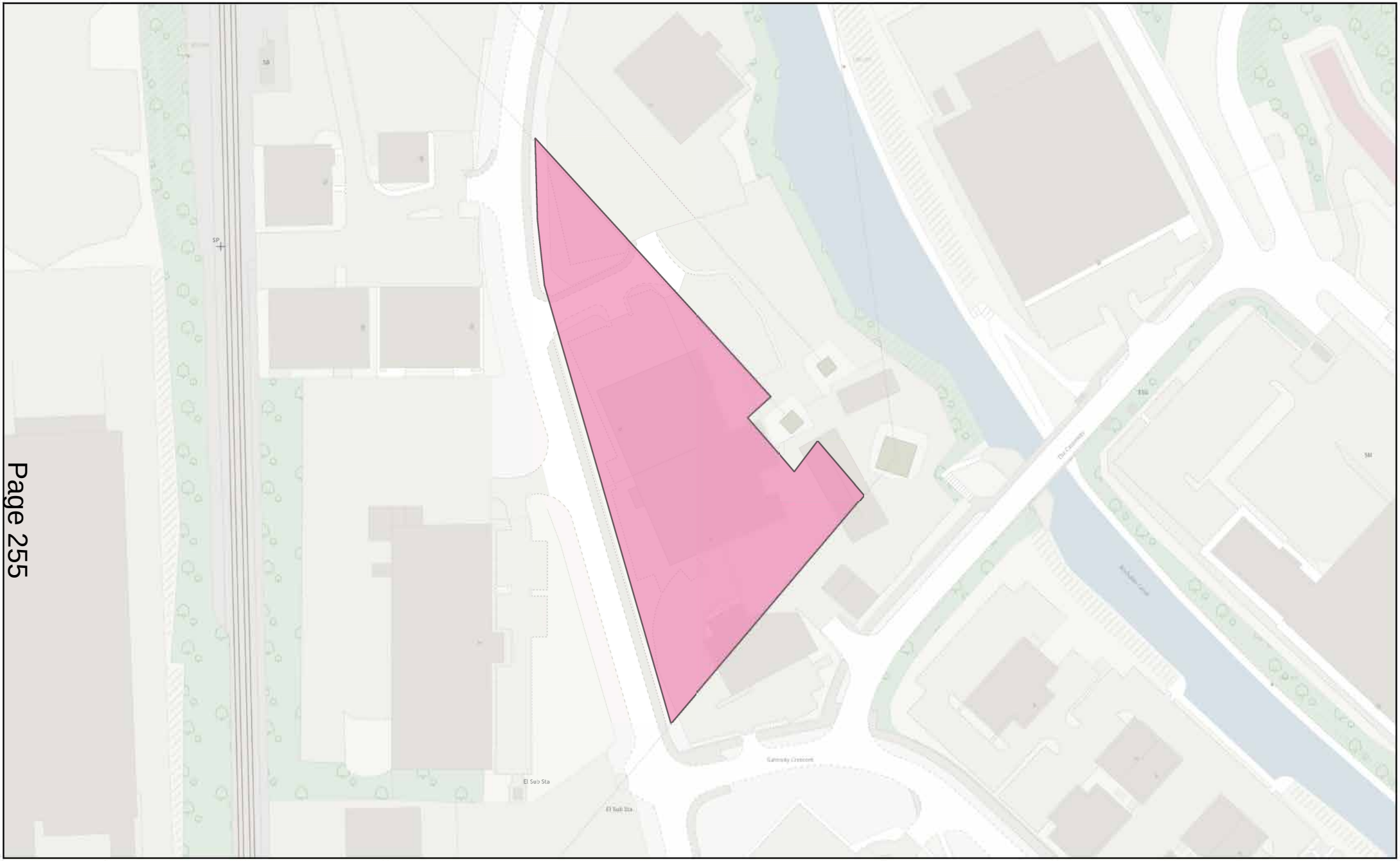

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.13

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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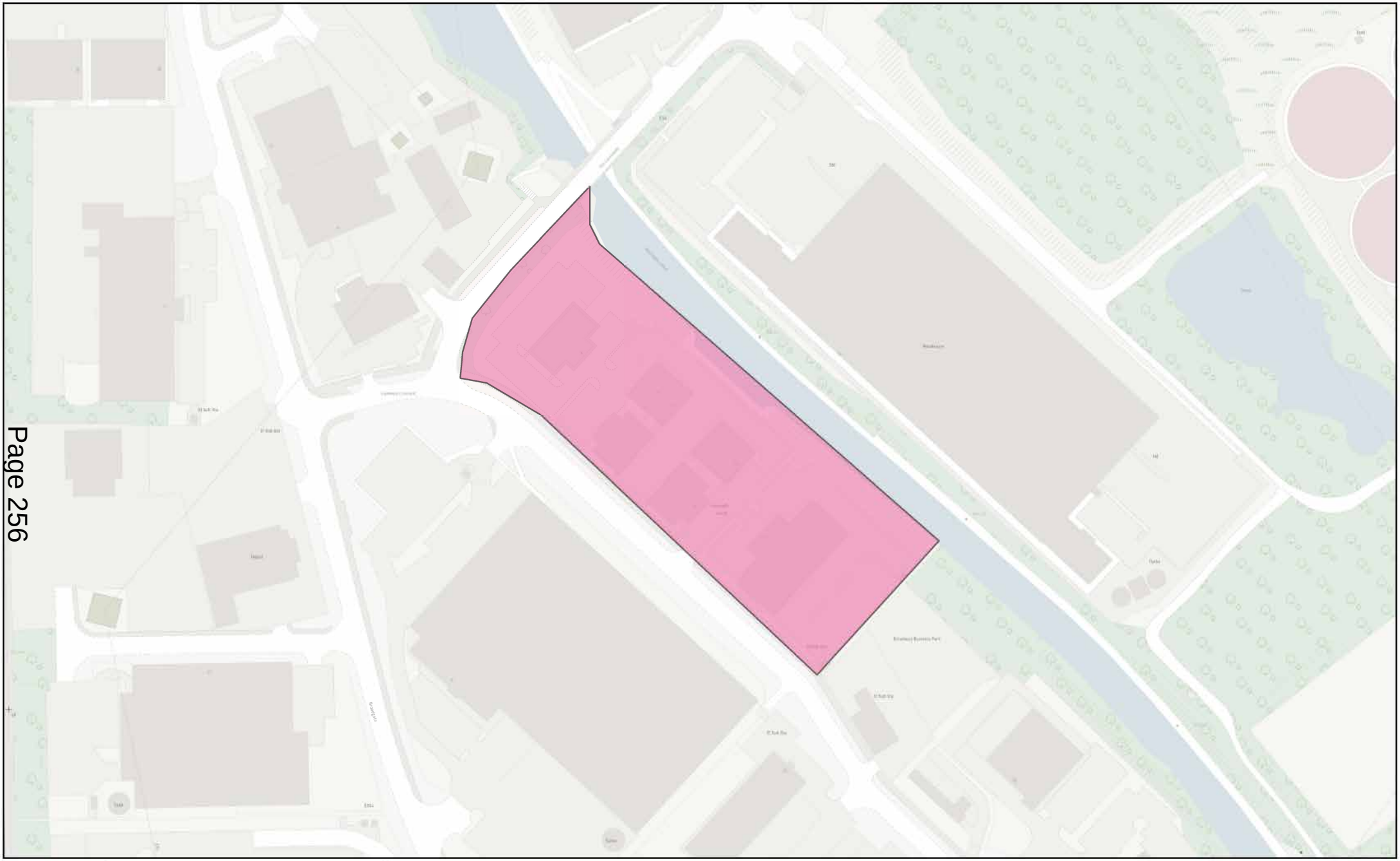

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.14

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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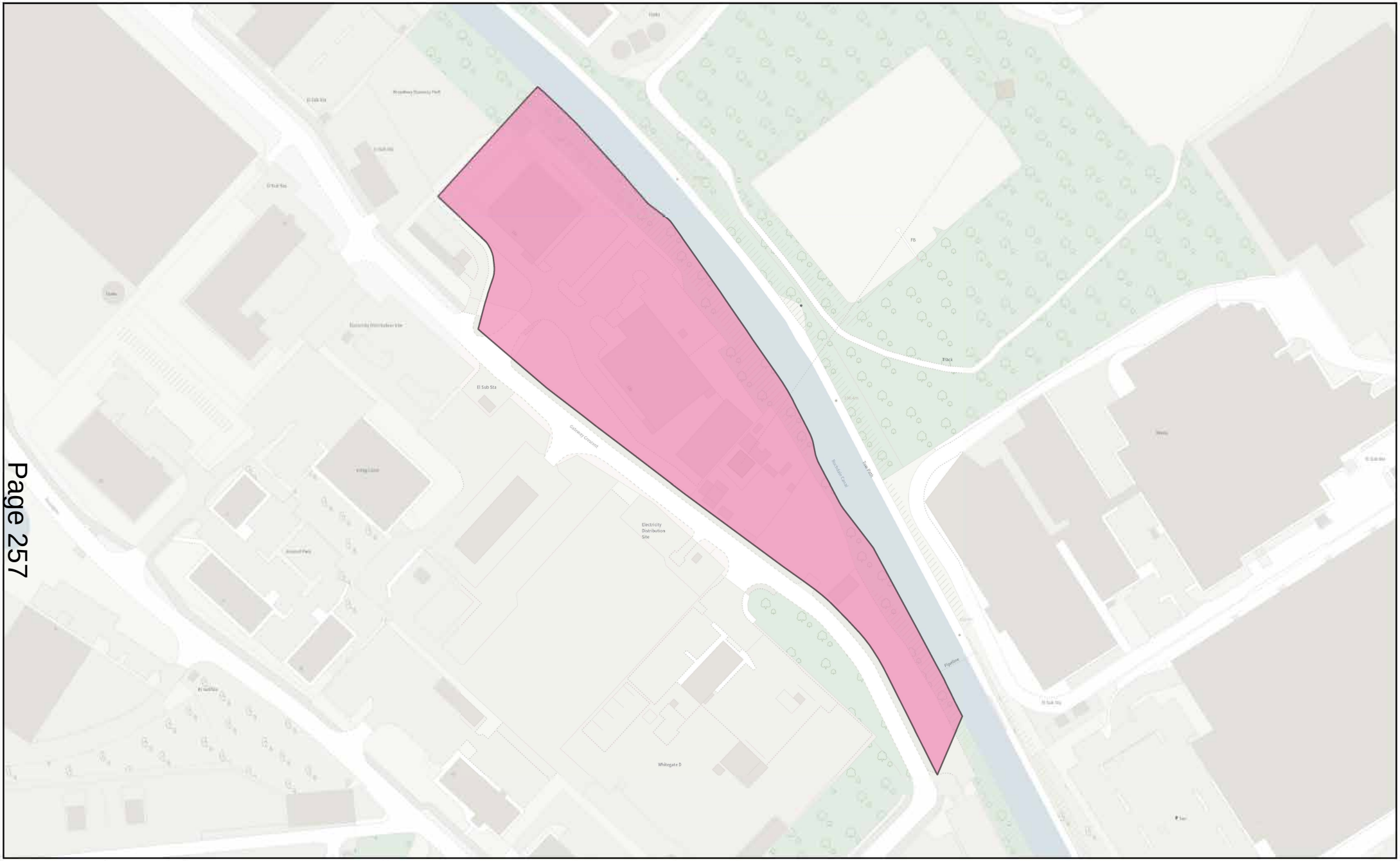

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.15

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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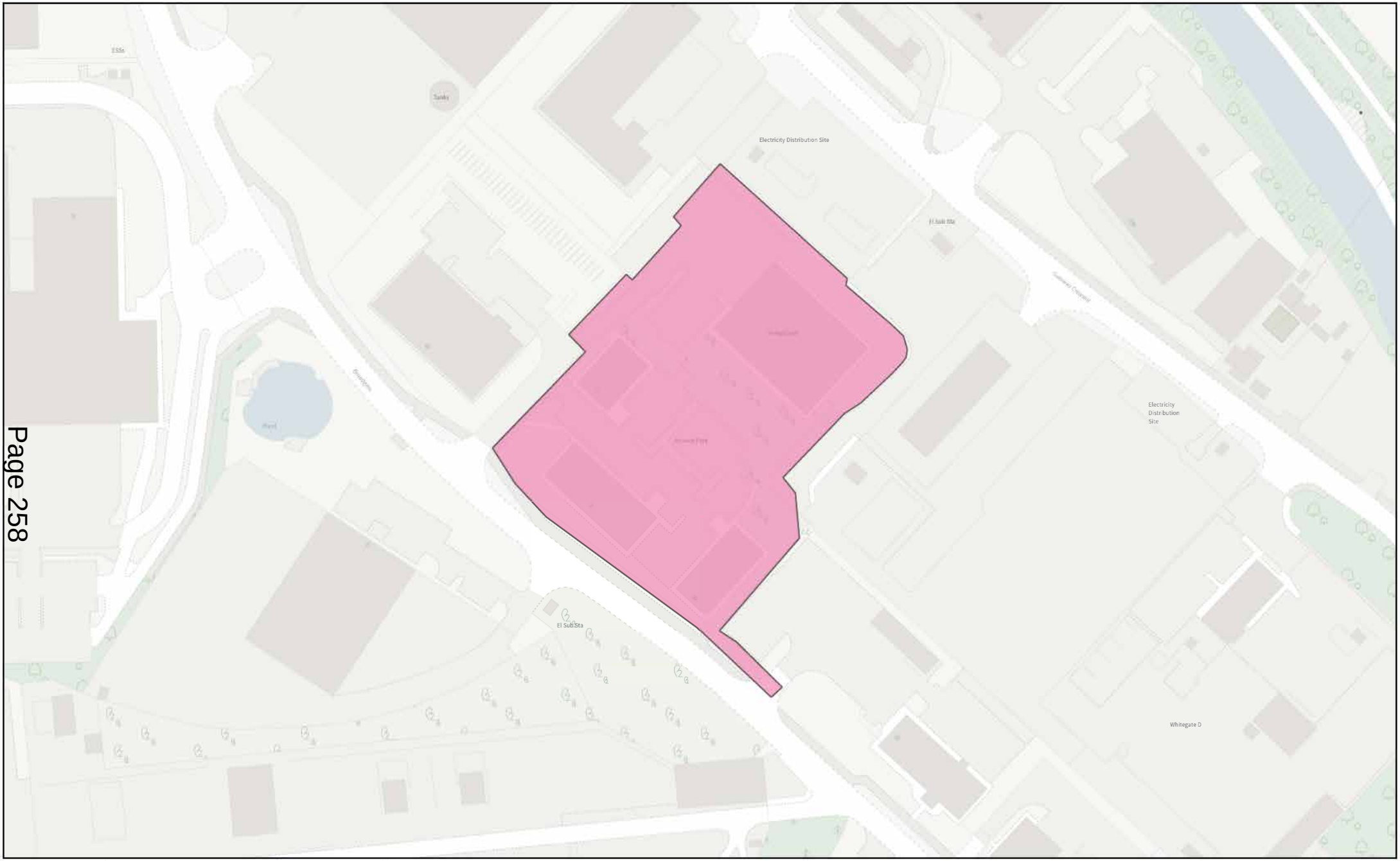

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.16

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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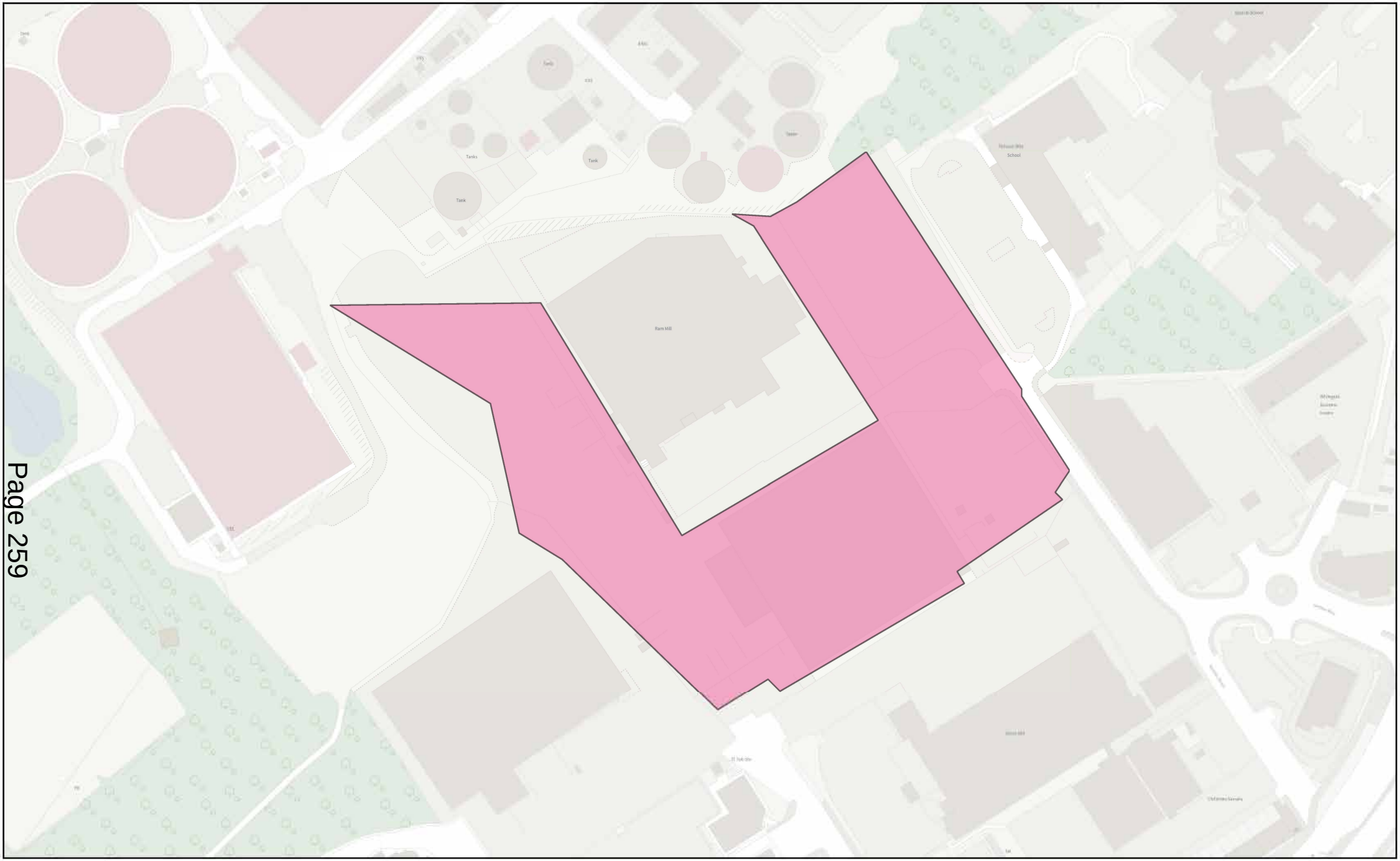

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.18

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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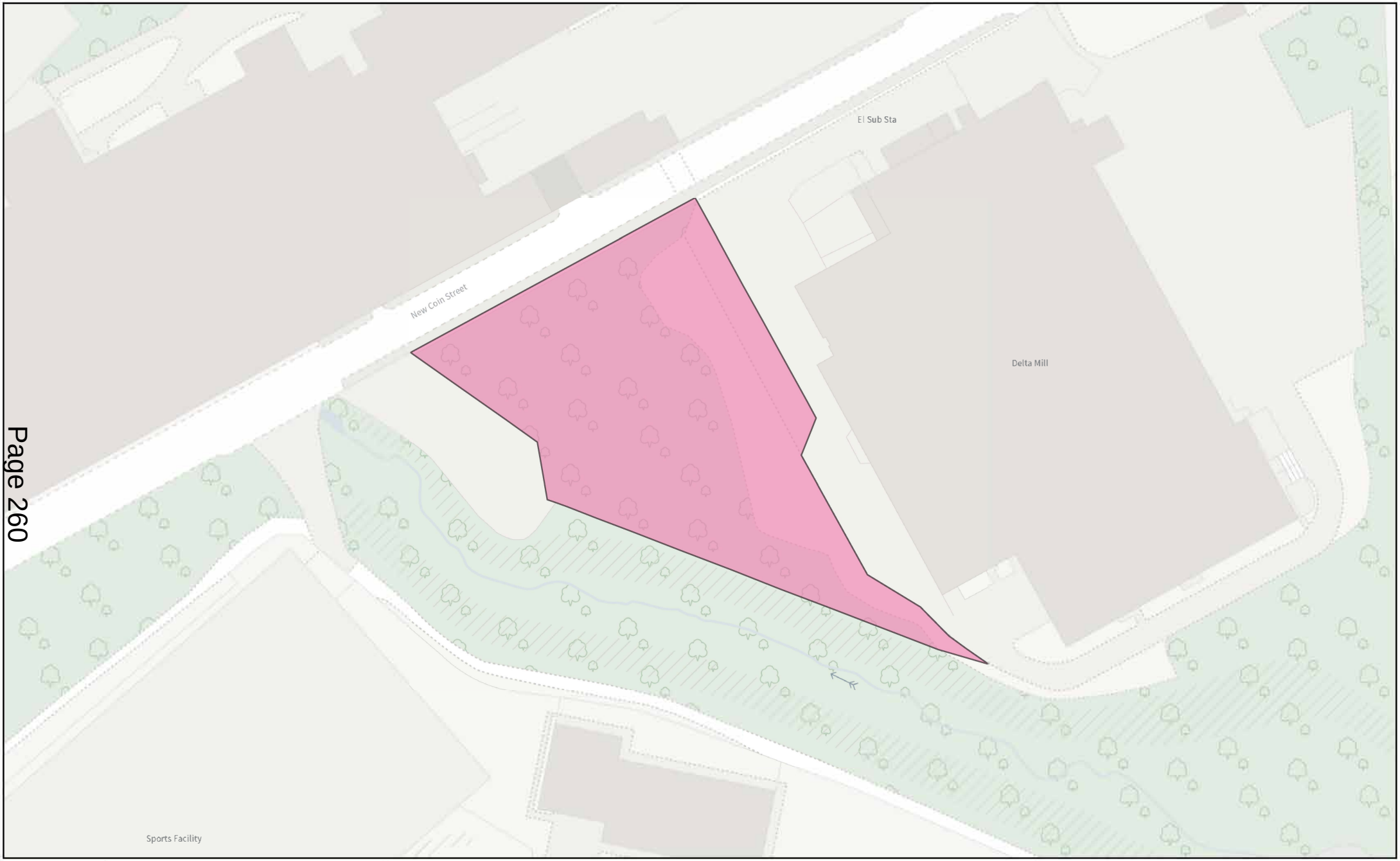

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.19

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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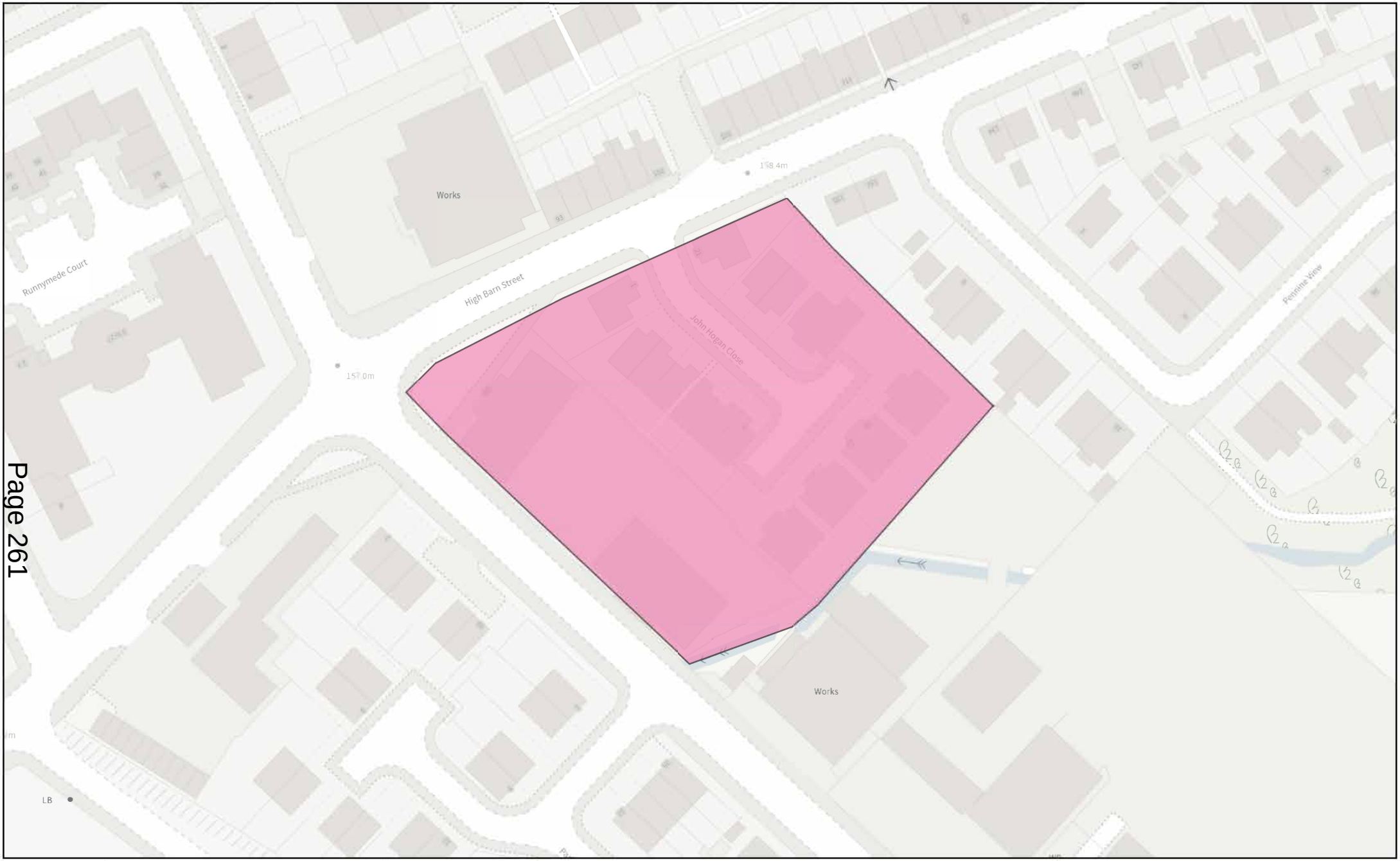

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.20

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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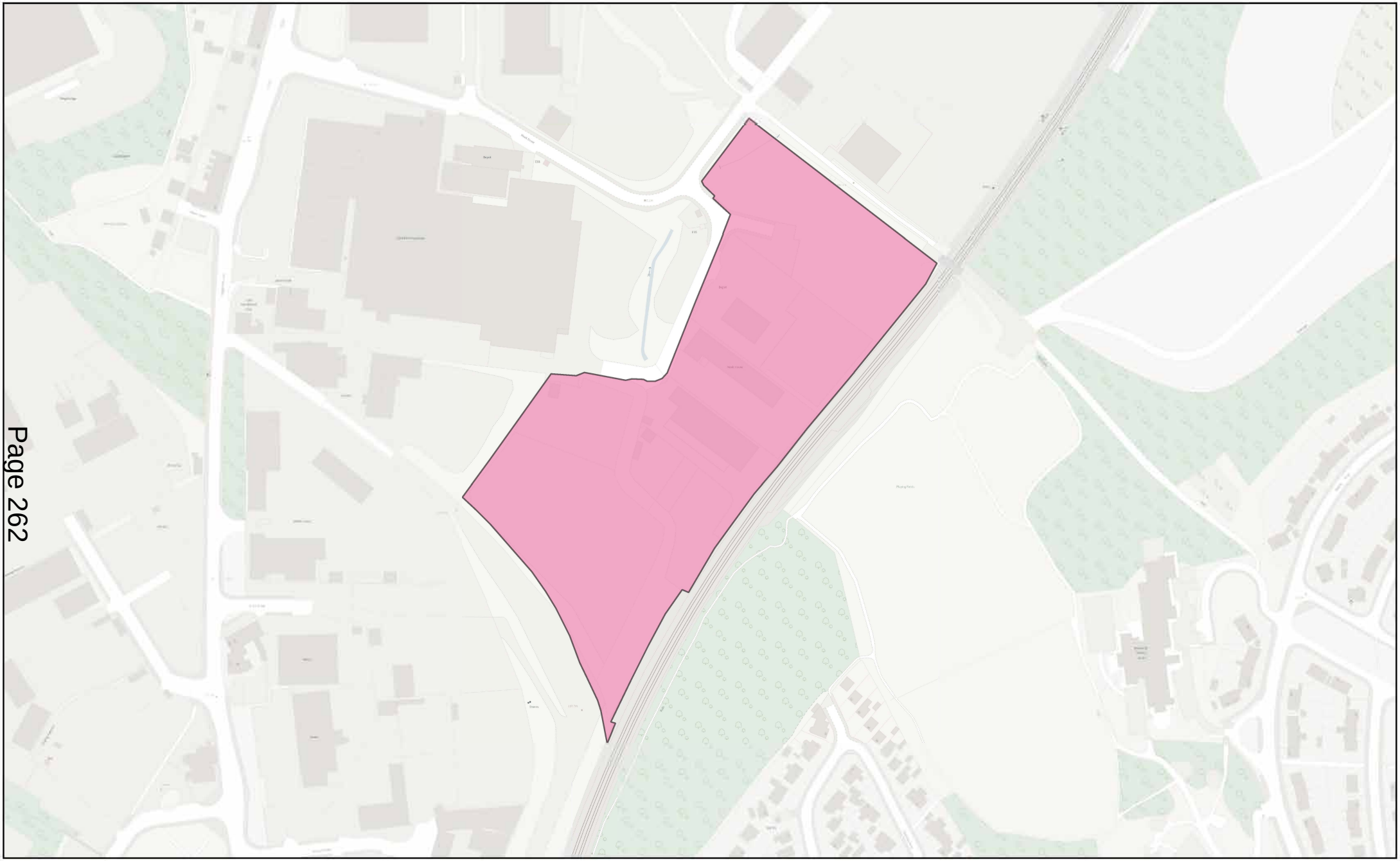

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.22

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,000

Oldham Council

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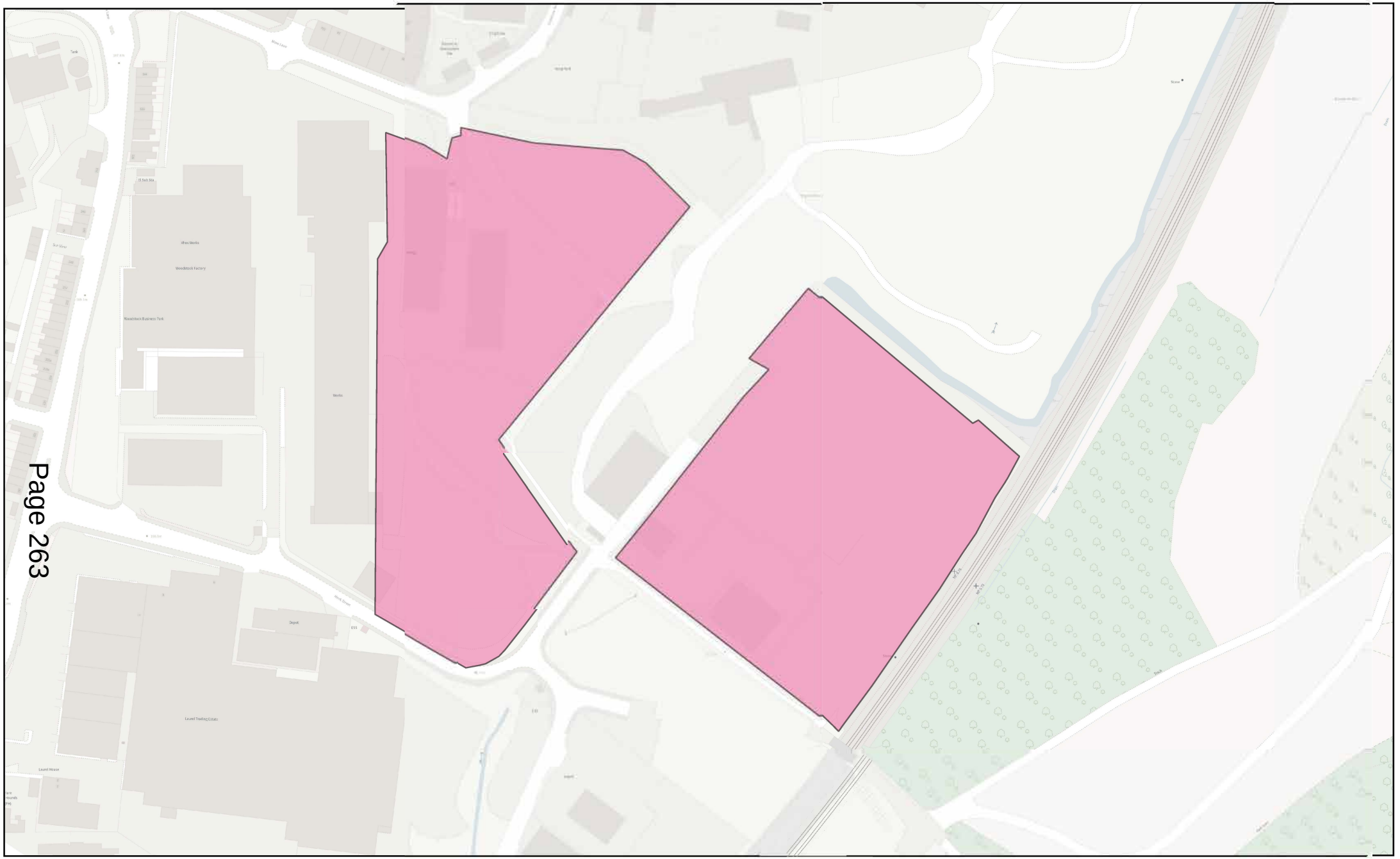

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.24

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,500

Oldham Council

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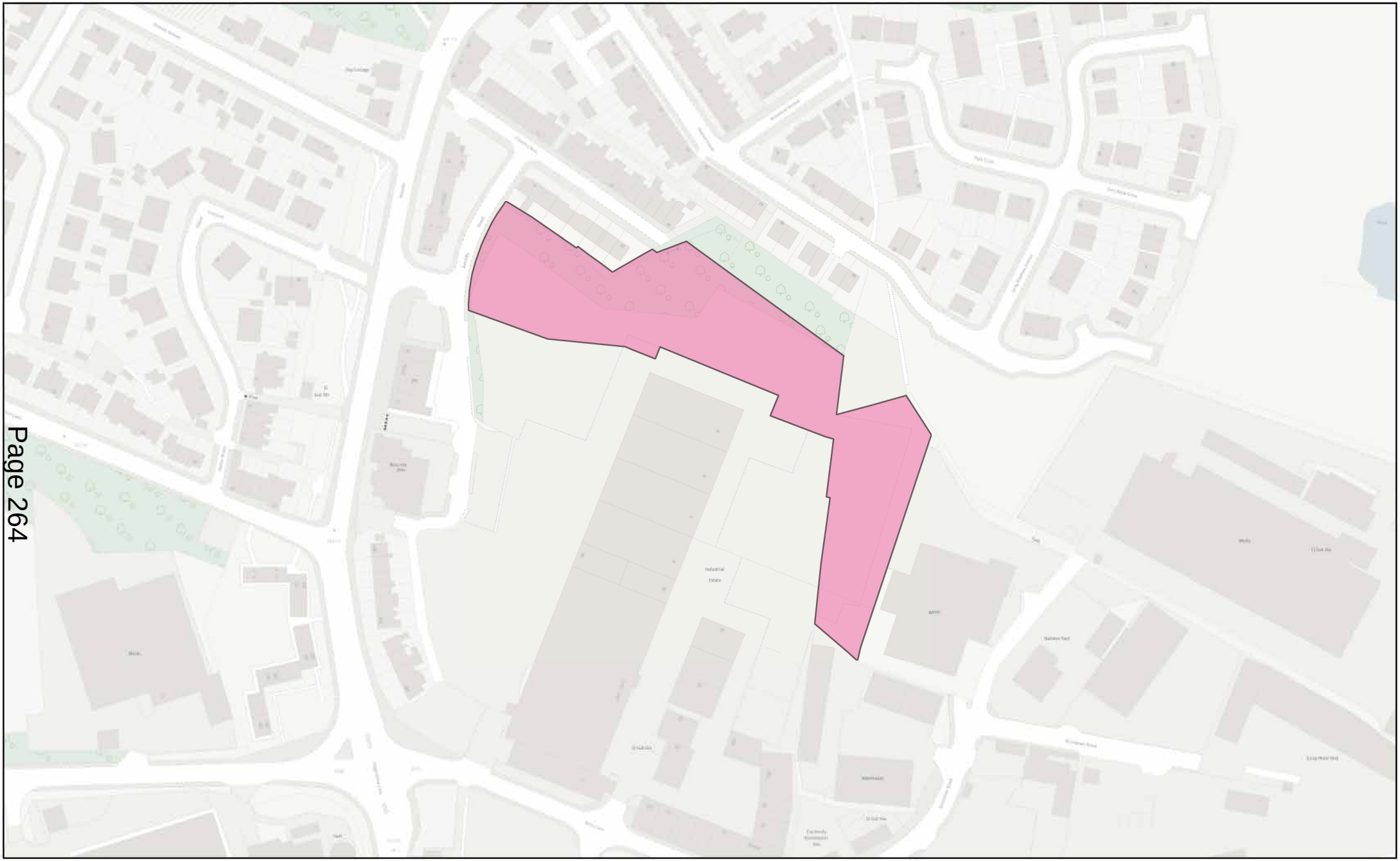

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.25

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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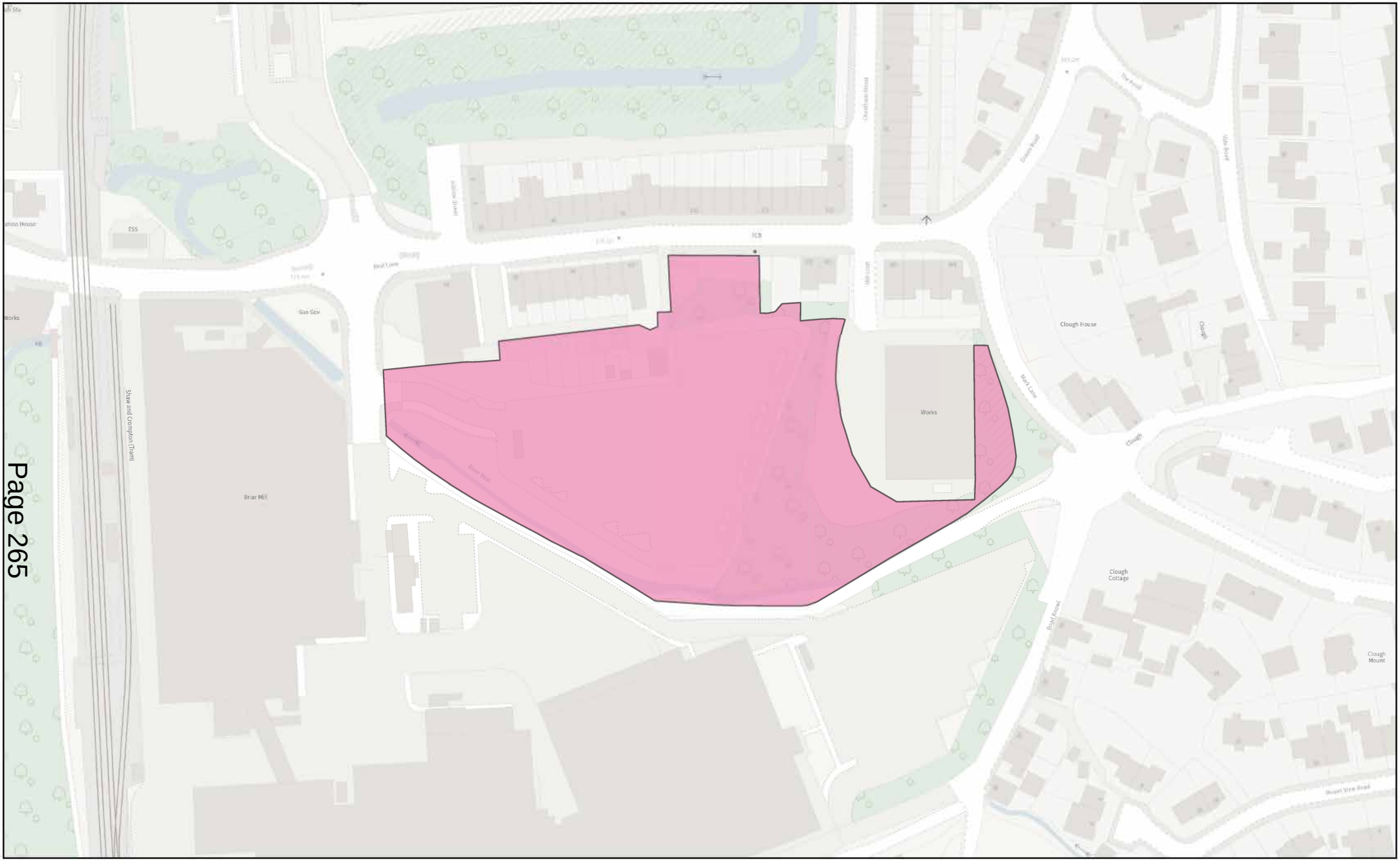

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.26

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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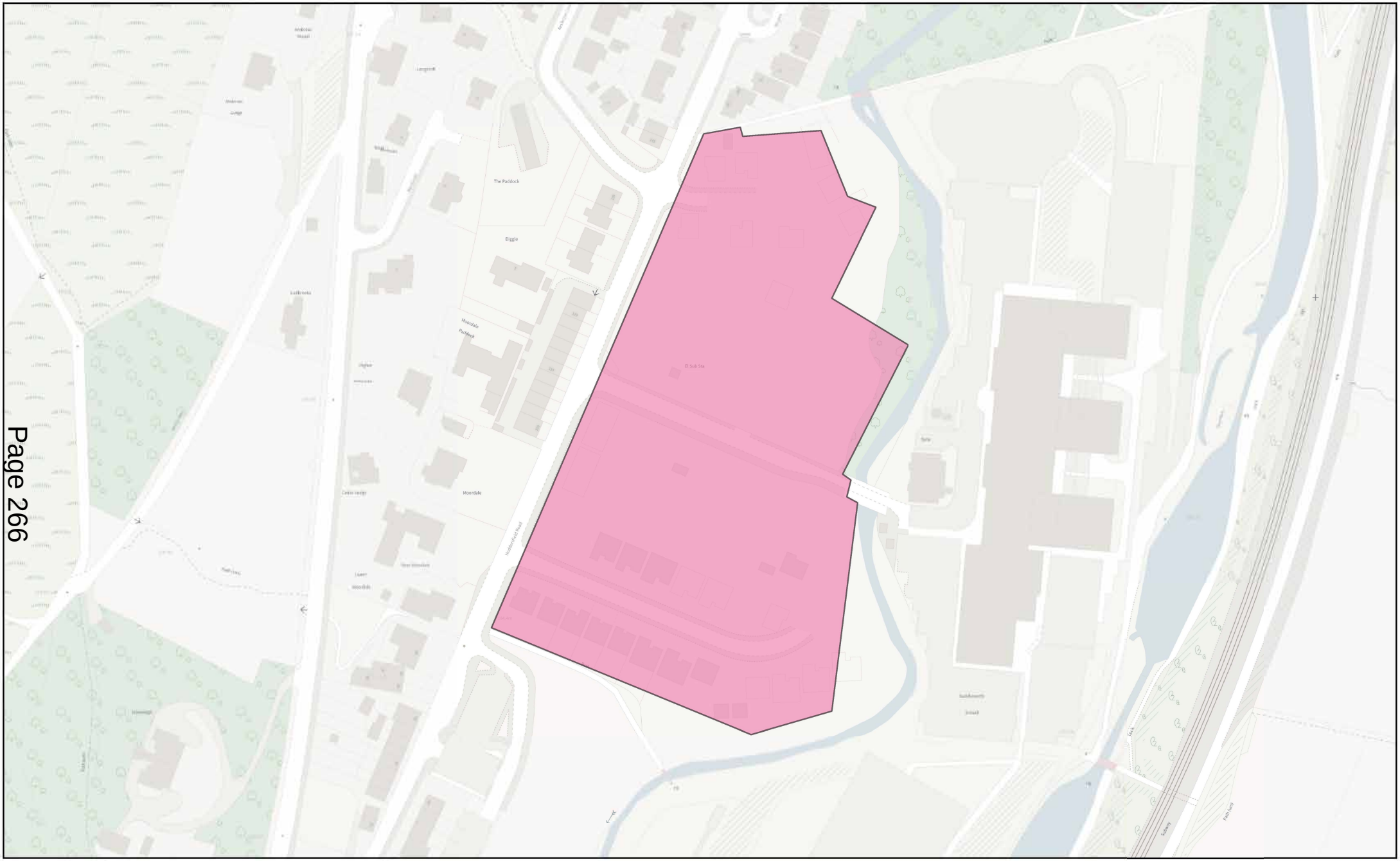

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.1.28

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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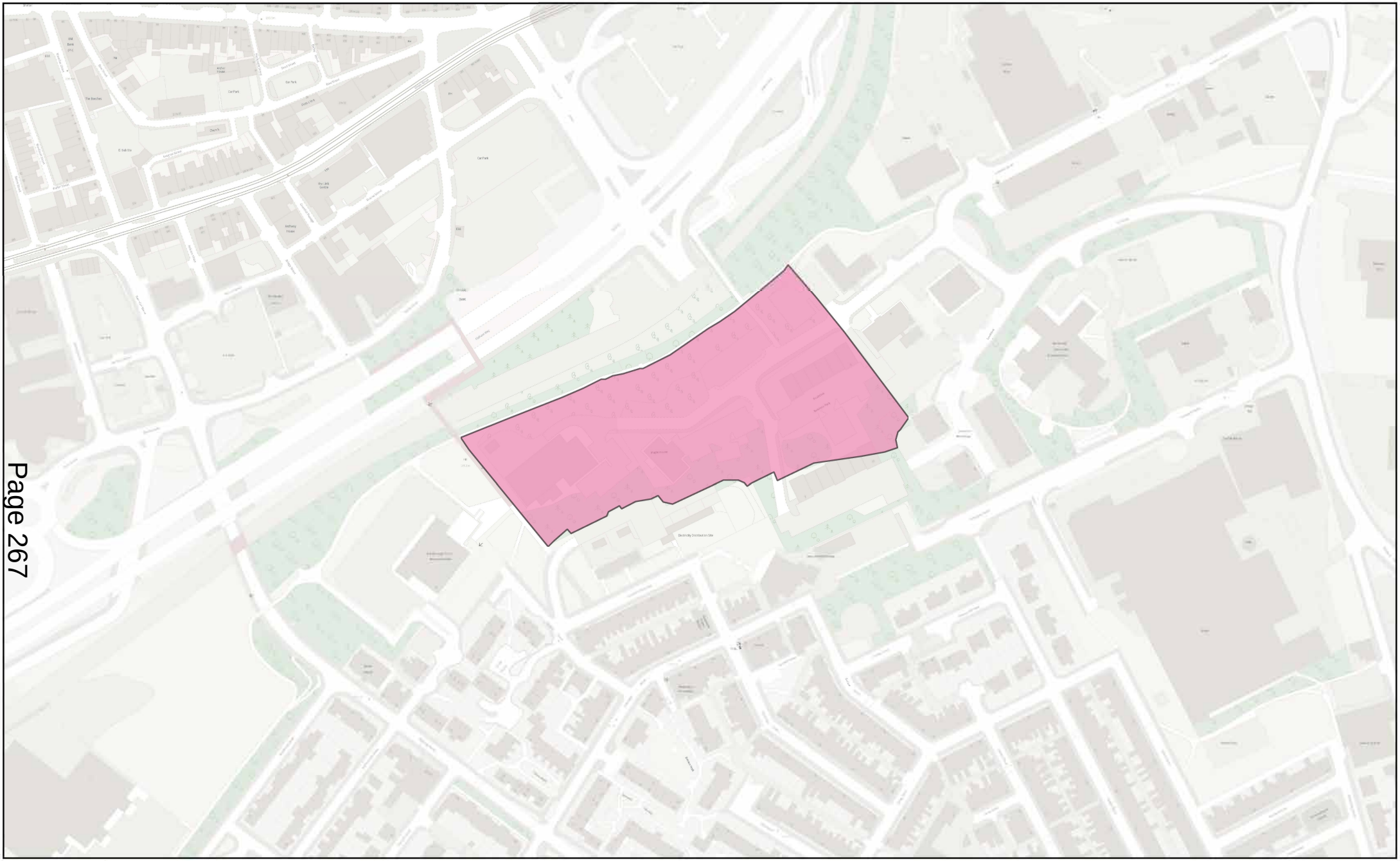

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.1

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,000

Oldham Council

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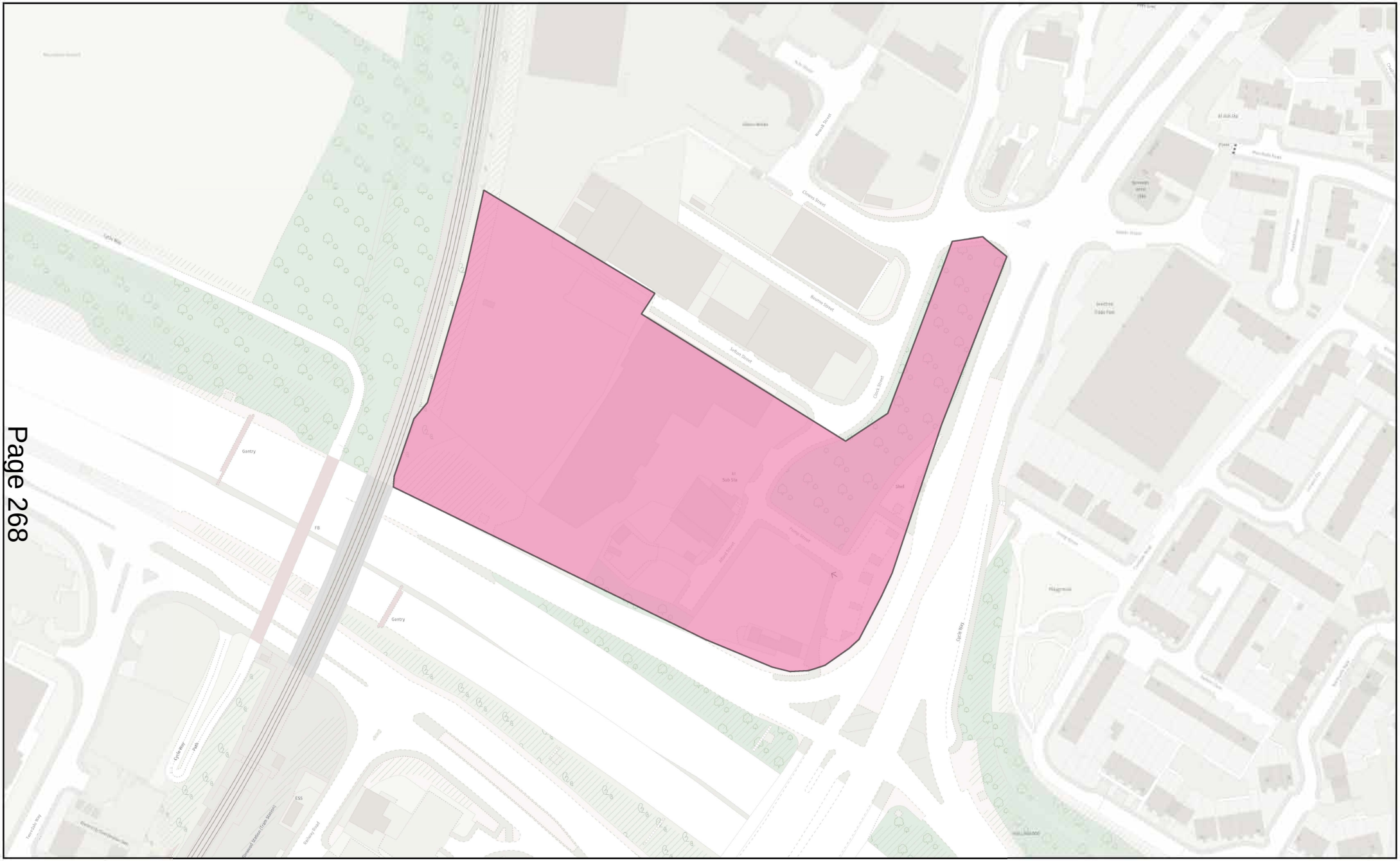

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.2

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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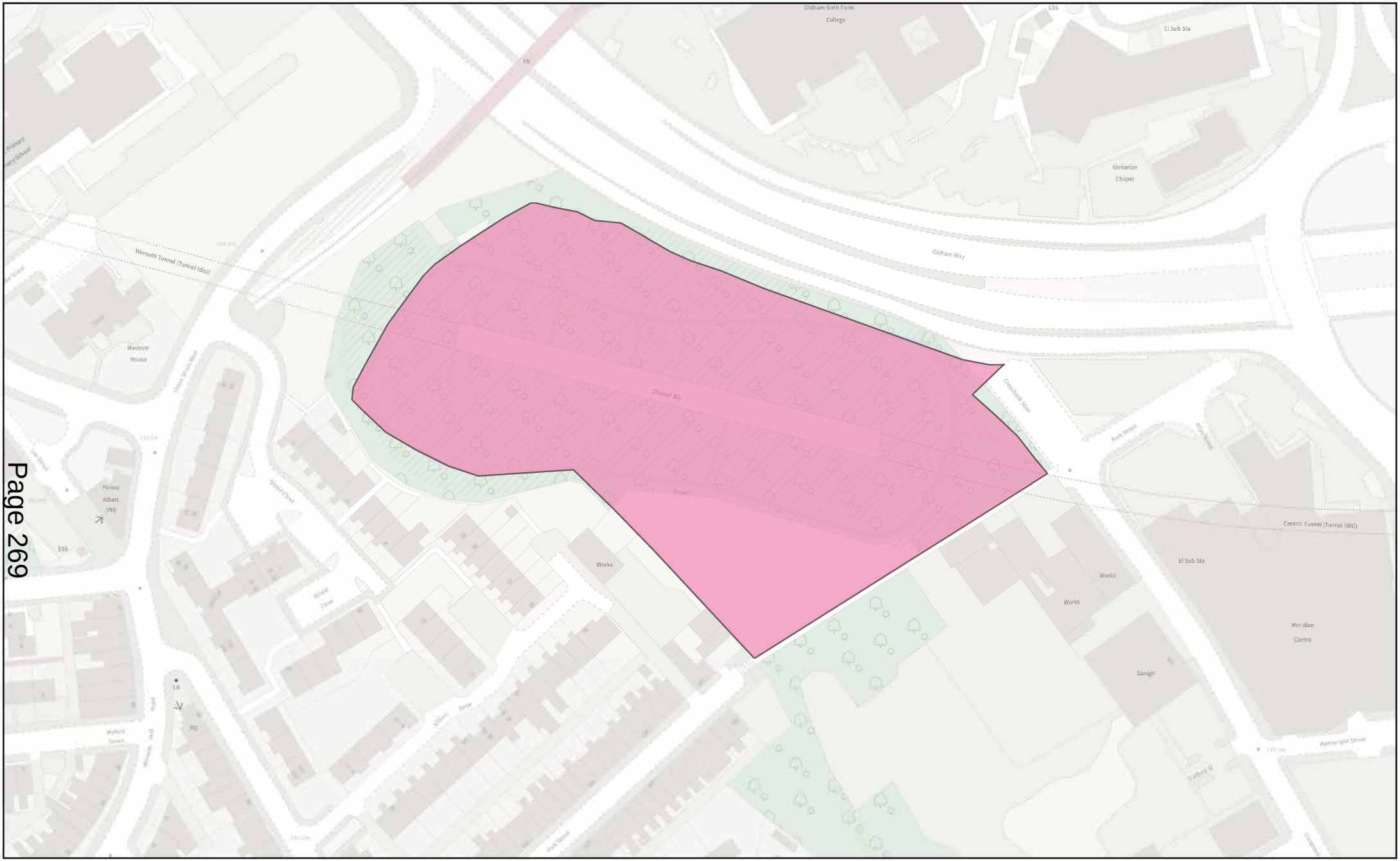

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.3

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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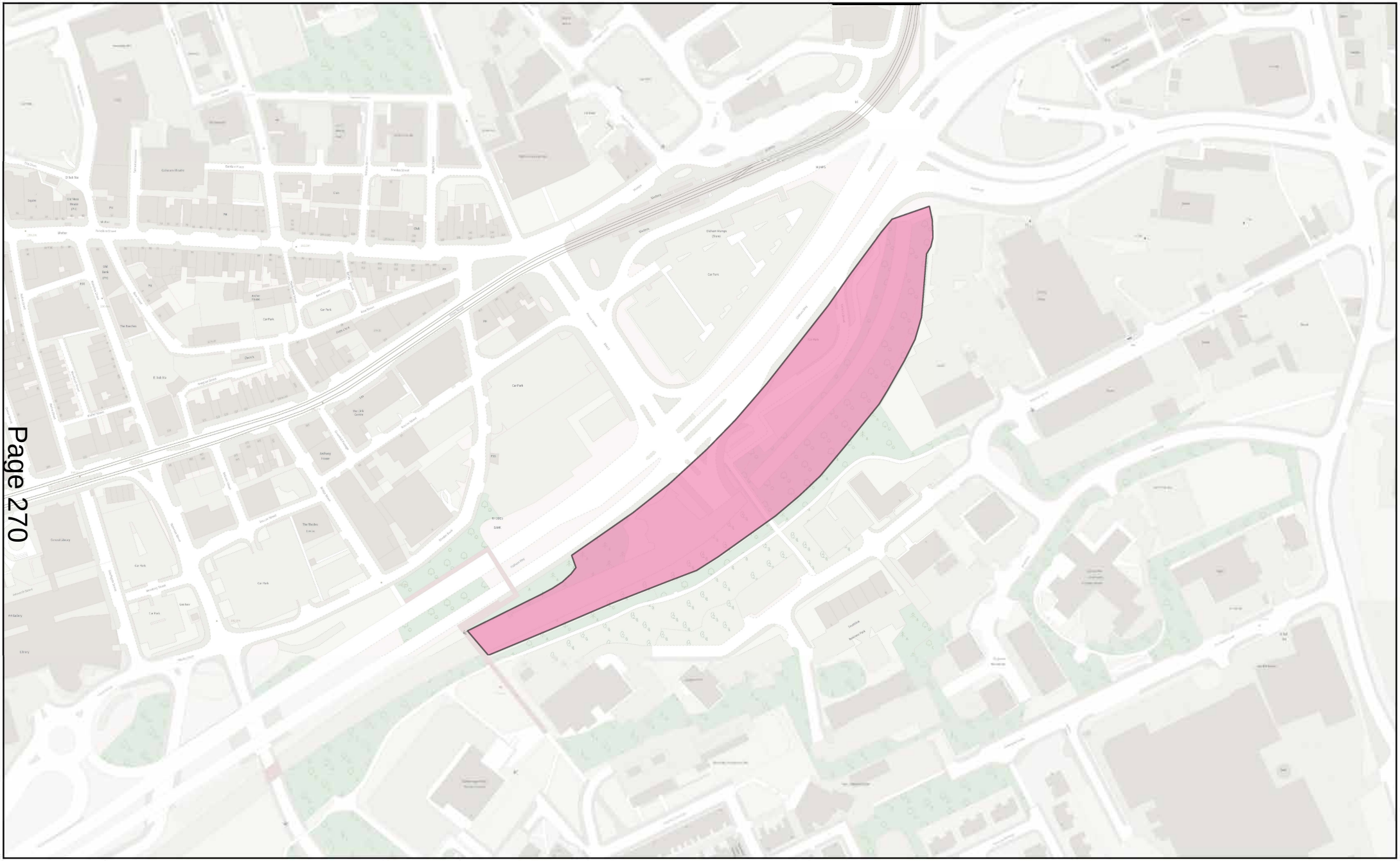

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.4

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,000

Oldham Council

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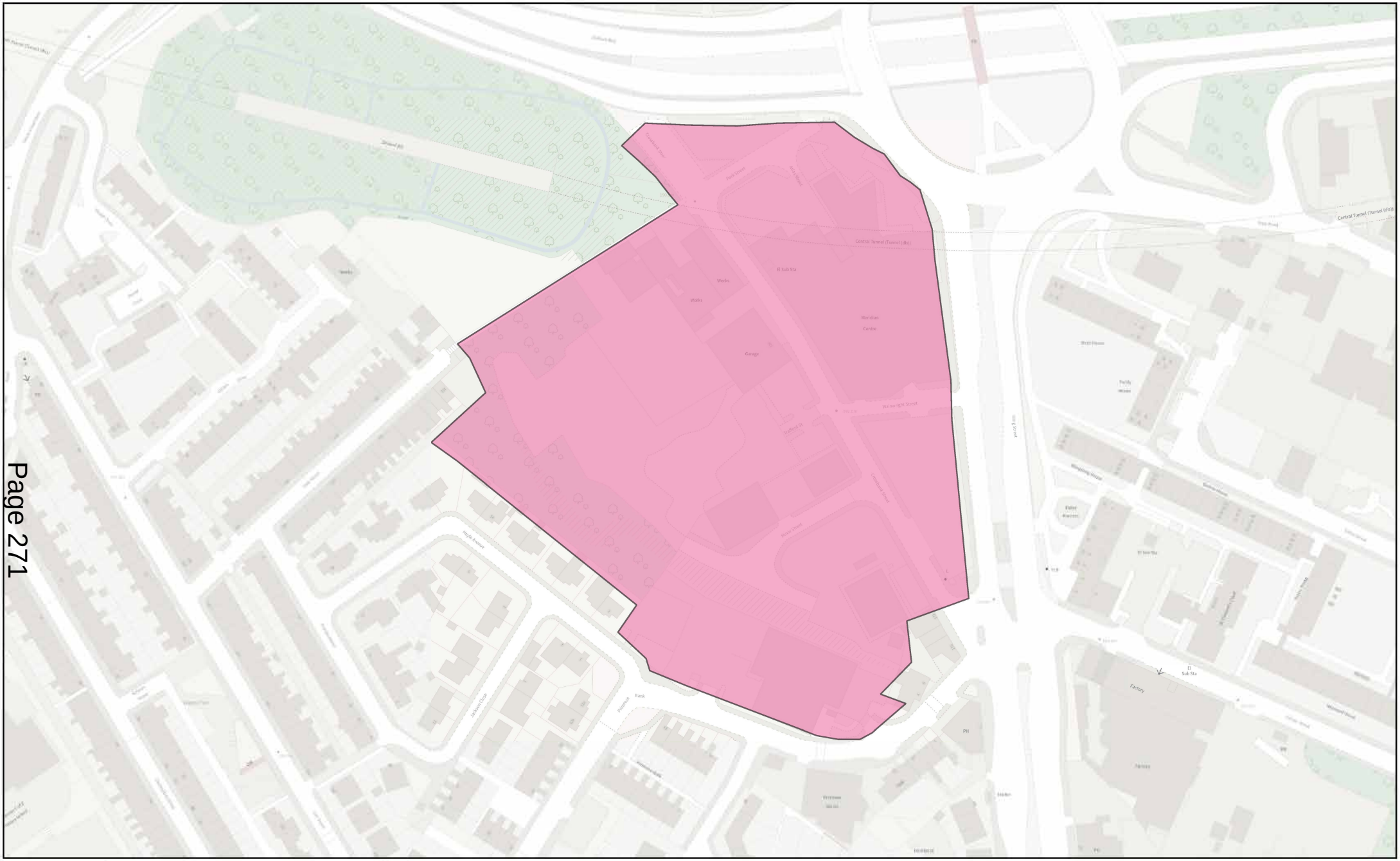

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.5

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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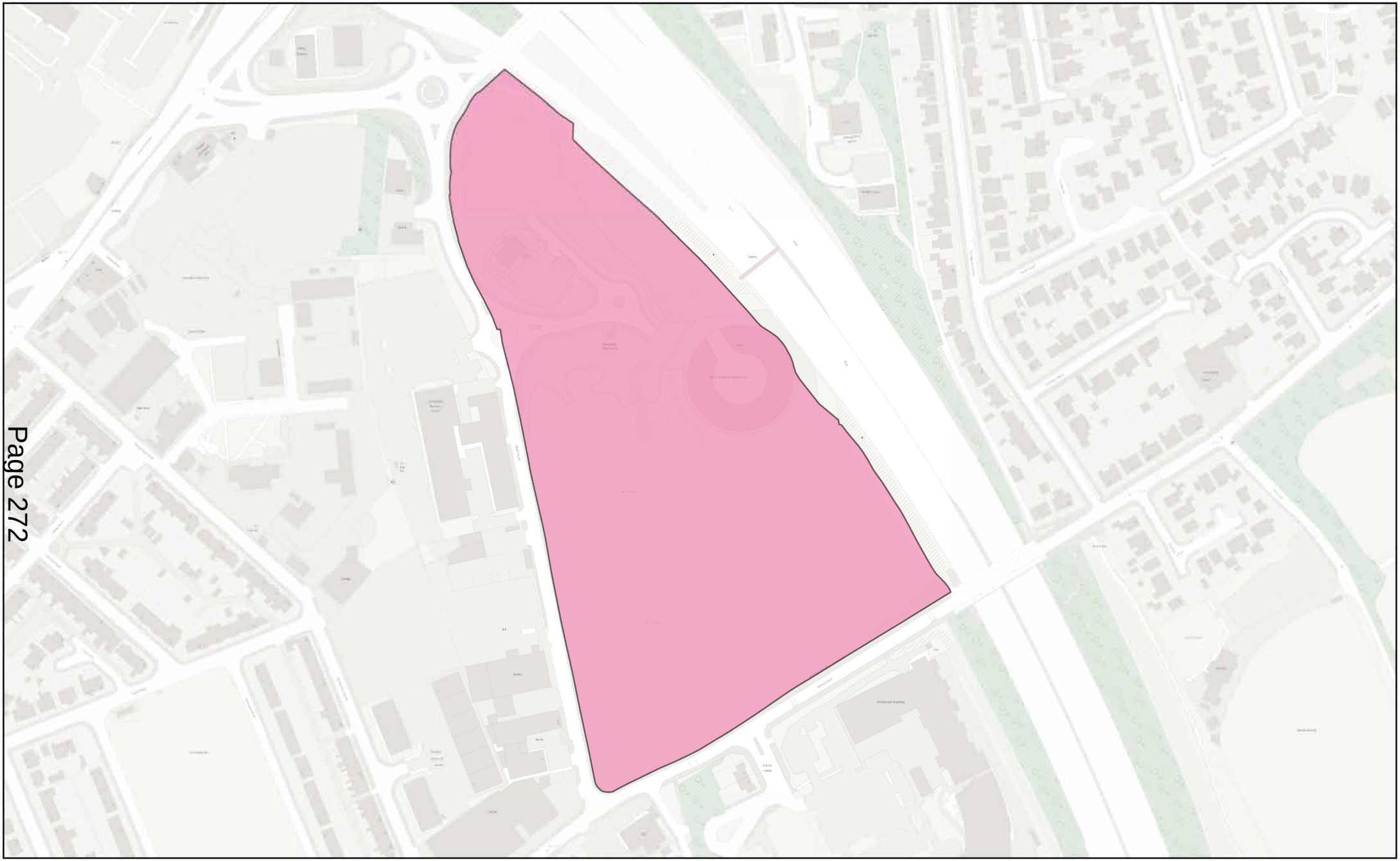

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.6

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,000

Oldham Council

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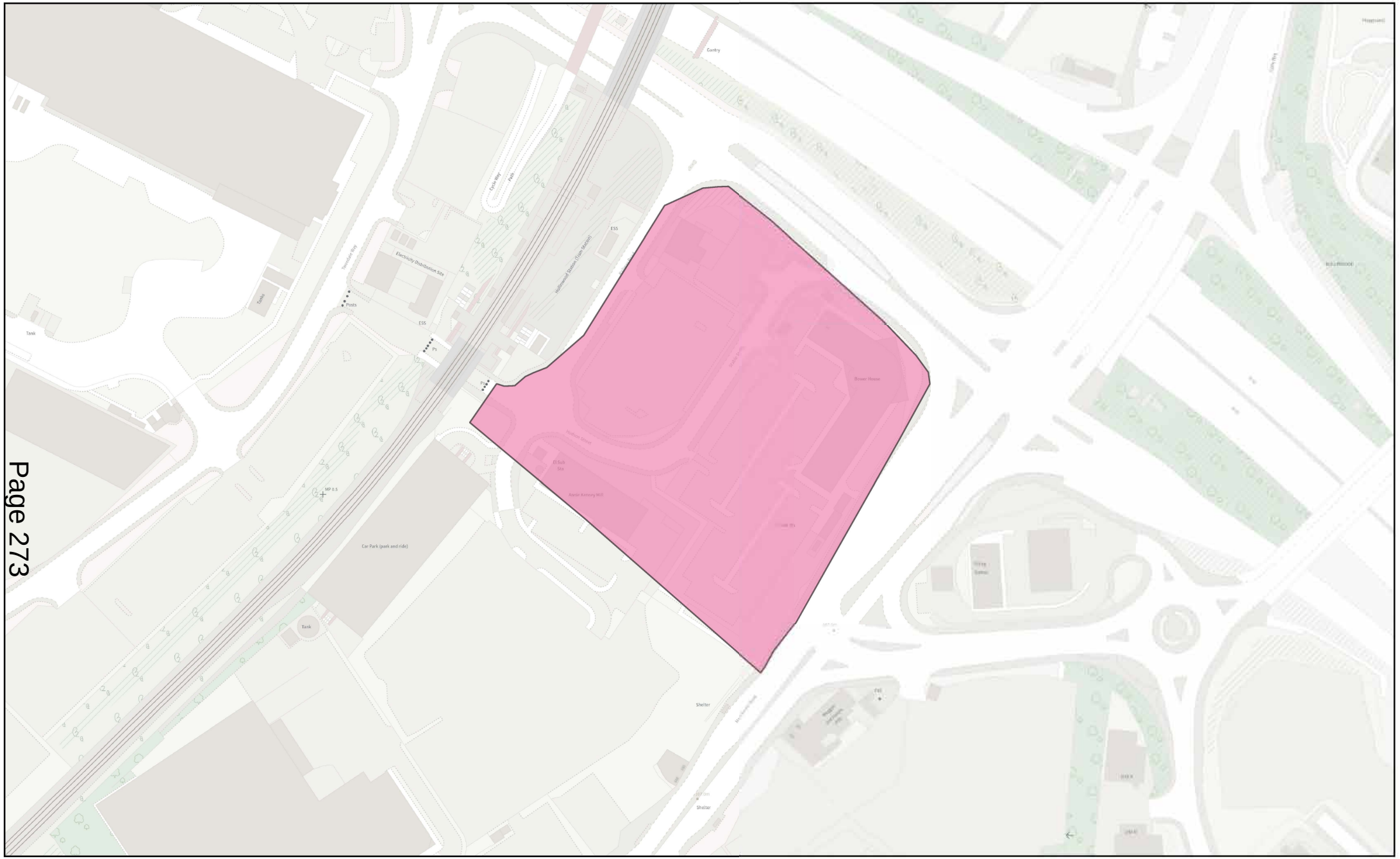

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De-designation of Business & Industry allocation B 1.2.7

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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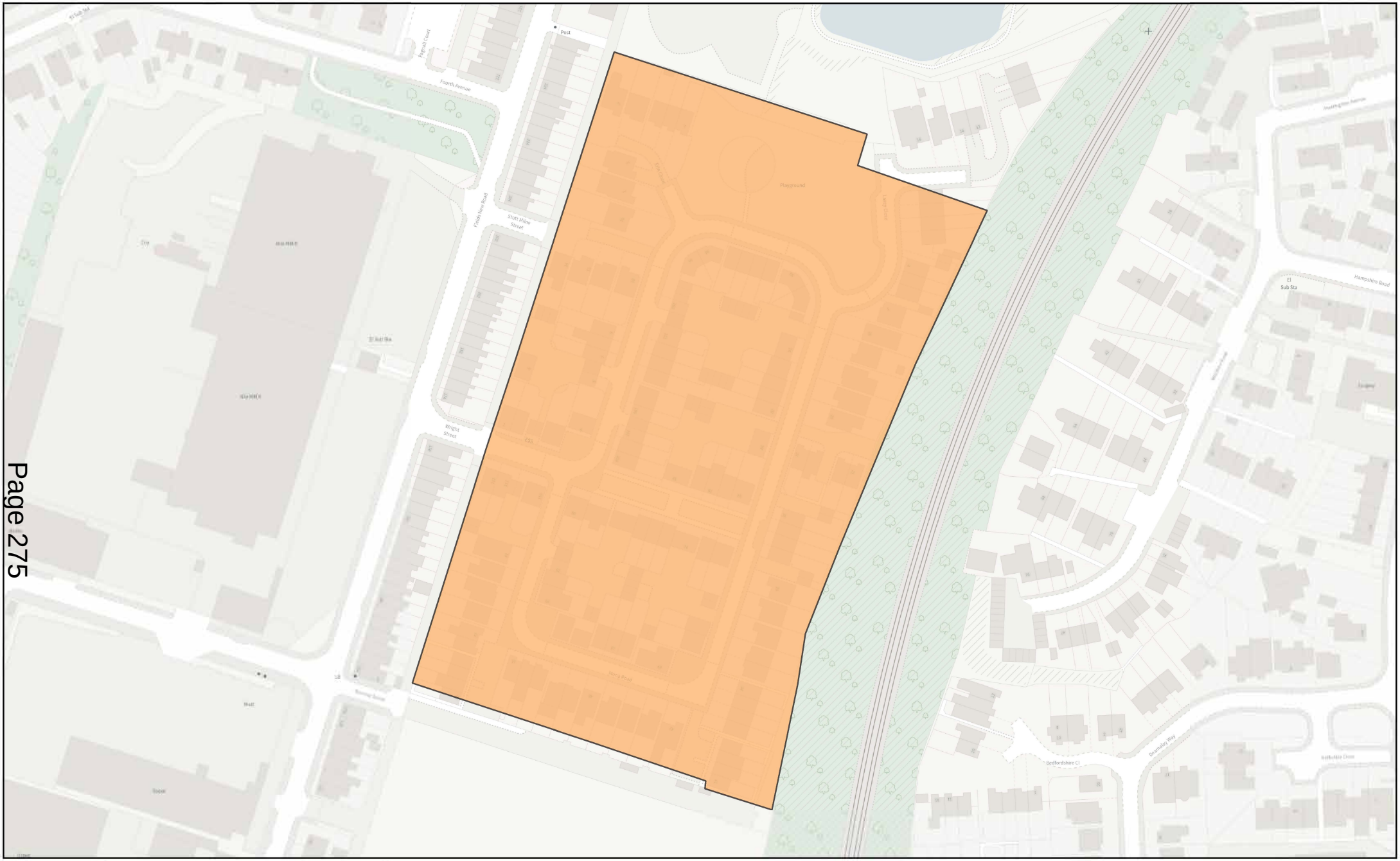
Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 2b

January 2026

Oldham Council



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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.2

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,800

Oldham Council

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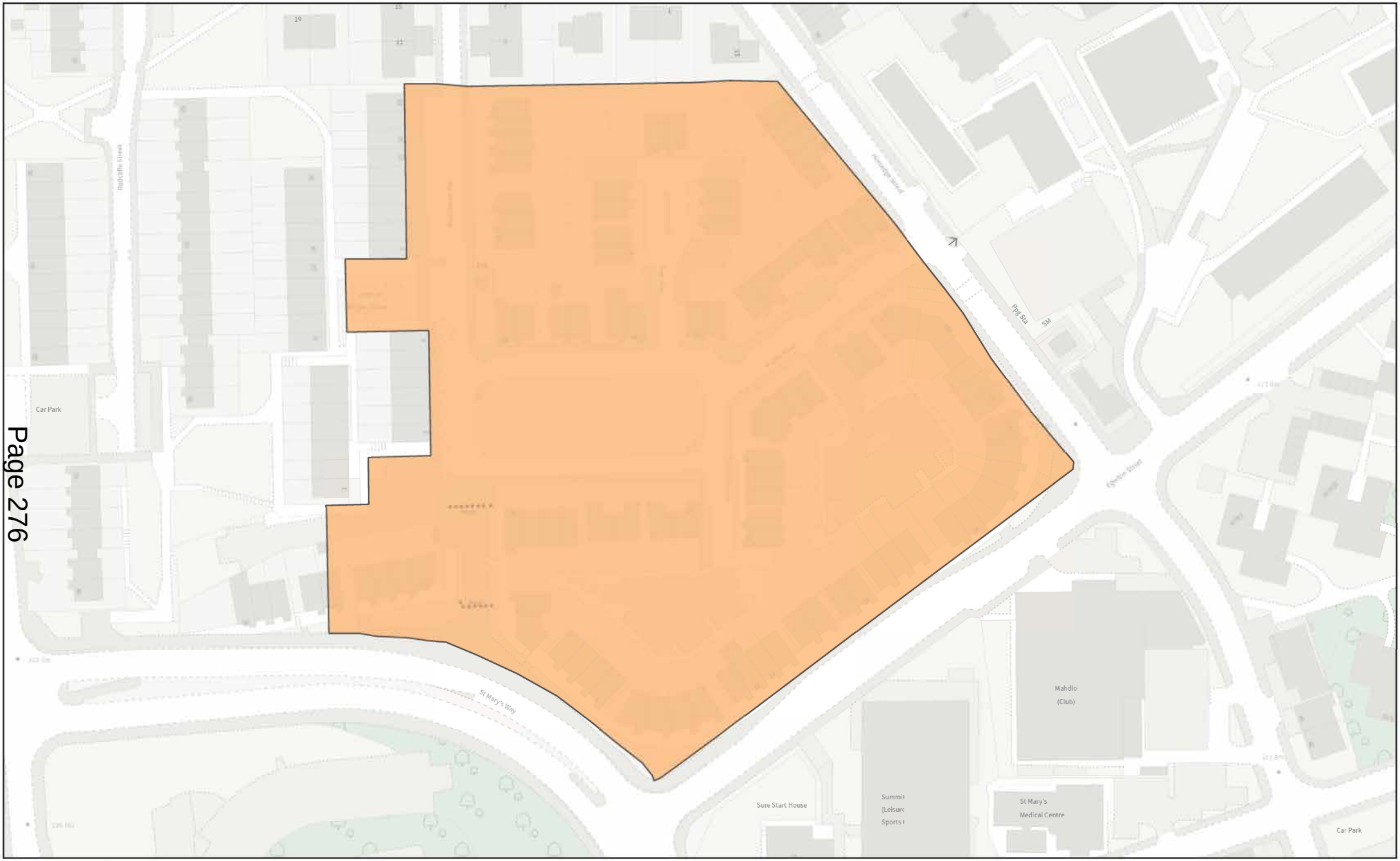

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.6

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,300

Oldham Council

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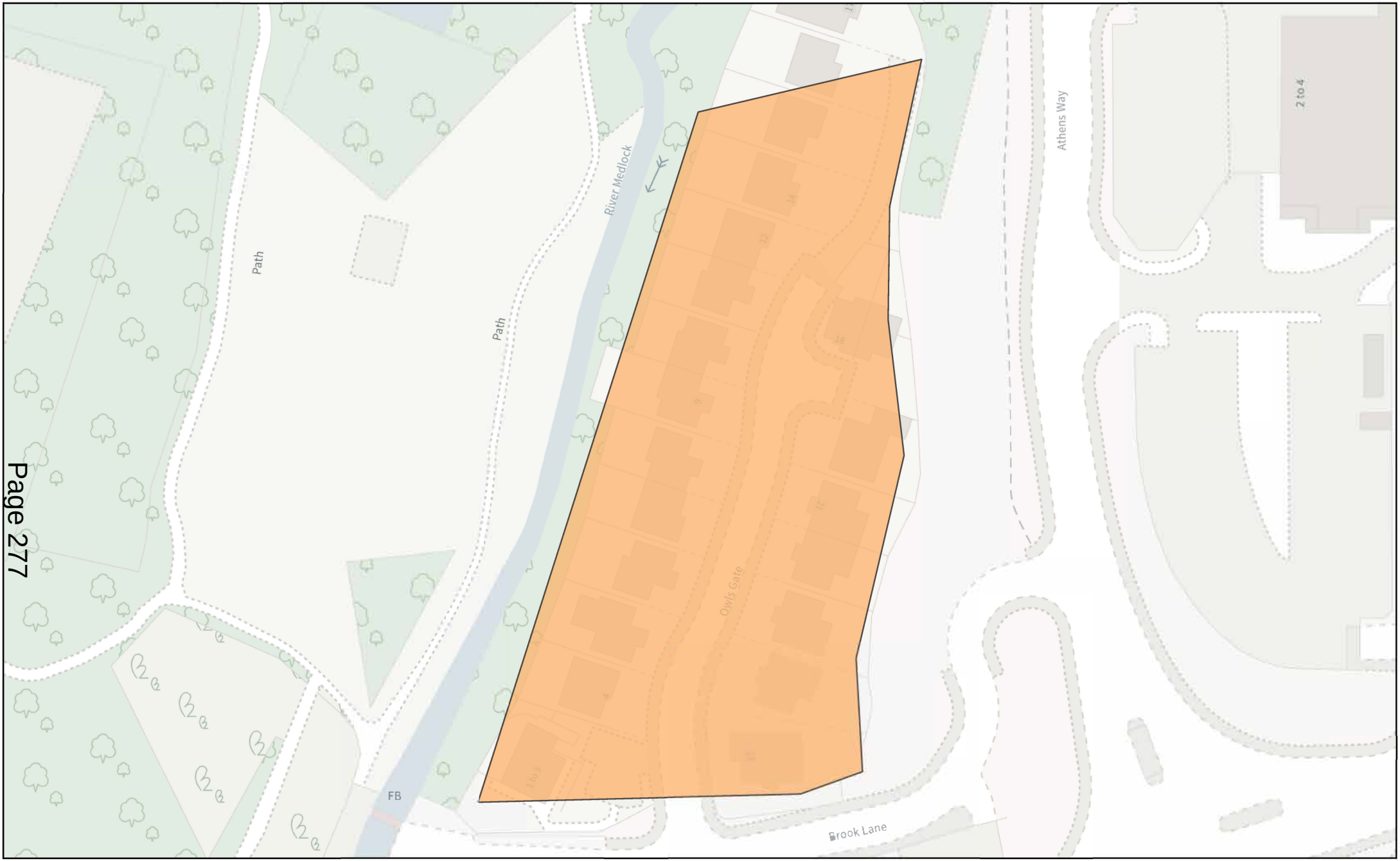

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.10

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:750

Oldham Council

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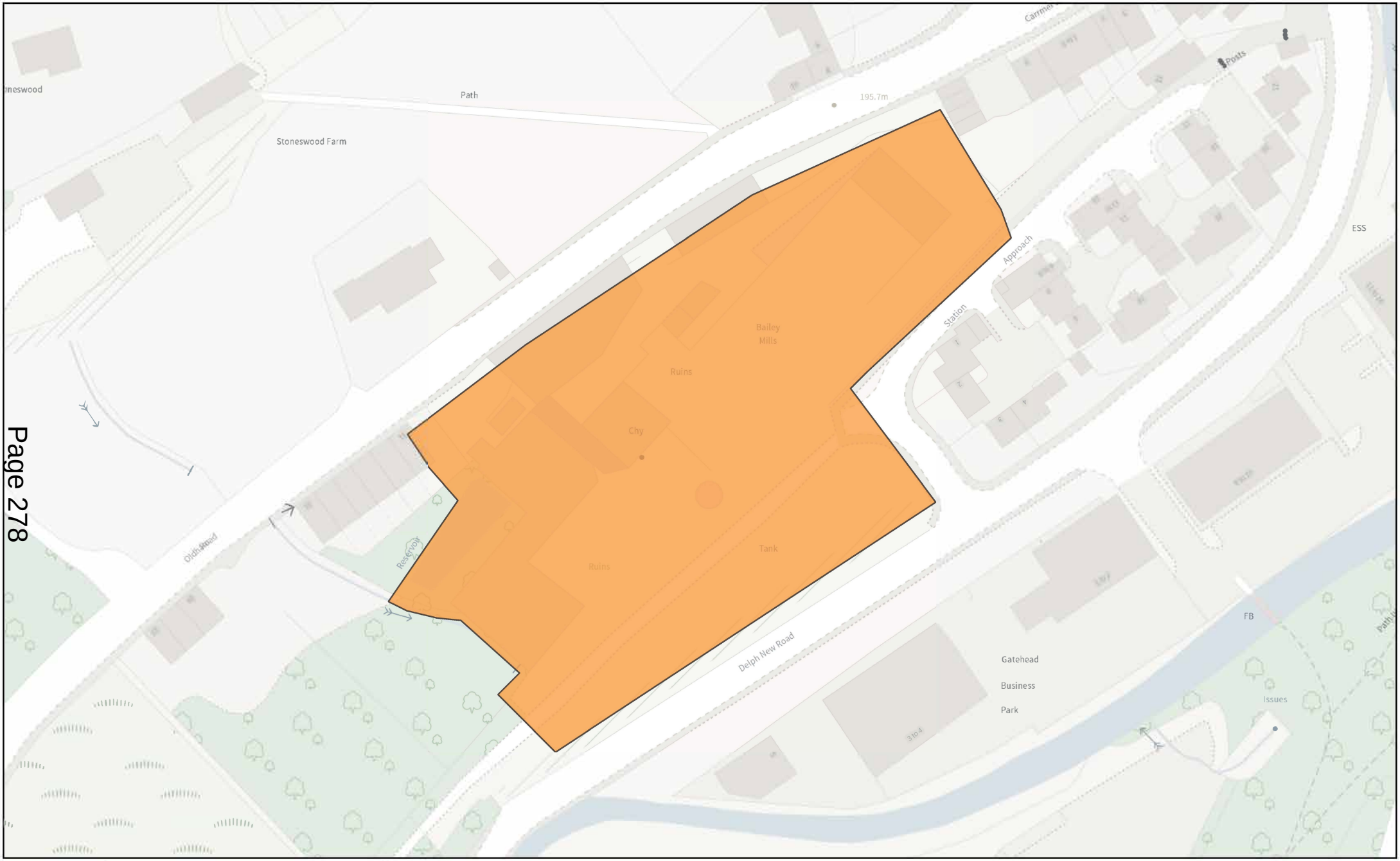

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase One H1.1.15

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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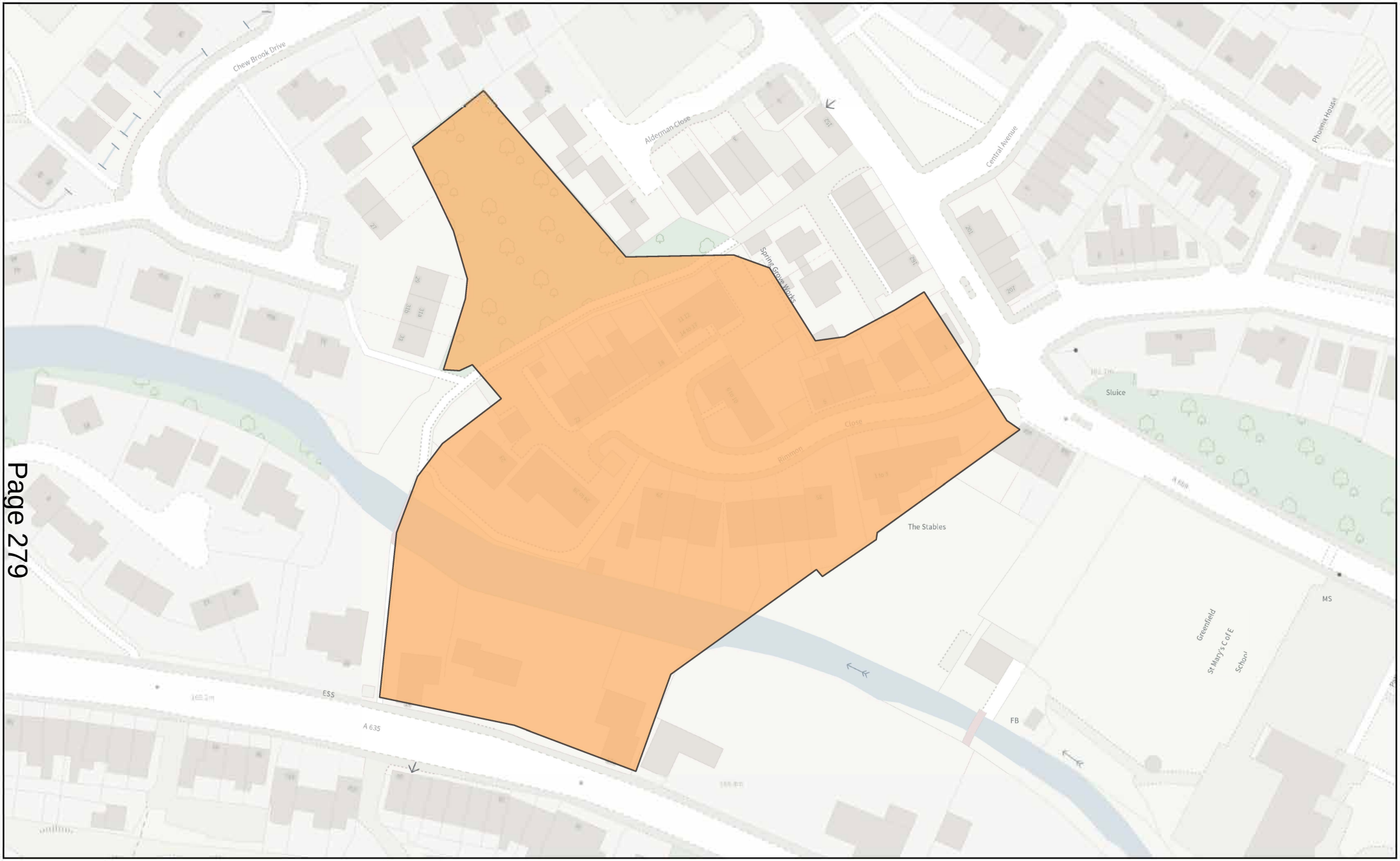

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.19

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,200

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.20

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,200

Oldham Council

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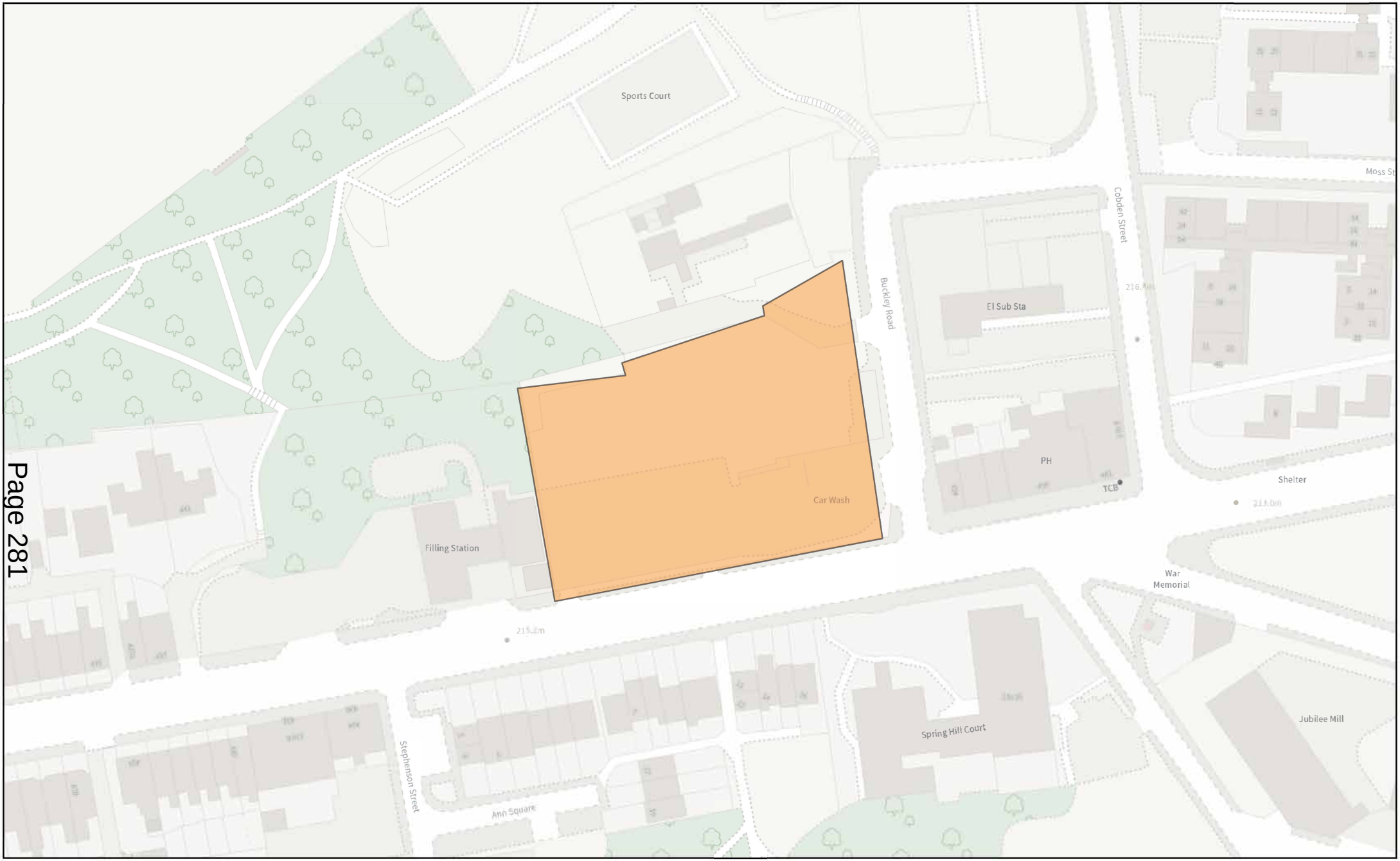

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Date:	As published
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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.21

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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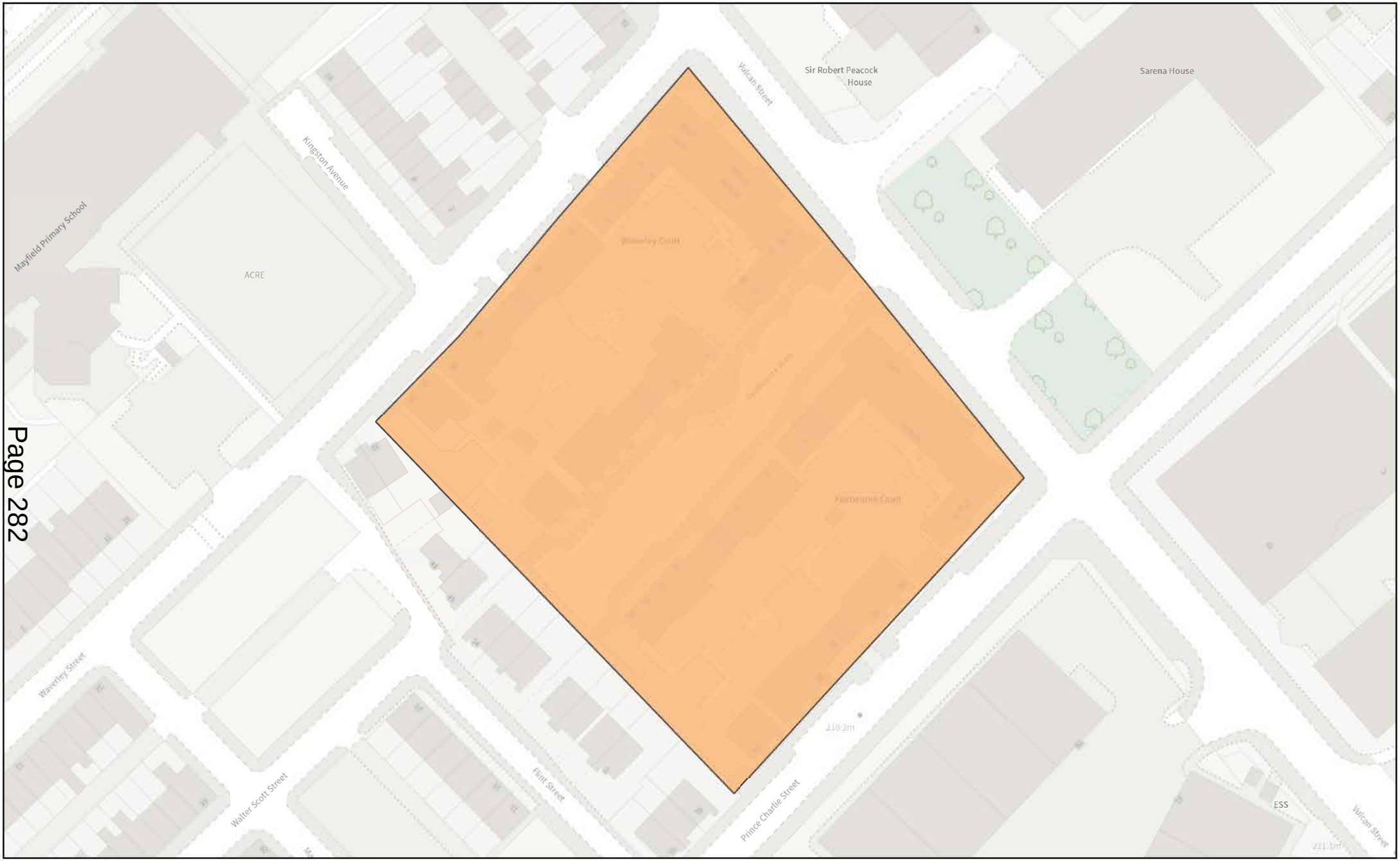

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Date:	As published
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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.22

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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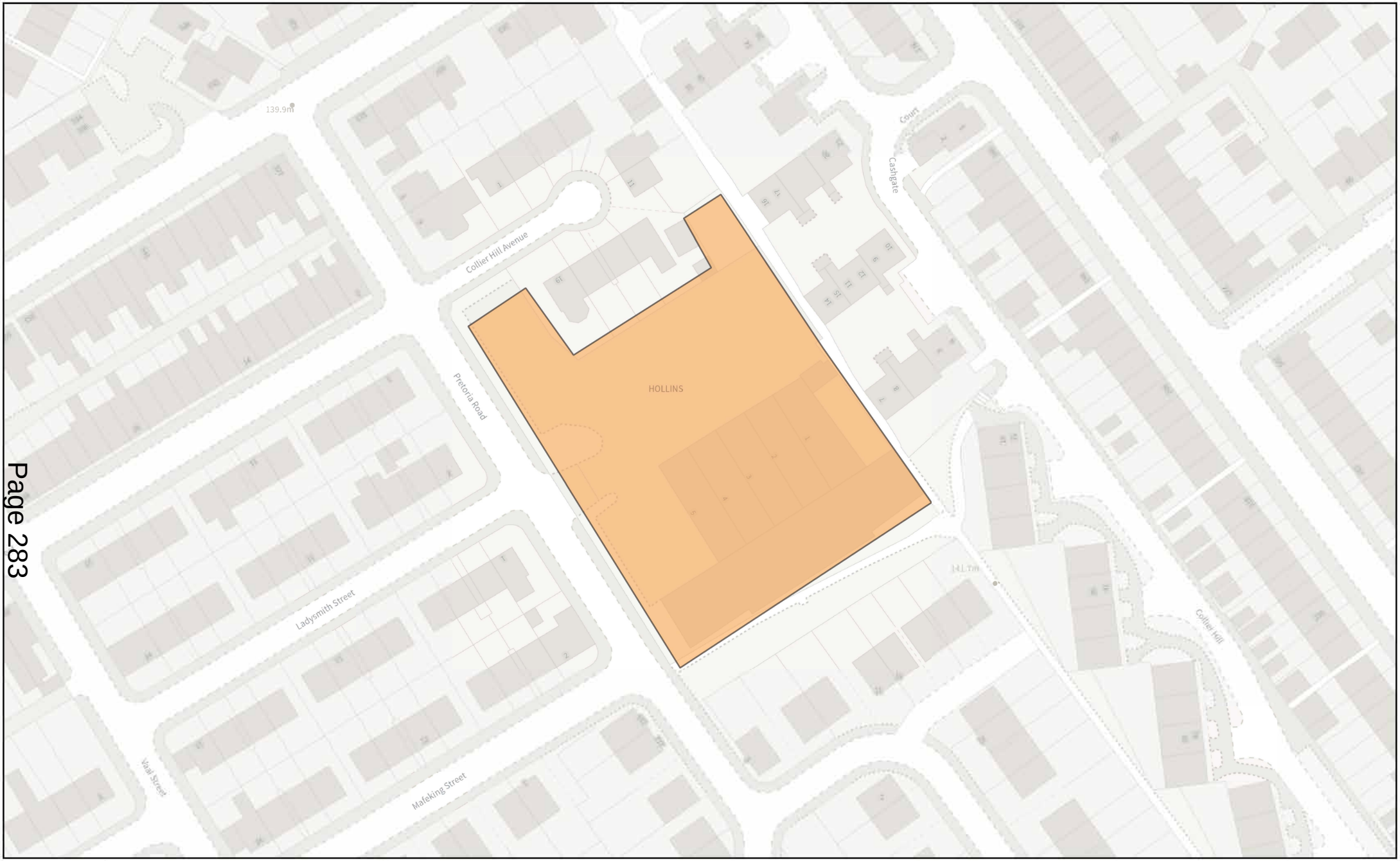

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.23

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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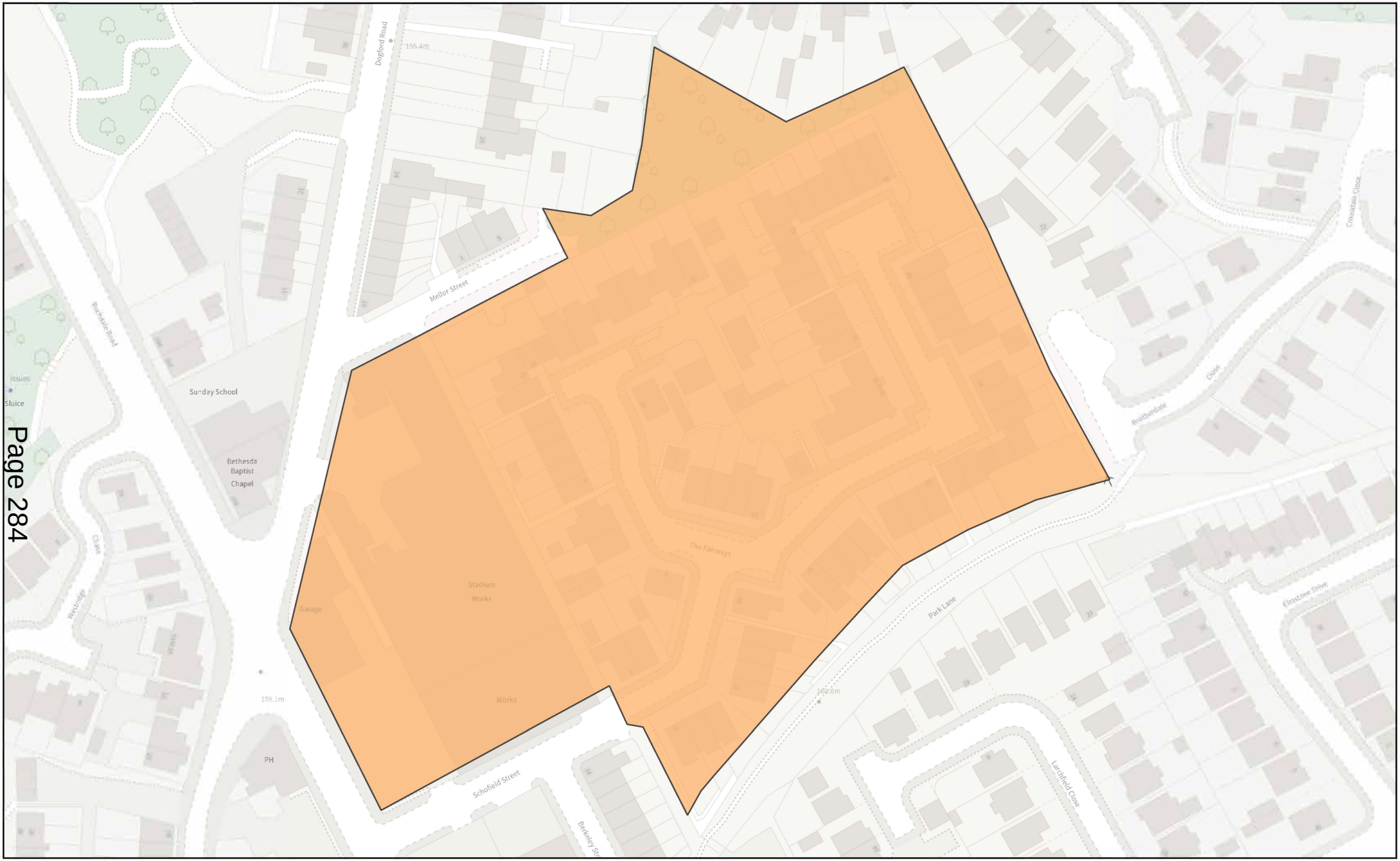

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.24

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,200

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.25

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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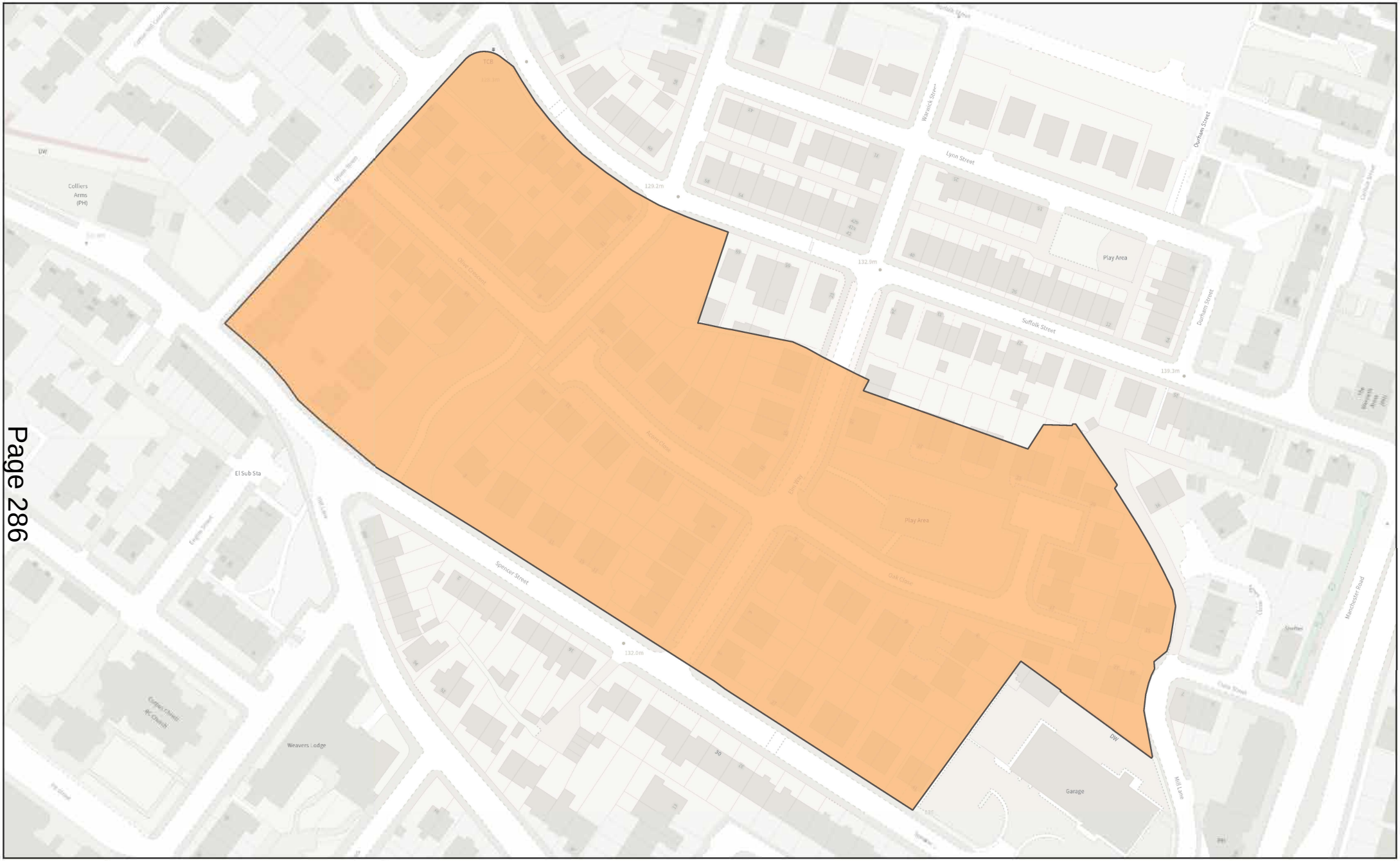

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.26

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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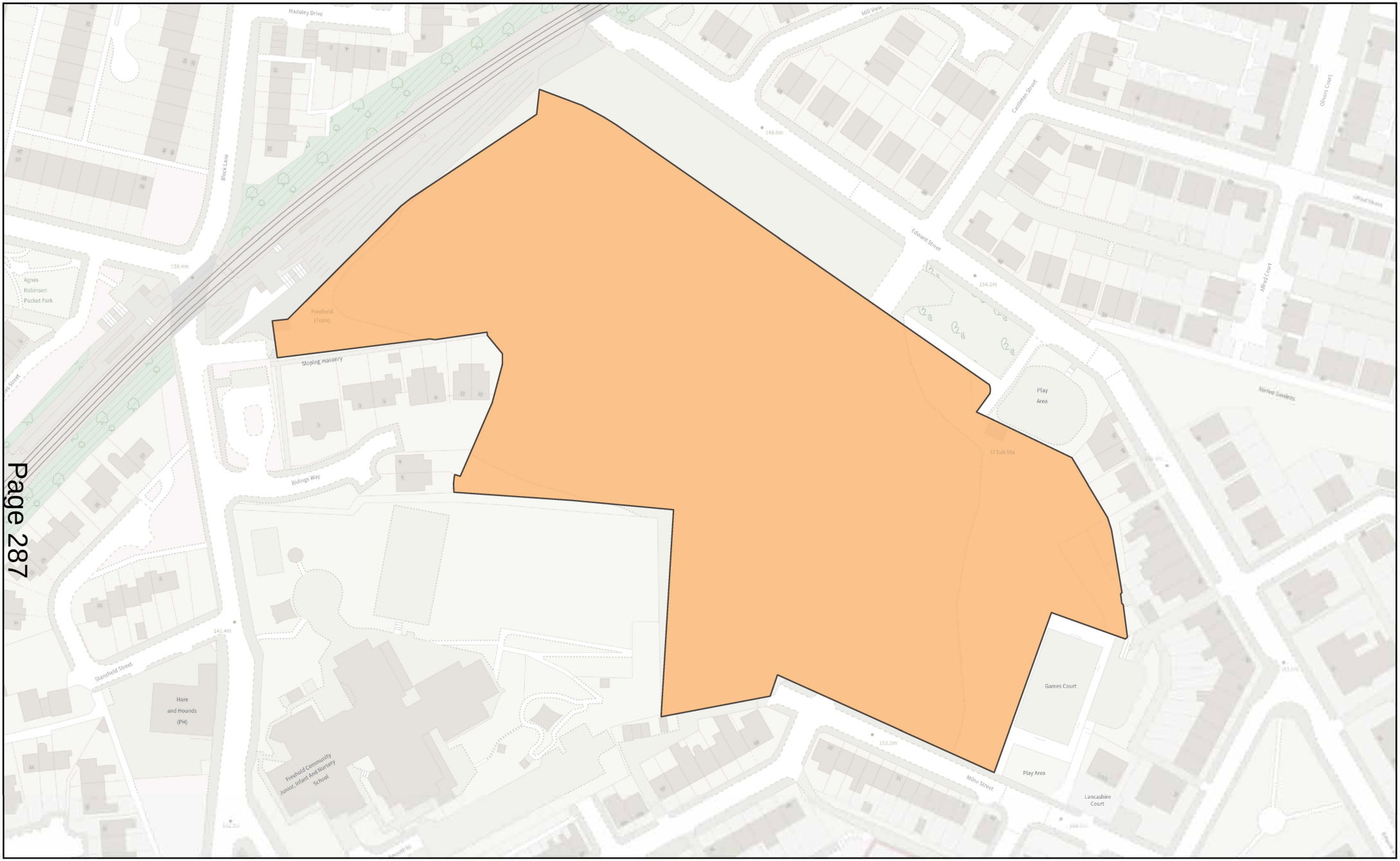

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.27

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,600

Oldham Council

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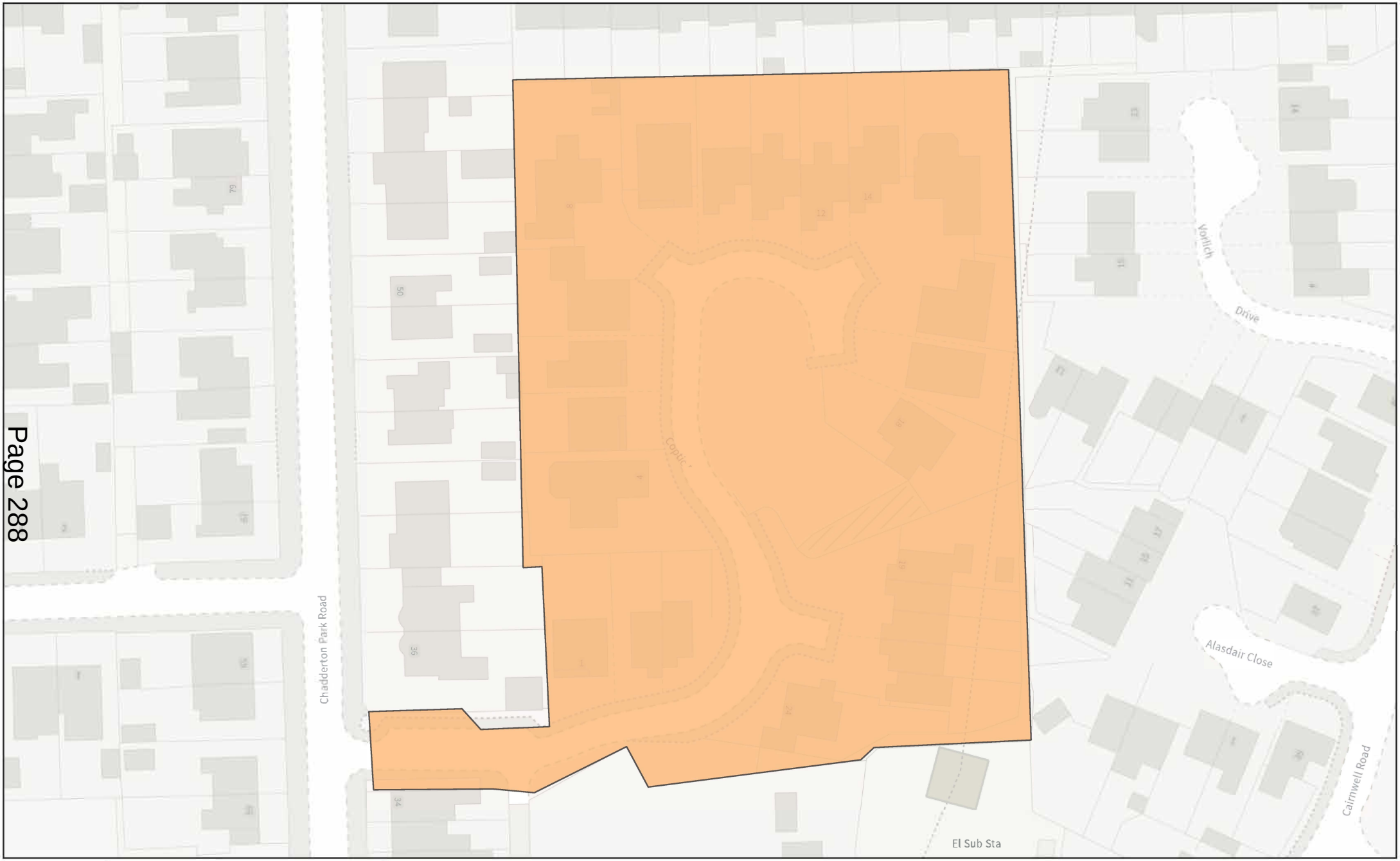

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.28

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:800

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.29

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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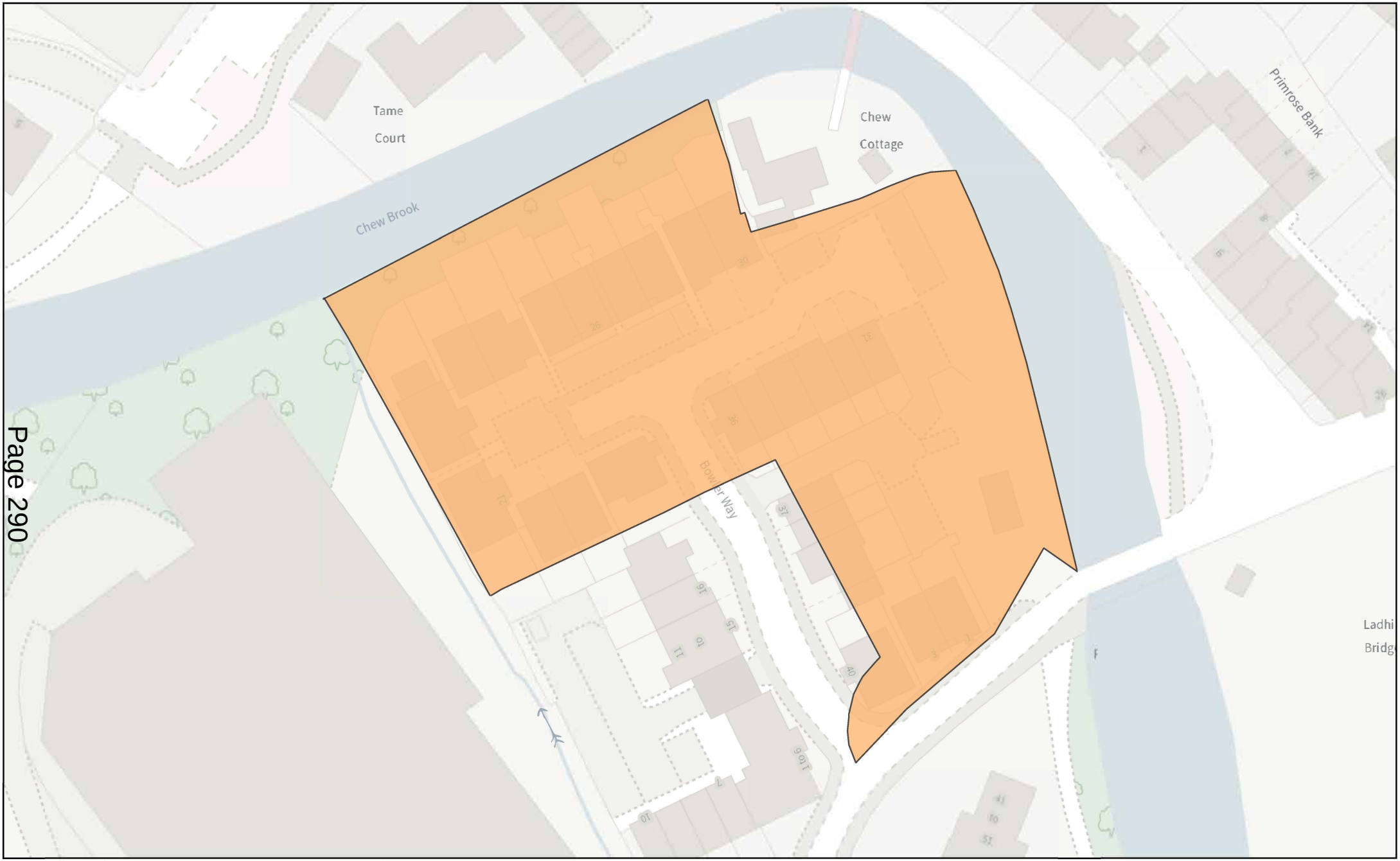

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.30

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:700

Oldham Council

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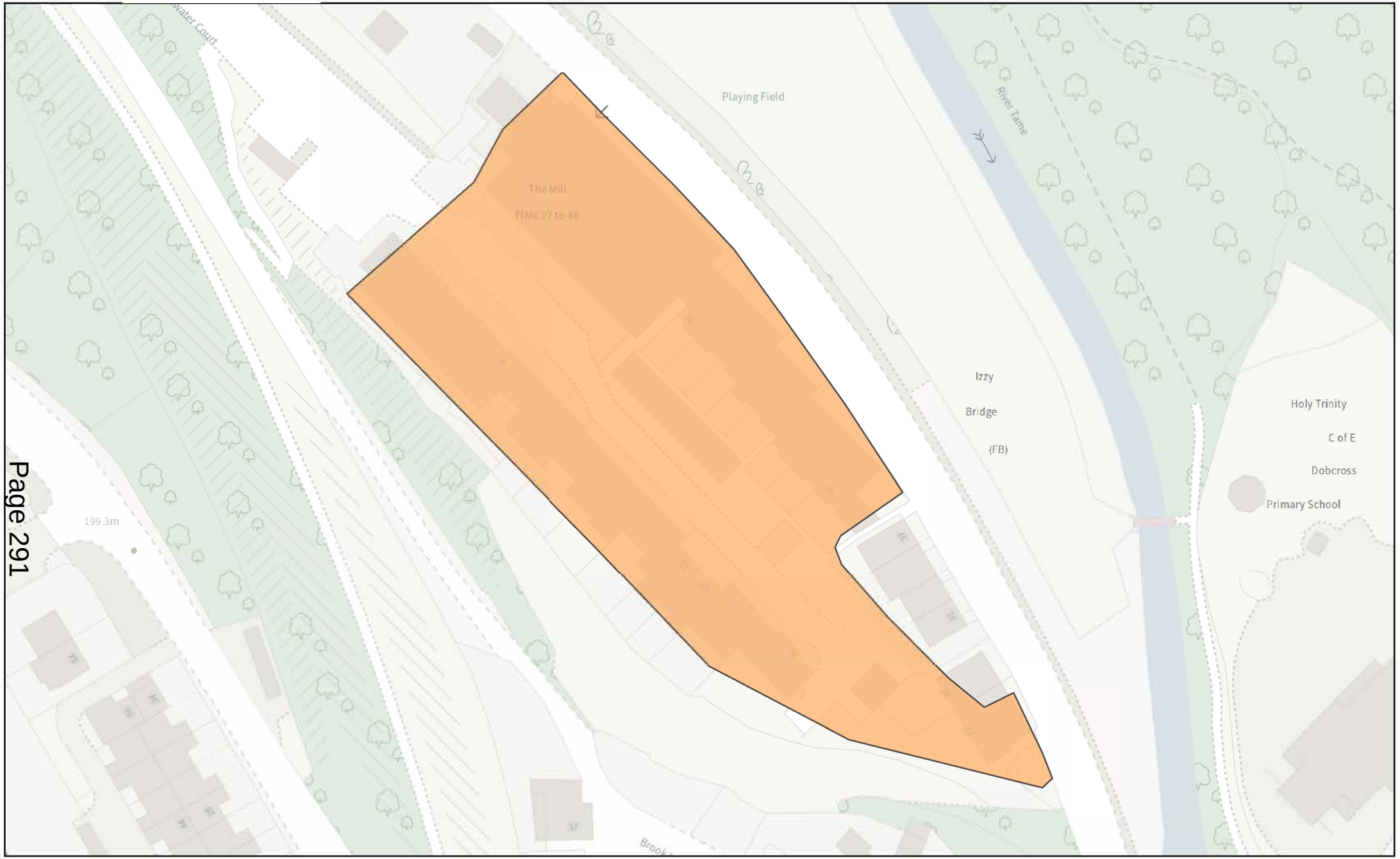

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 1 H1.1.31

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:800

Oldham Council

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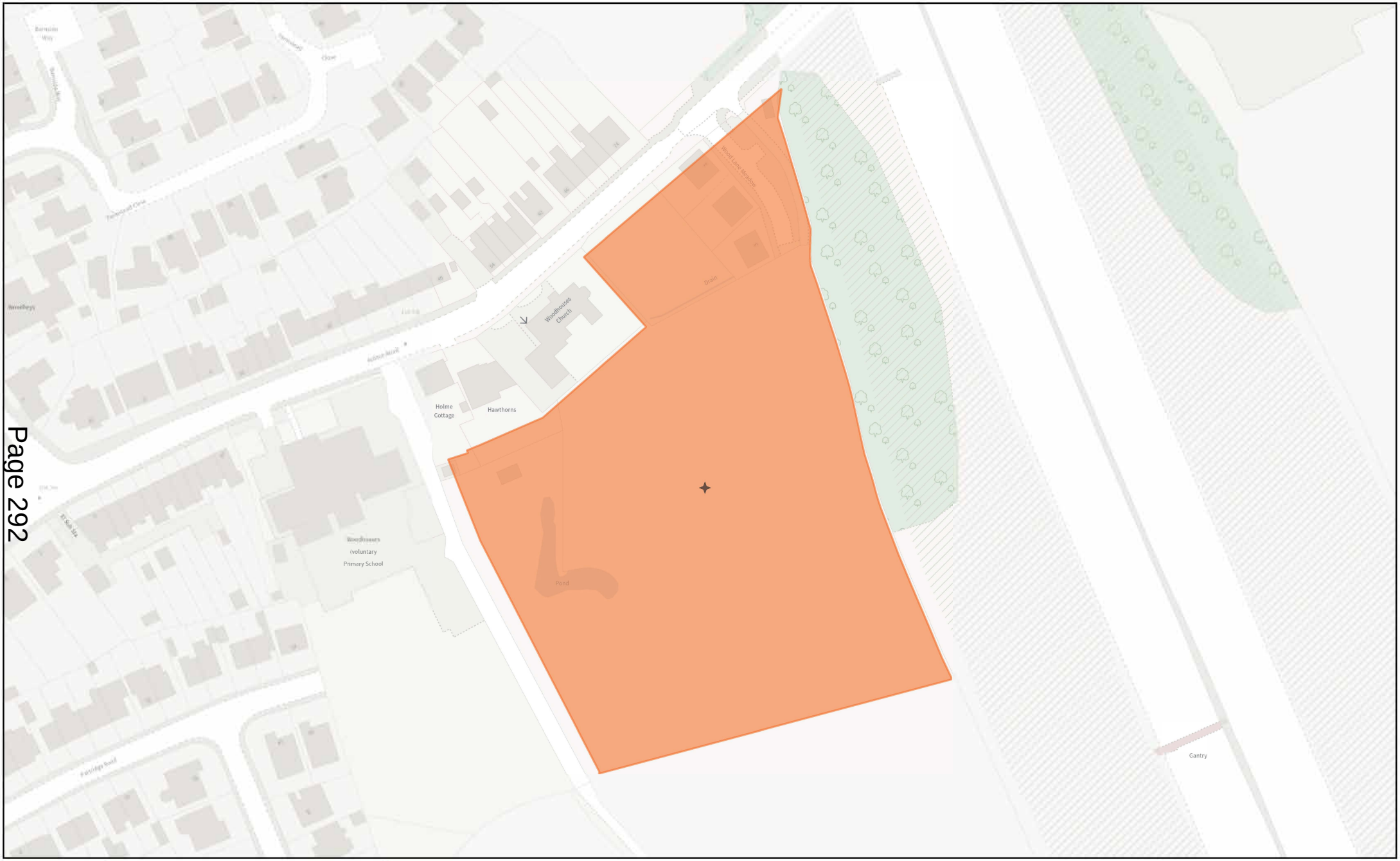

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.3

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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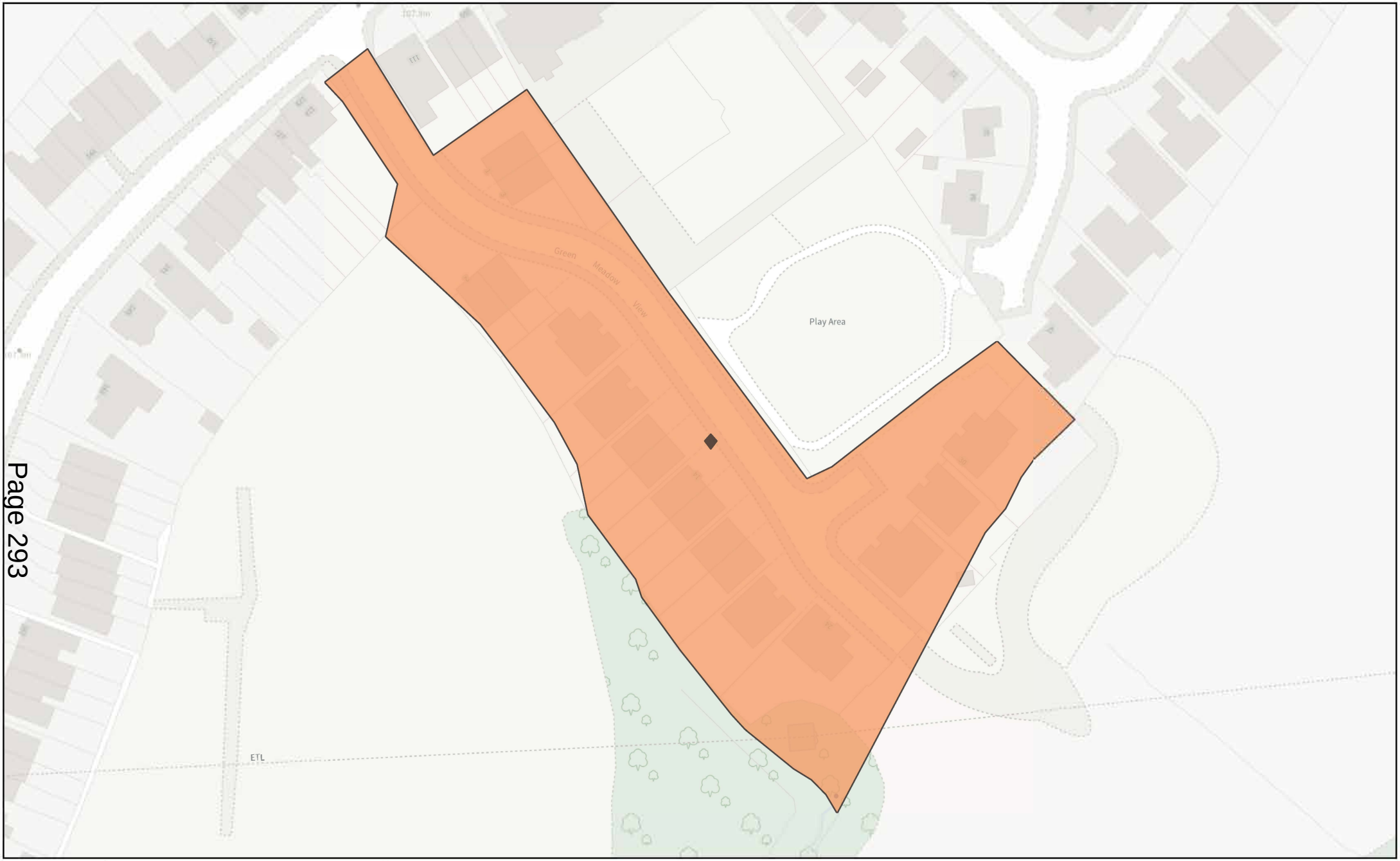

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.4

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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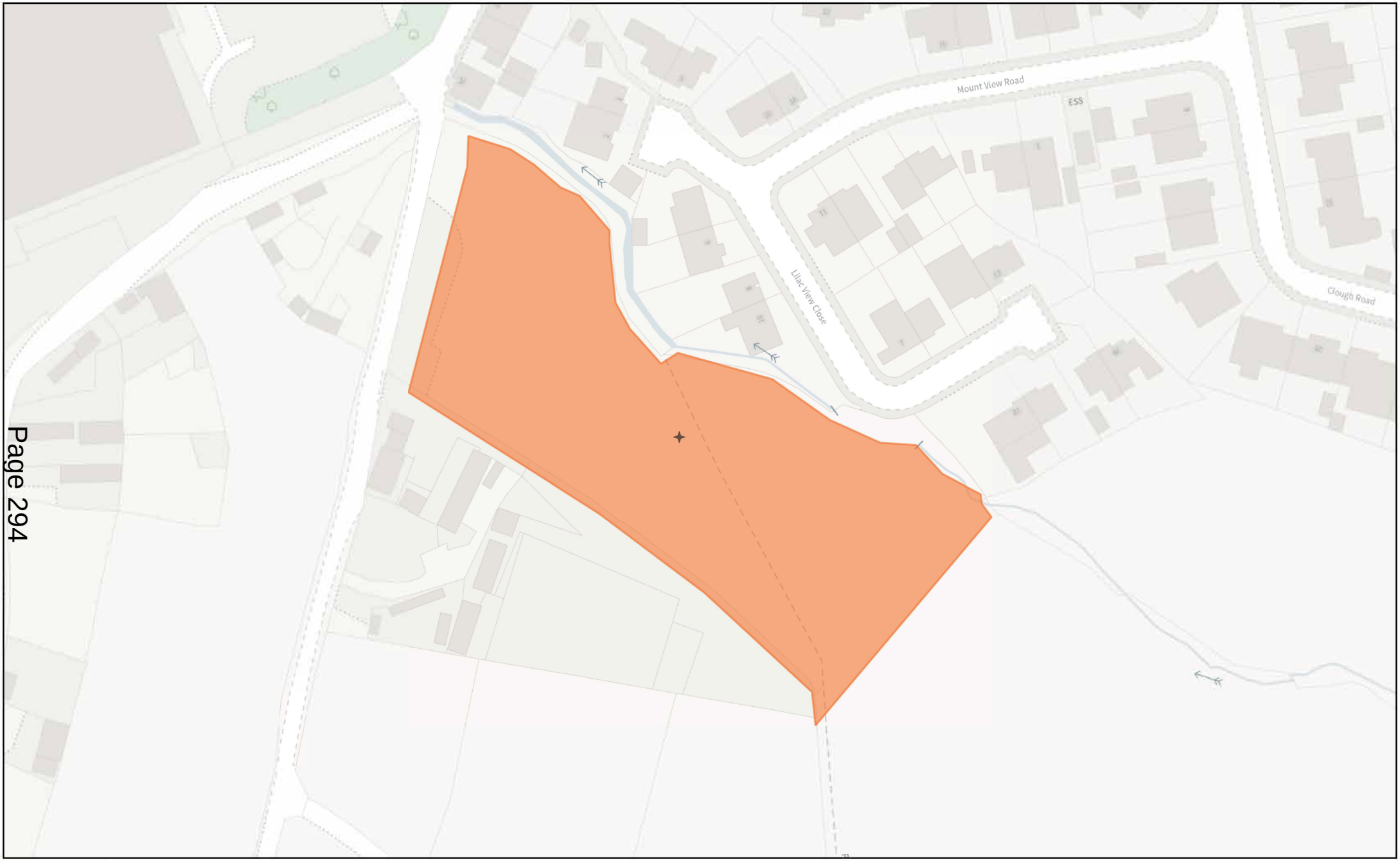

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.6

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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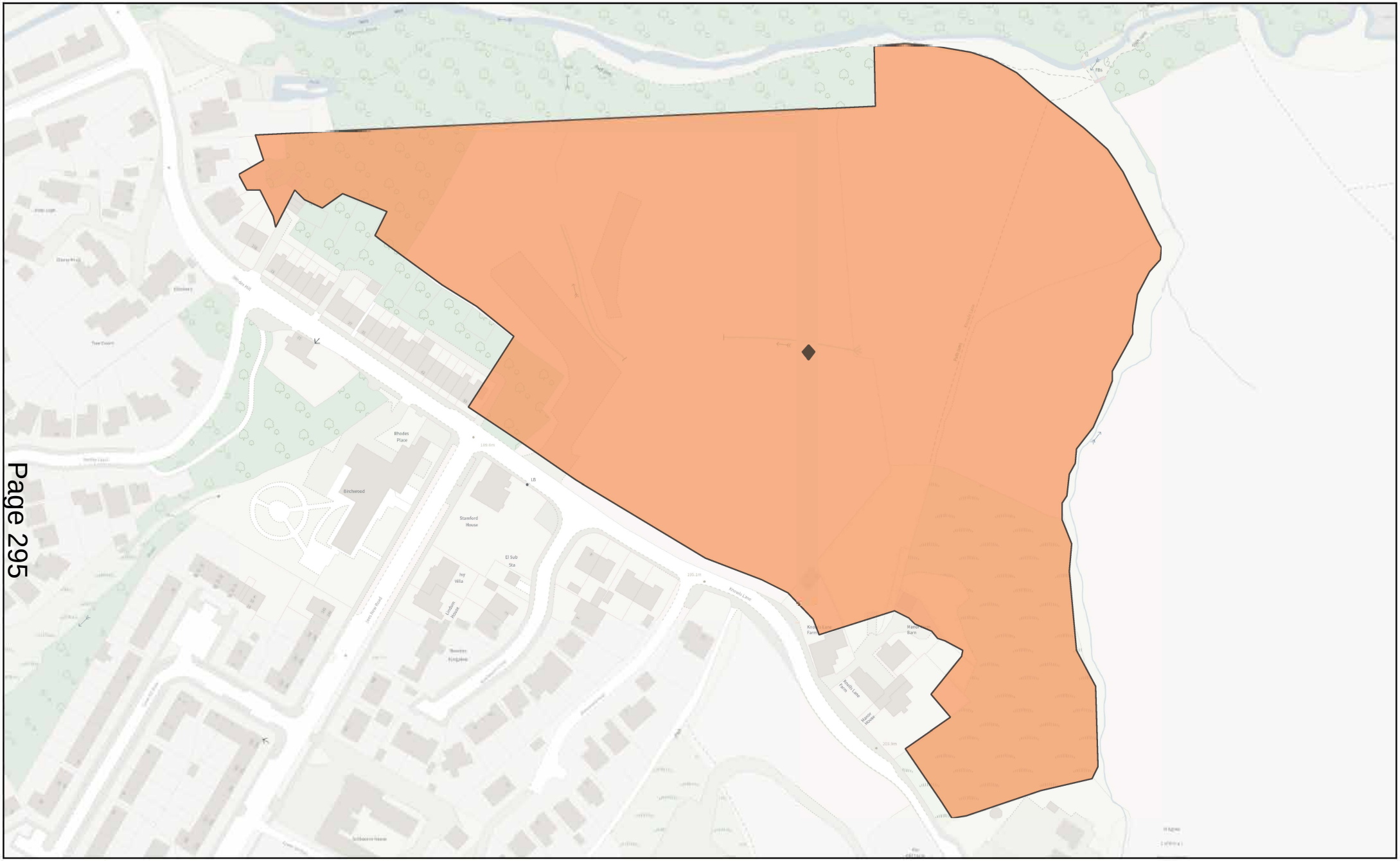

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.10

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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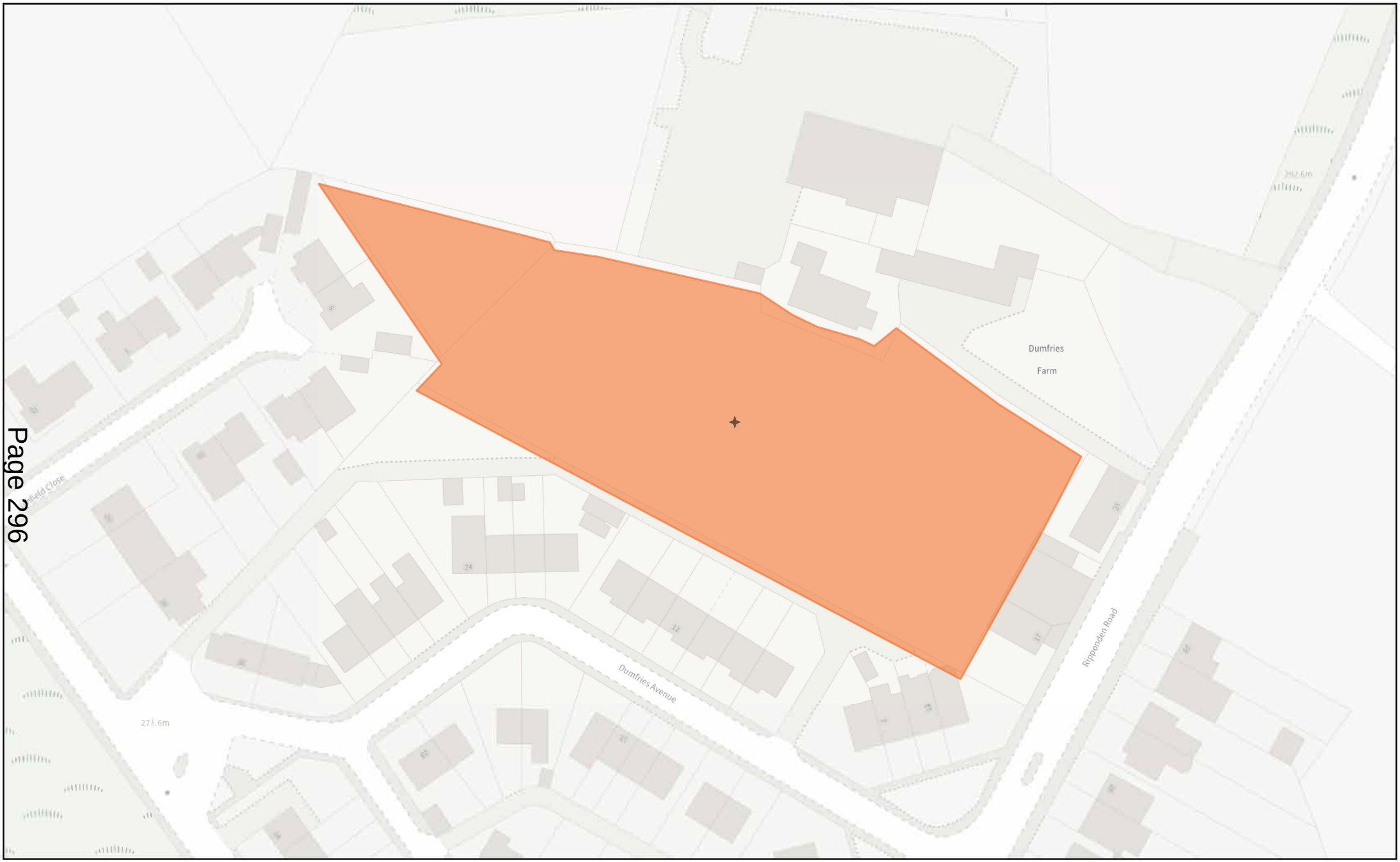

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.11

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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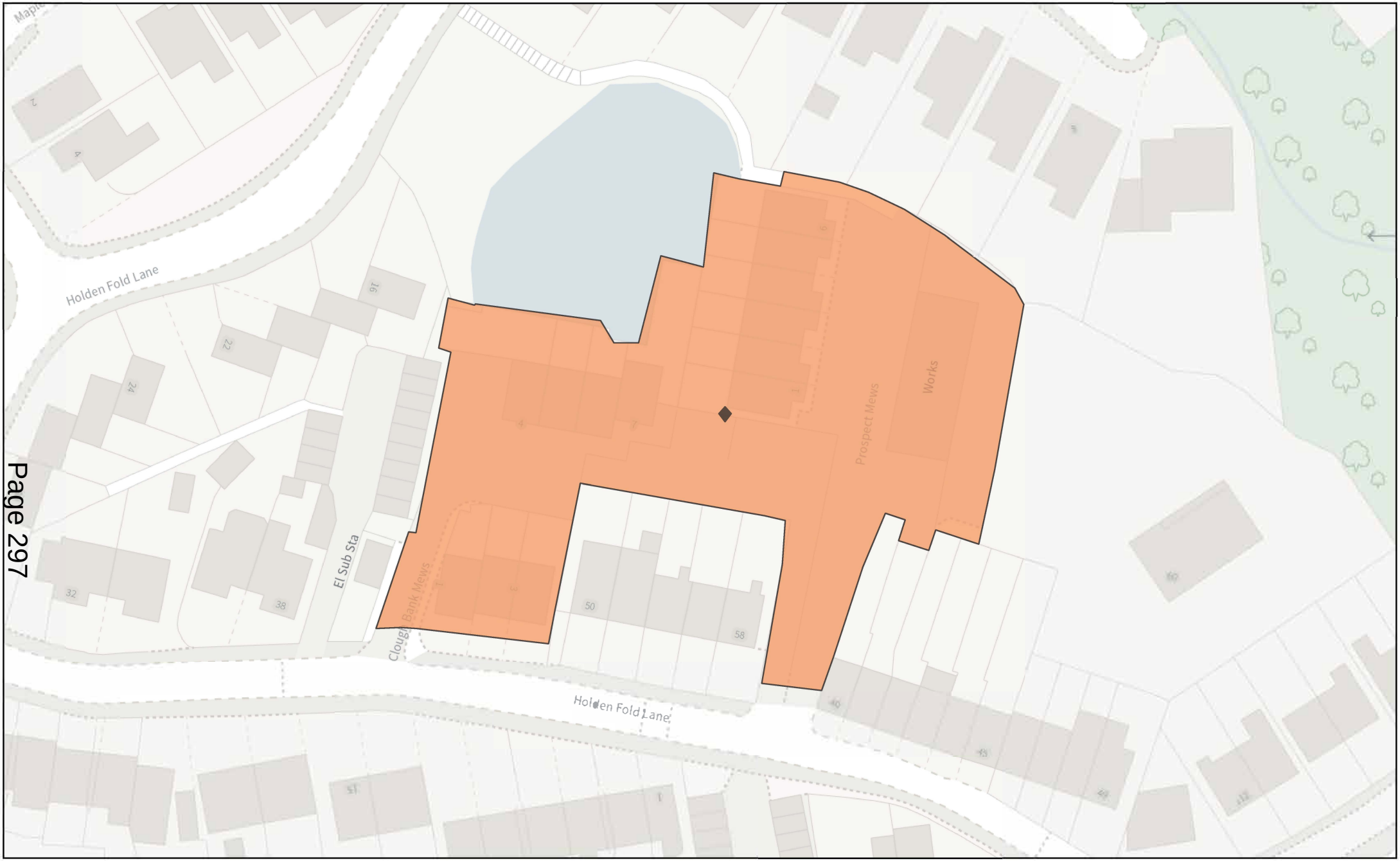

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.13

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:700

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.16

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,000

Oldham Council

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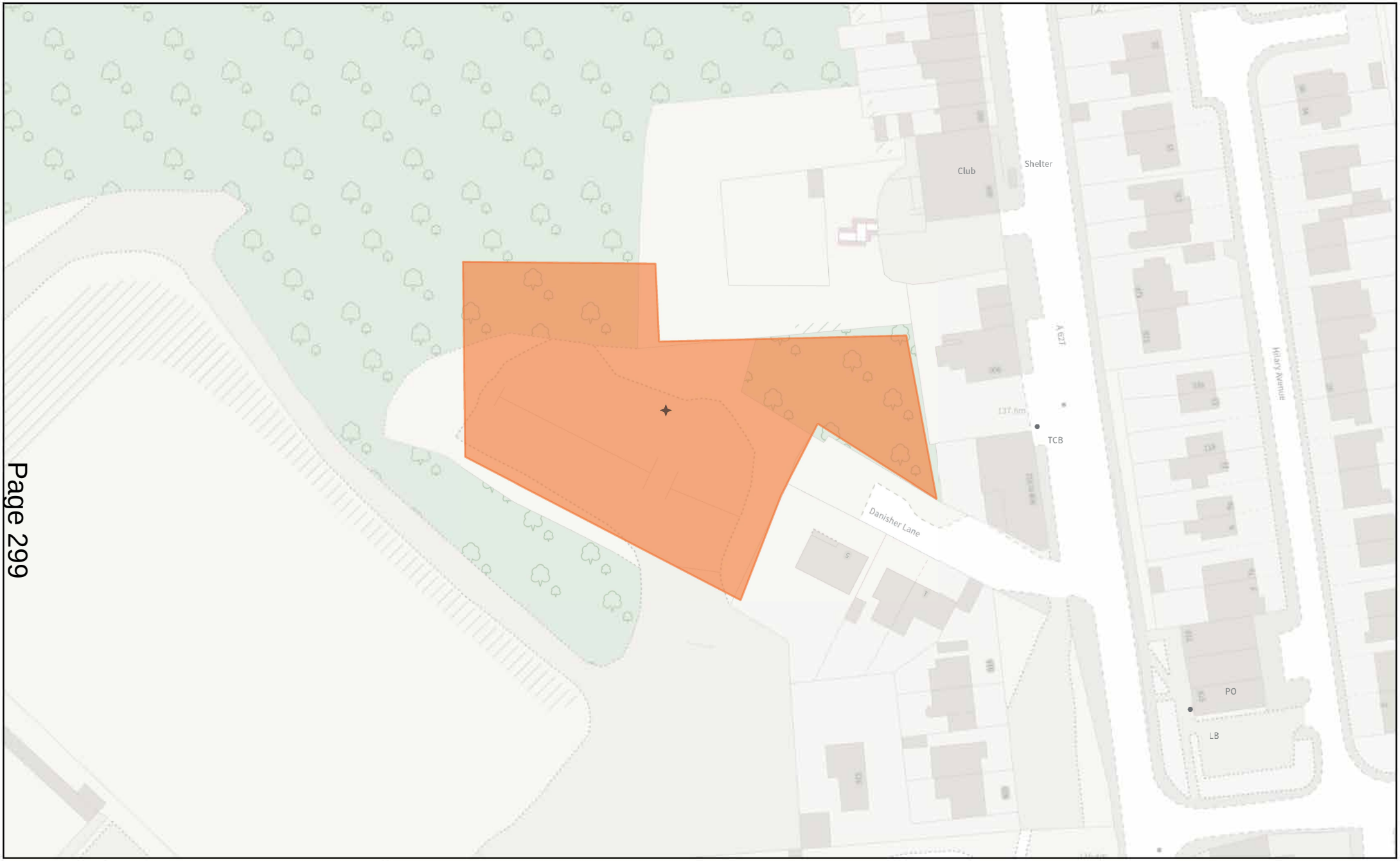

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De-designation of Housing Allocation Phase 2 H1.2.17

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

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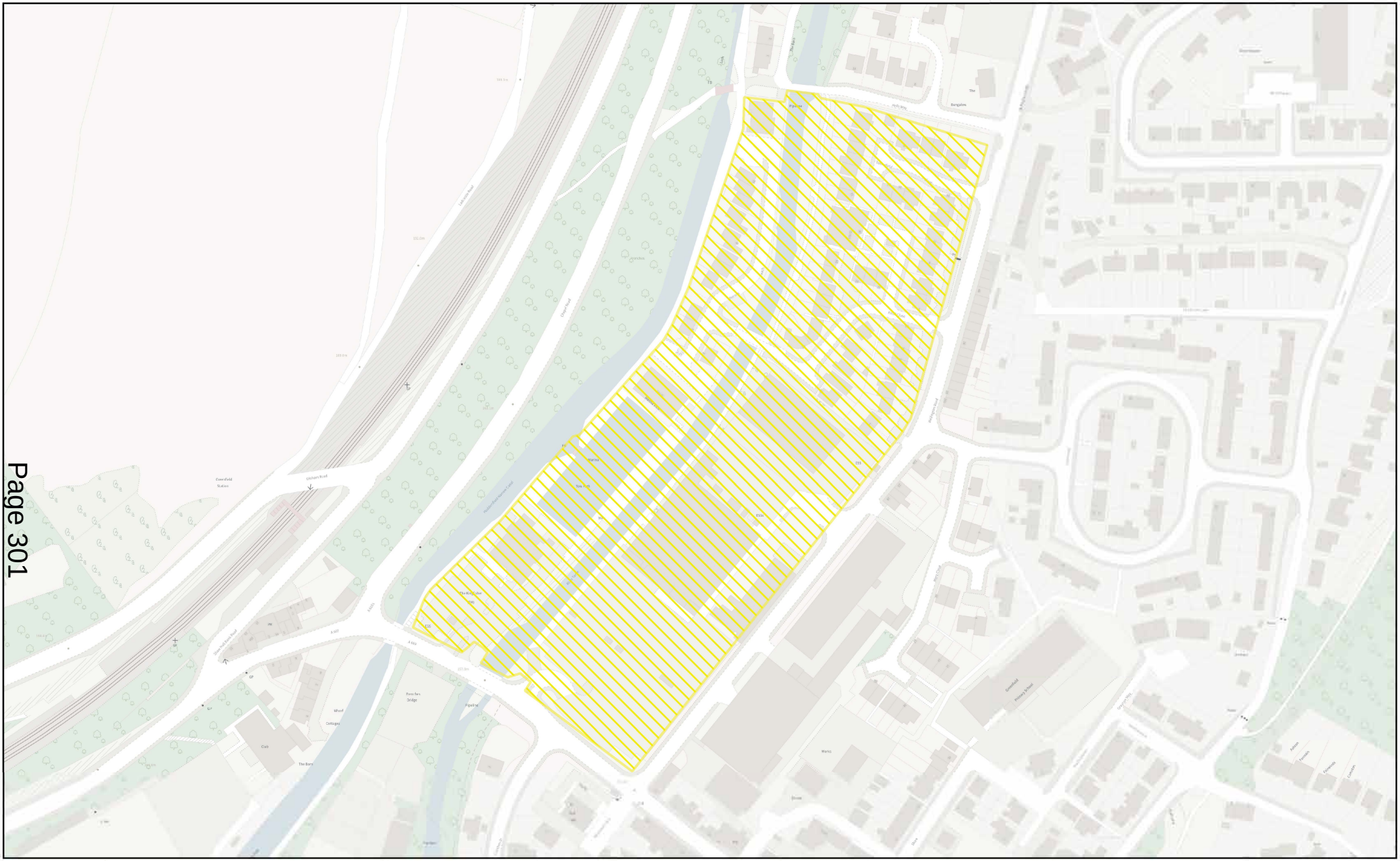
Publication Plan : Appendix 2c

January 2026

Oldham Council



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De-designation of Mixed Use allocation M1

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,500

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Mixed Use allocation M2

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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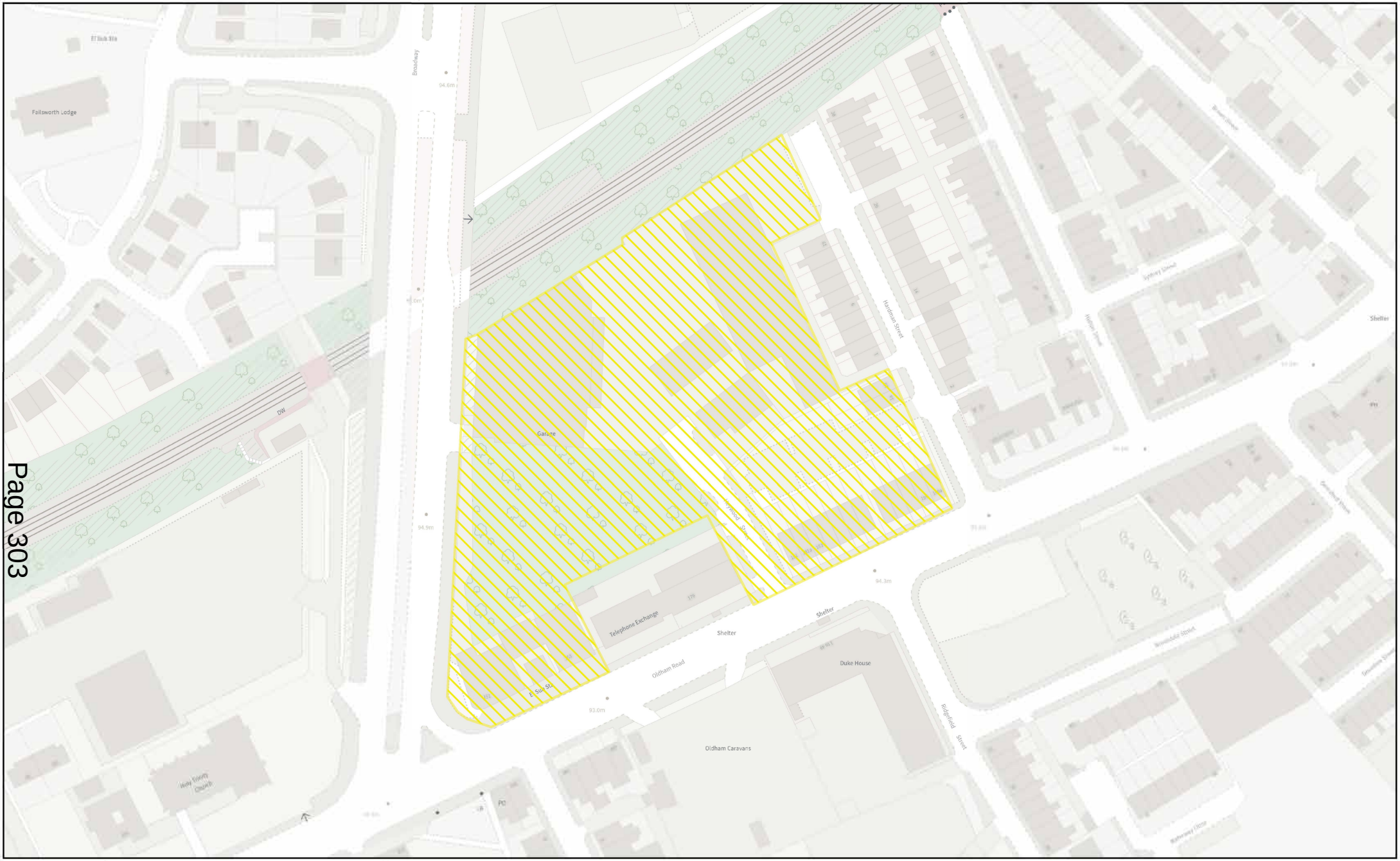

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Drawing No.	

De-designation of Mixed Use allocation M3

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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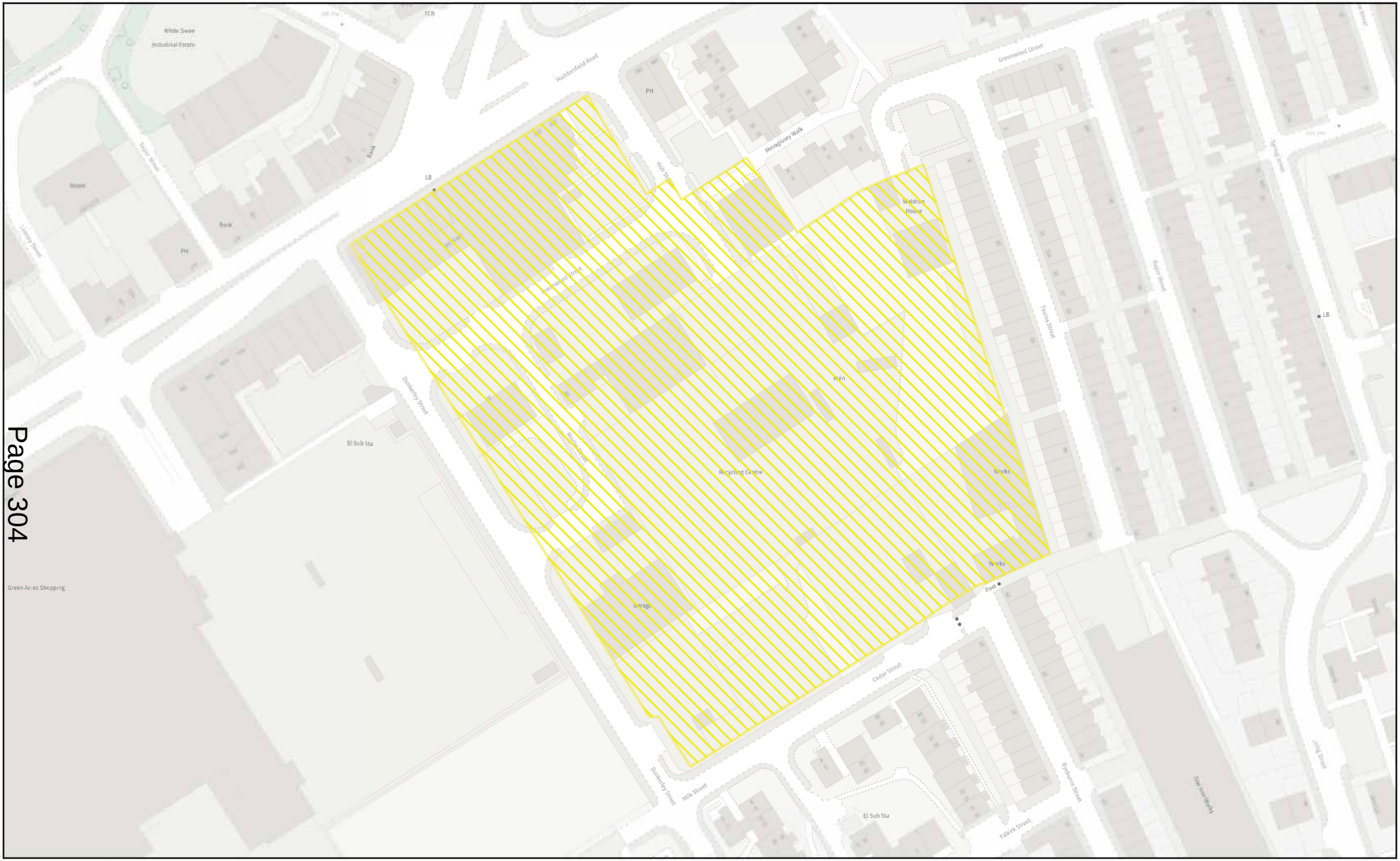

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Drawing No.	

De-designation of Mixed Use allocation M4

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

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Oldham Local Plan

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January 2026

Oldham Council



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De-designation of Chadderton Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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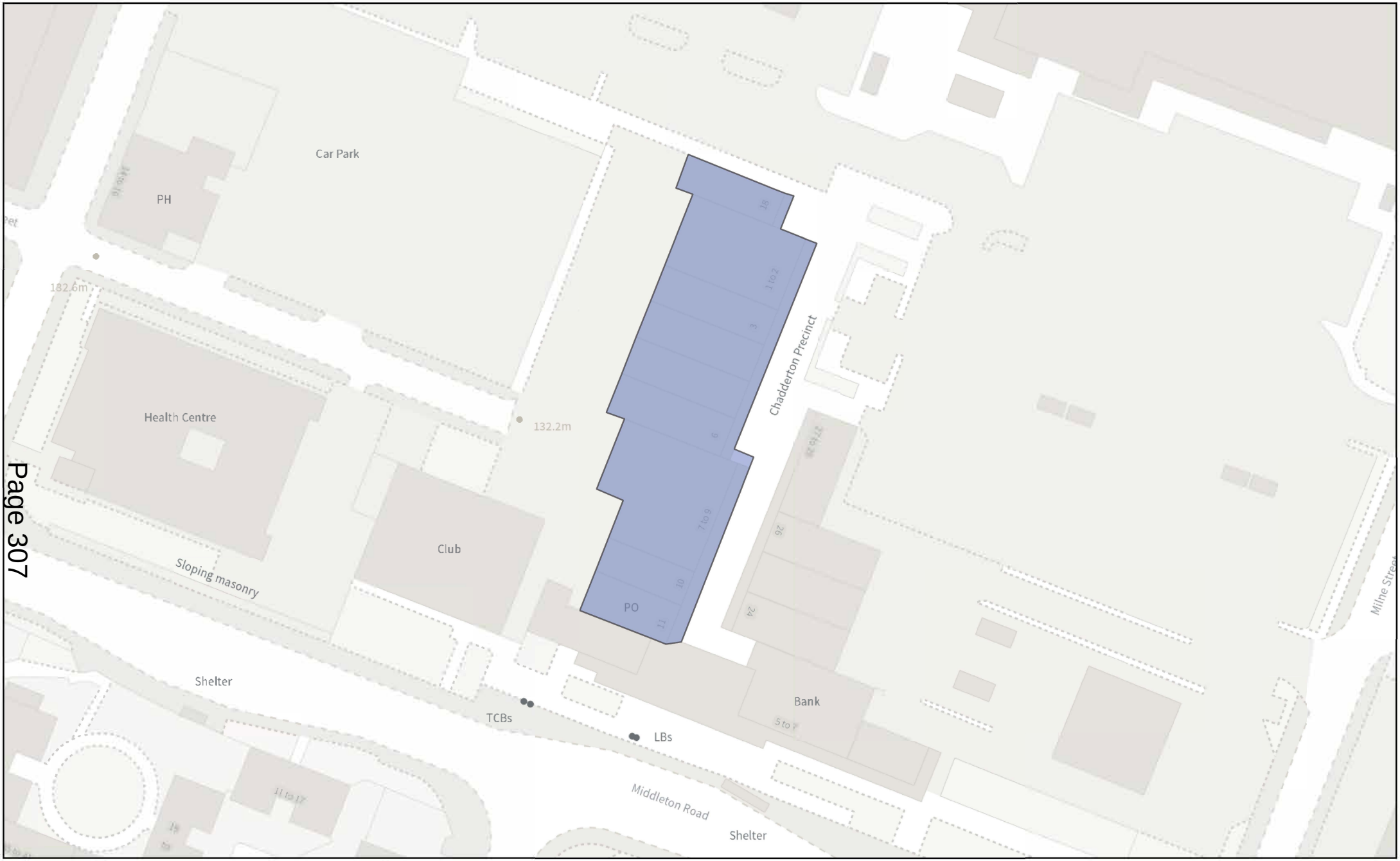

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Division:	Planning
Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Chadderton Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:750

Oldham Council

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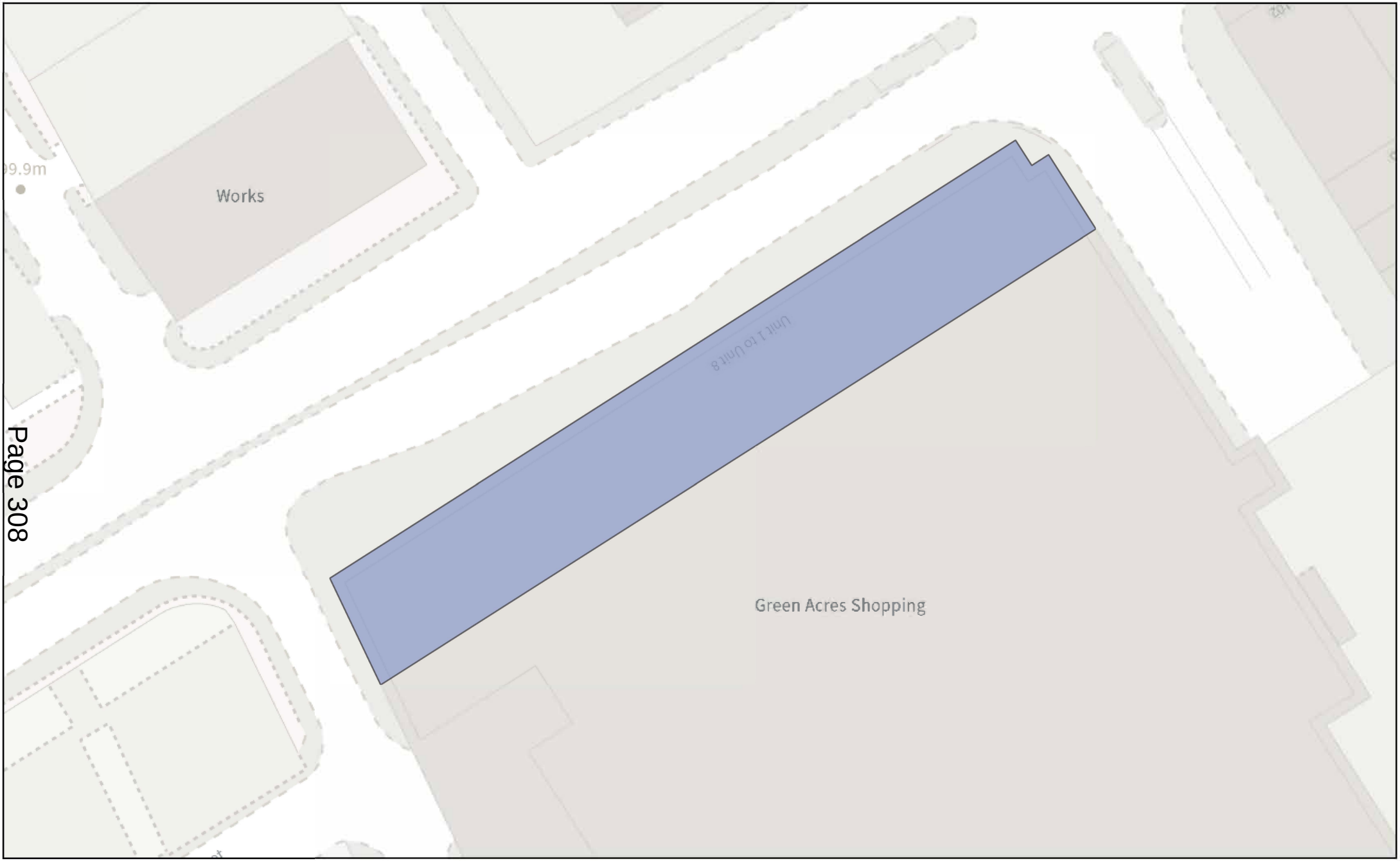

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Hill Stores Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Hill Stores Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:750

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Lees Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Lees Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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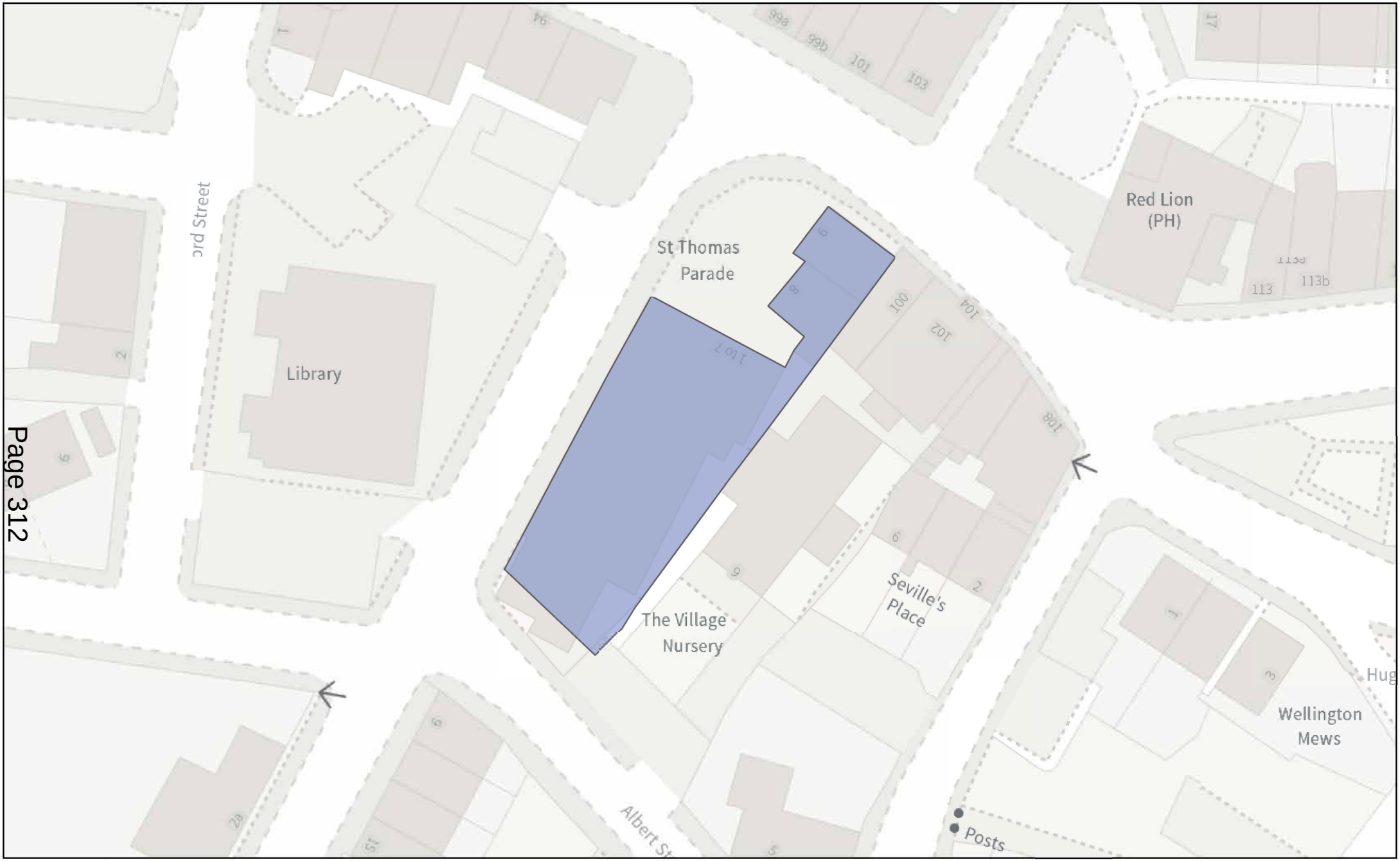

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Lees Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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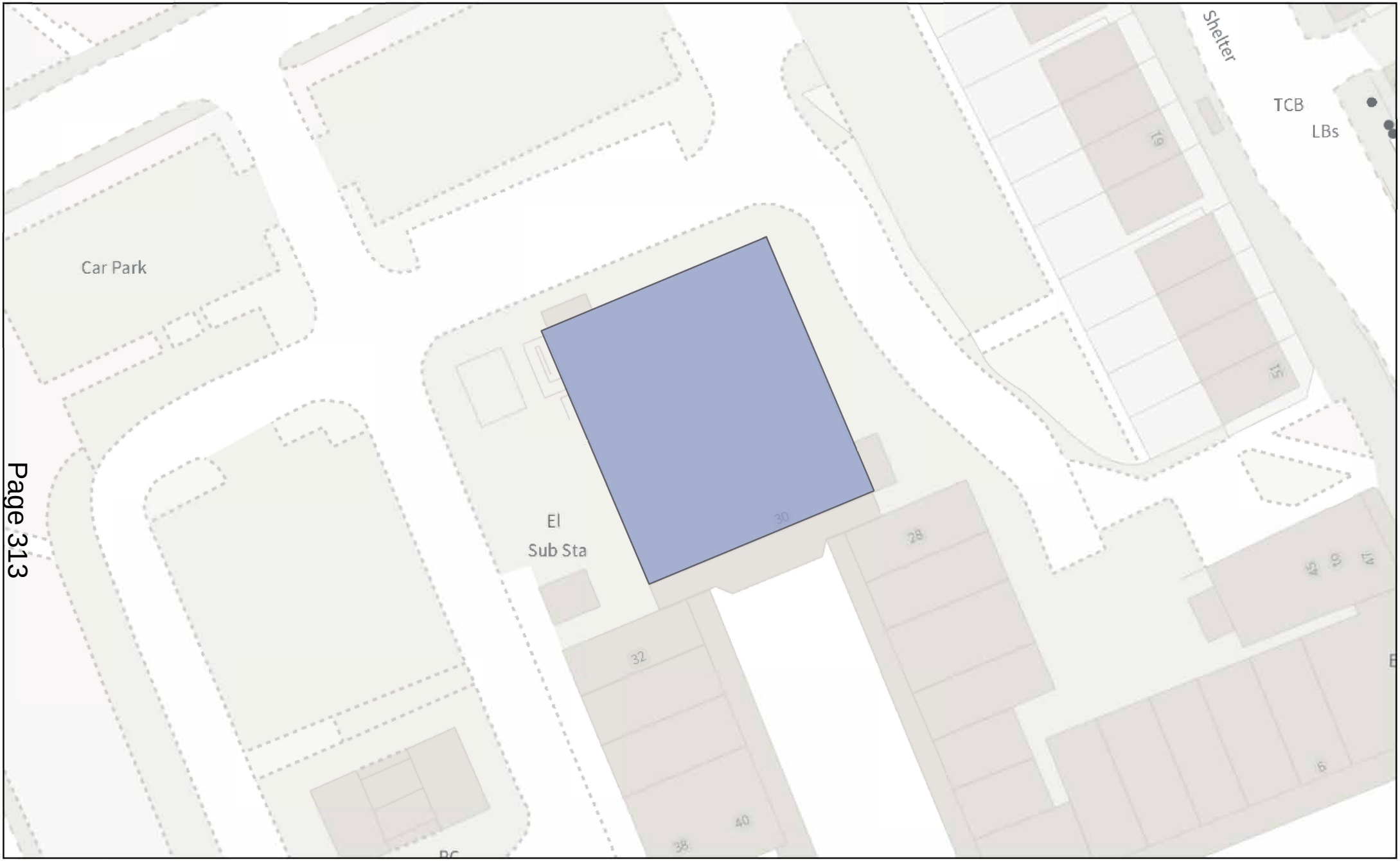

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De-designation of Royton Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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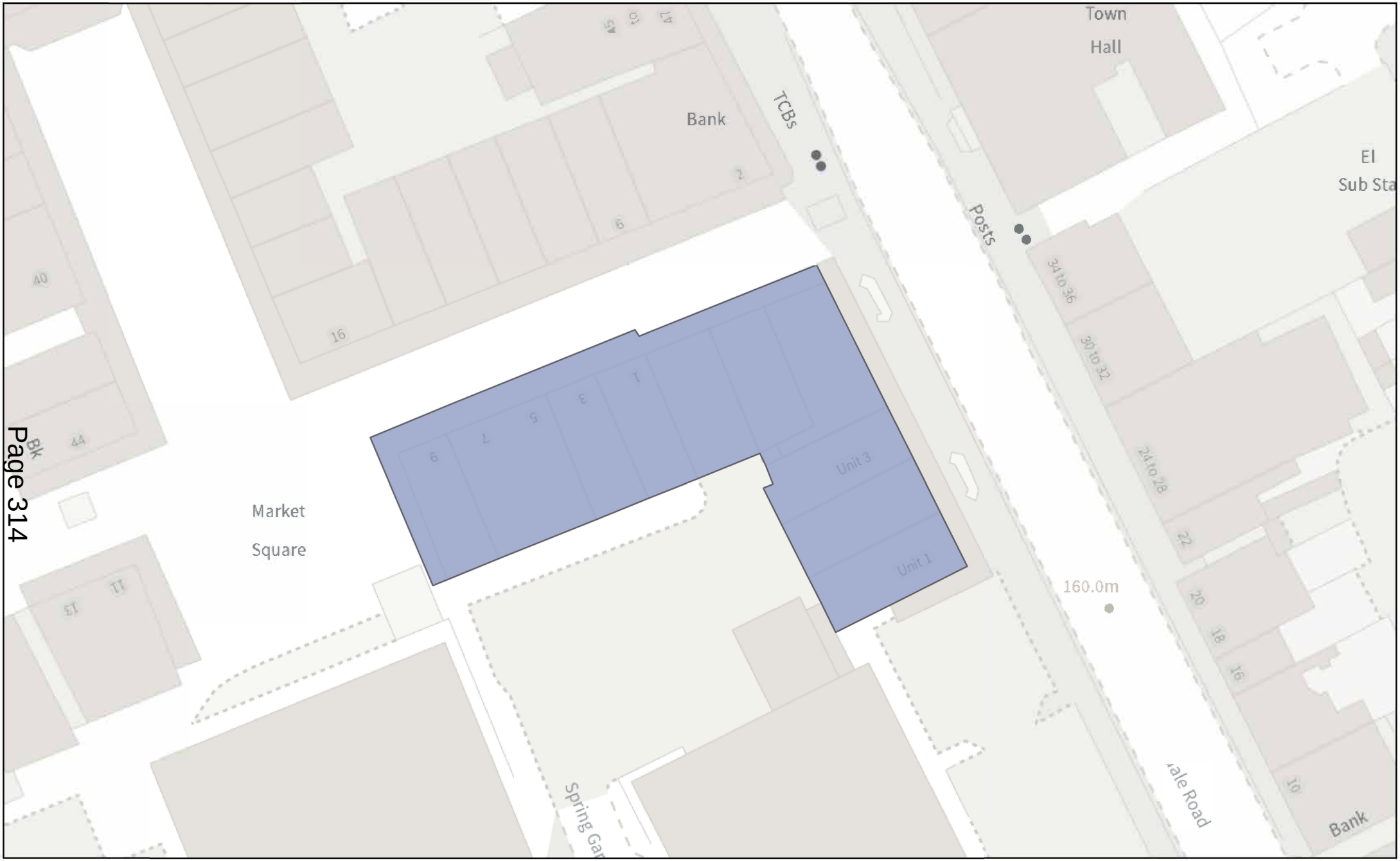

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Drawing No.	

De-designation of Royton Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Royton Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Royton Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:750

Oldham Council

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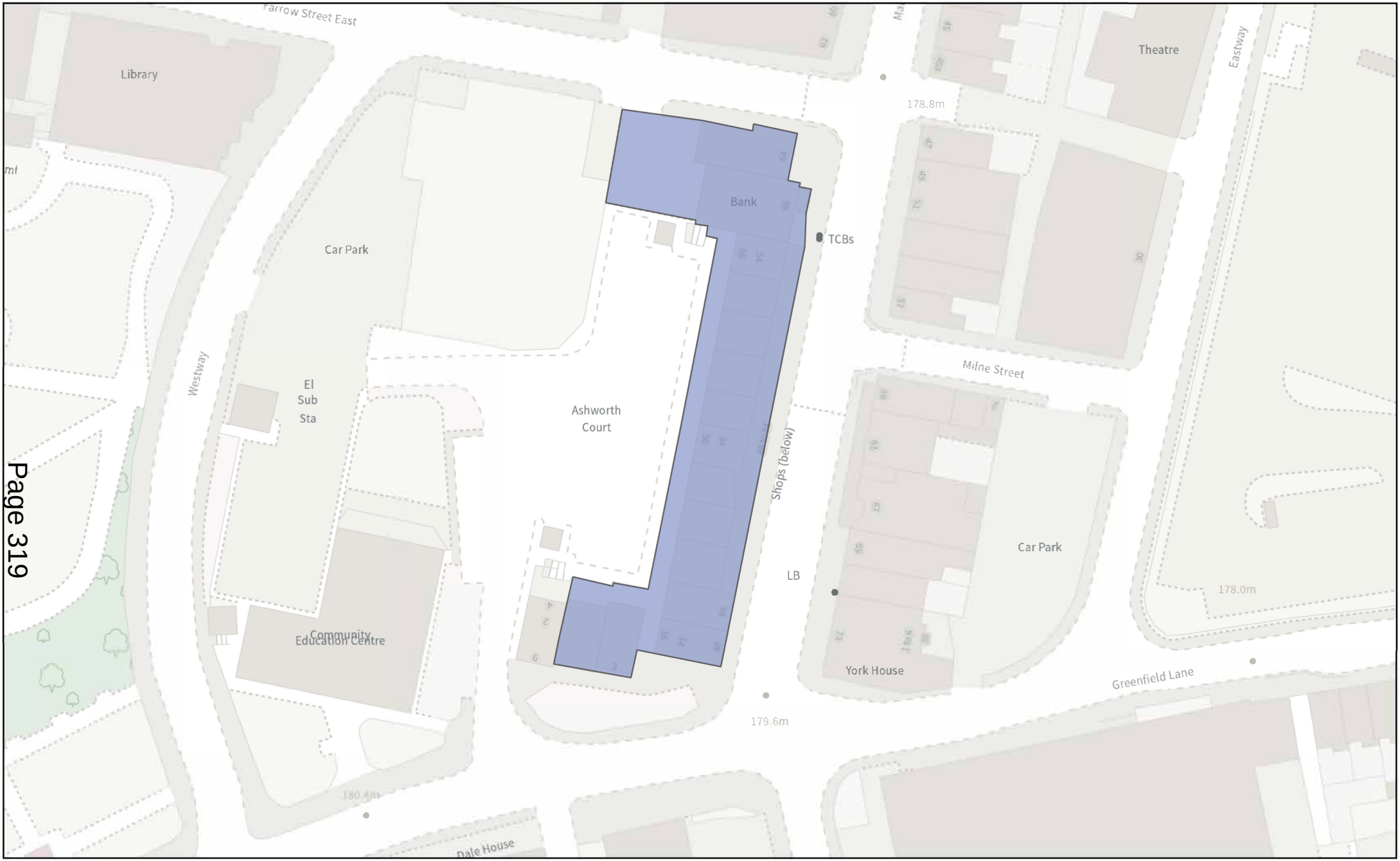

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:750

Oldham Council

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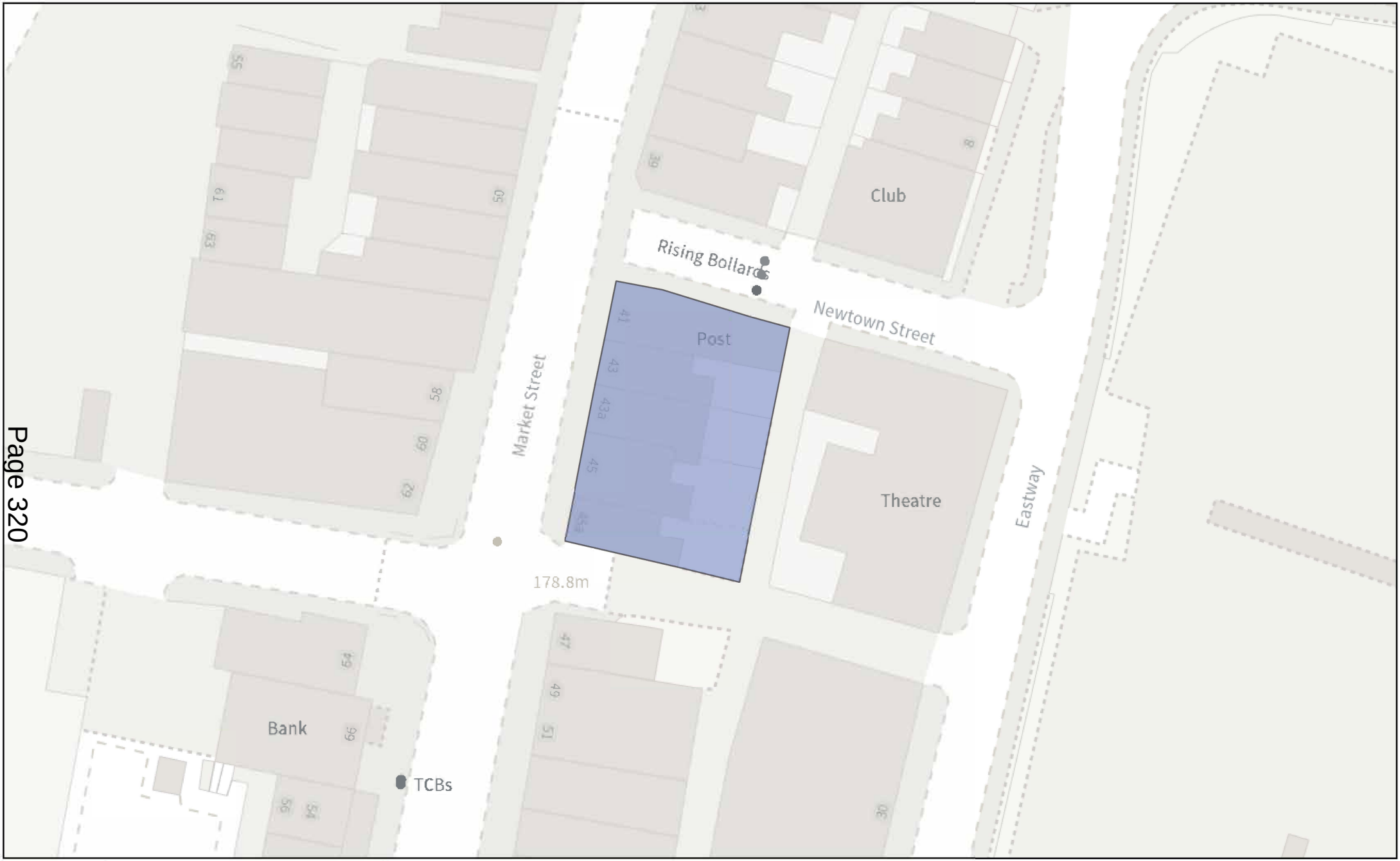

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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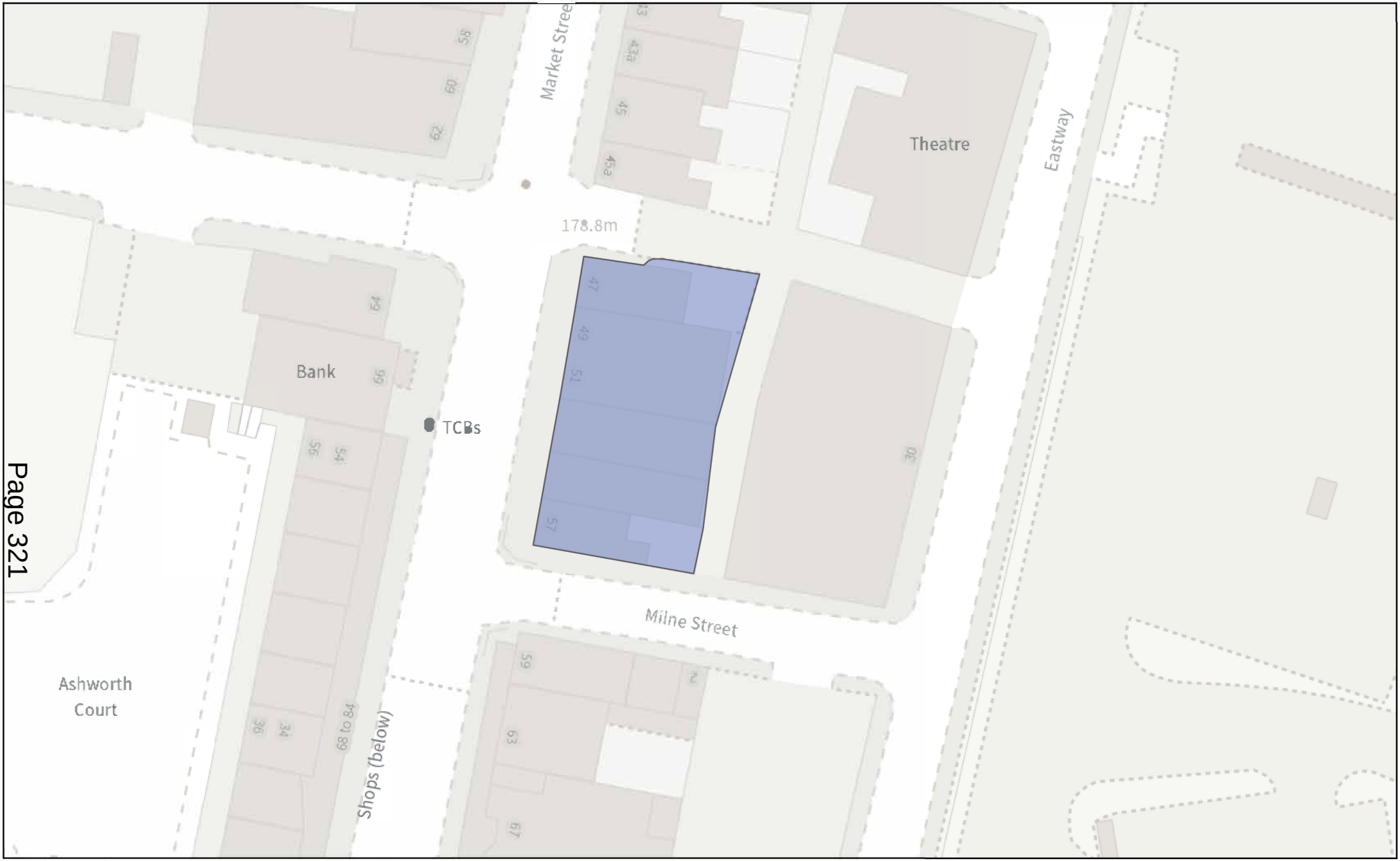

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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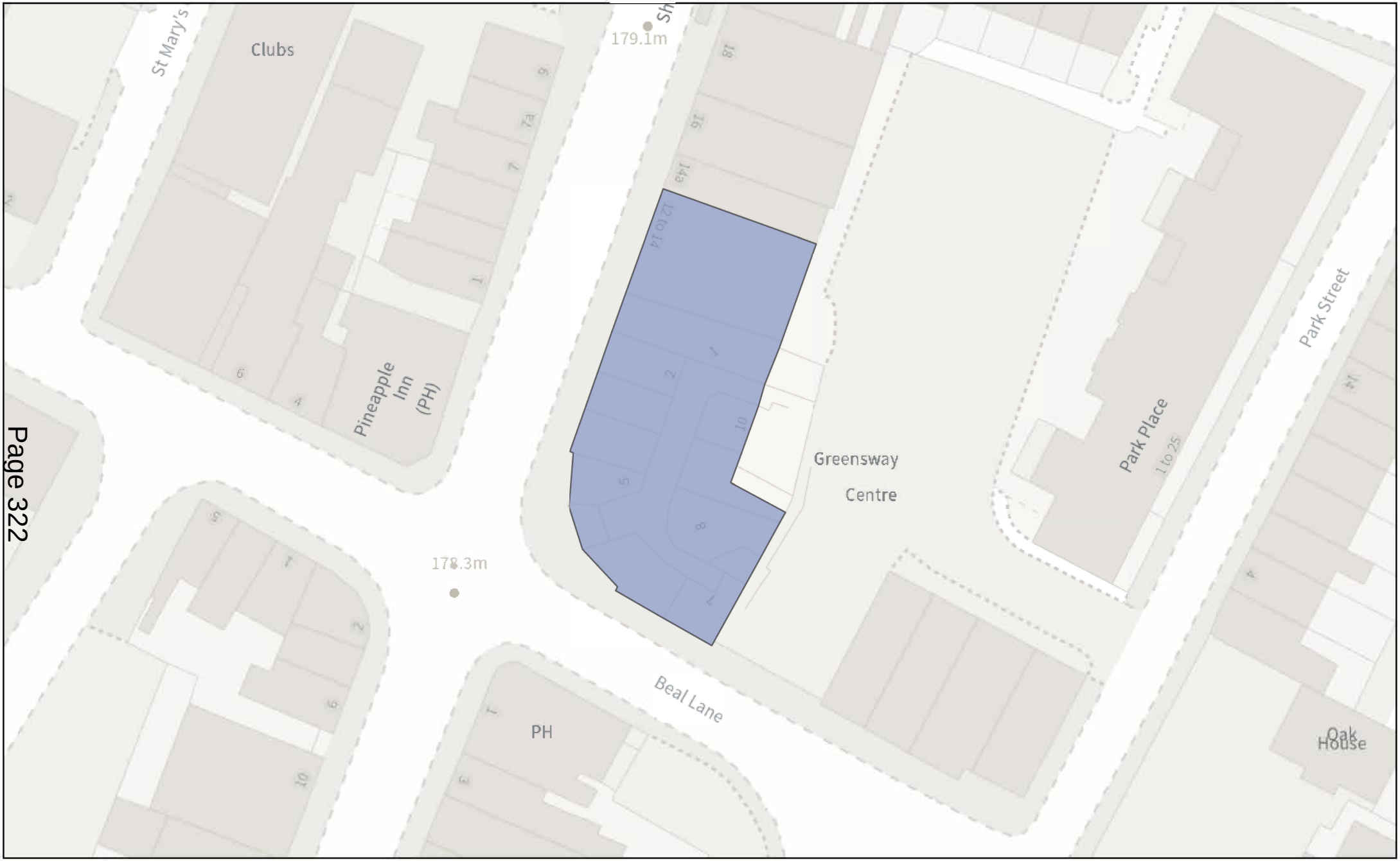

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:500

Oldham Council

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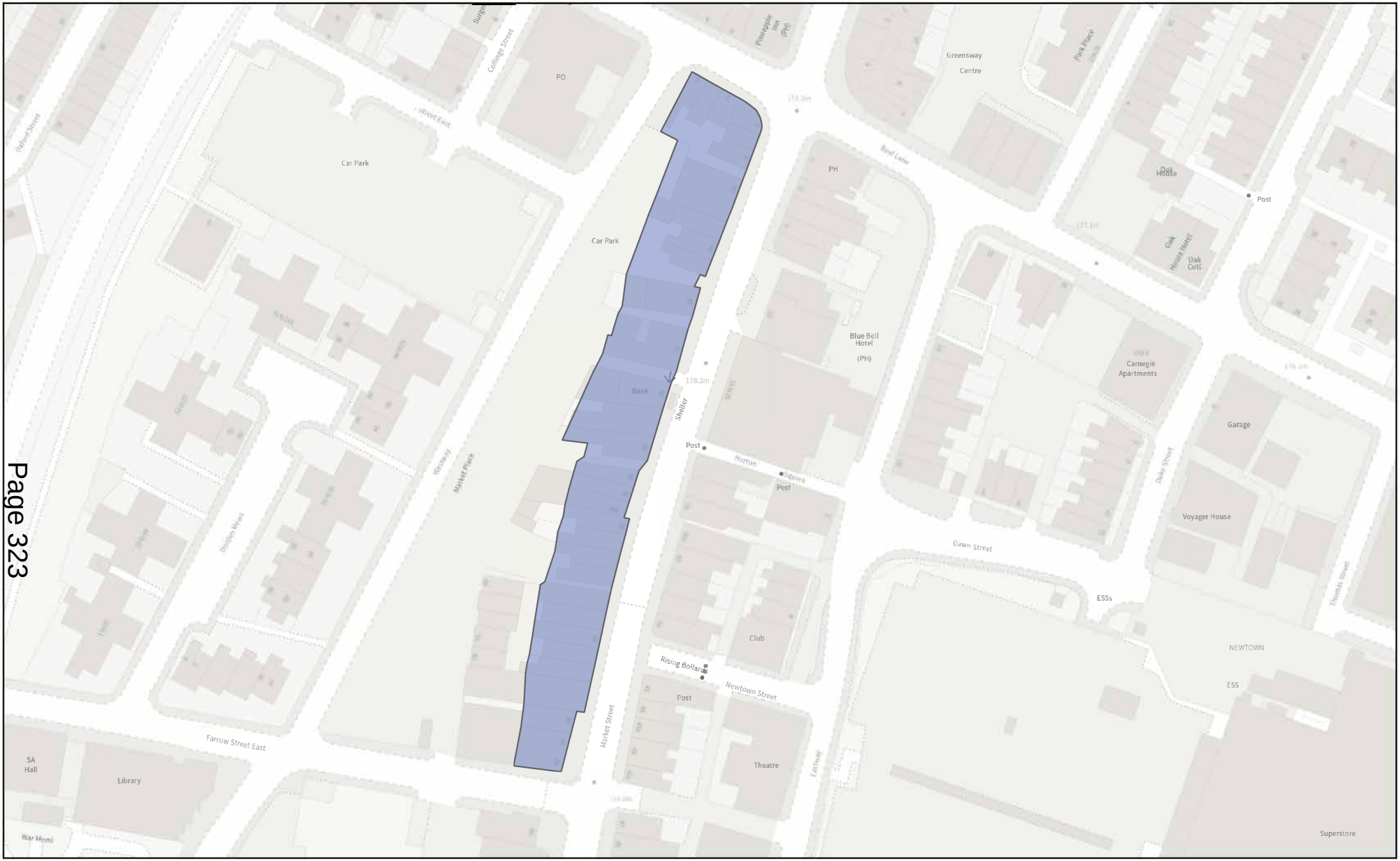

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De-designation of Shaw Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,200

Oldham Council

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Oldham Local Plan

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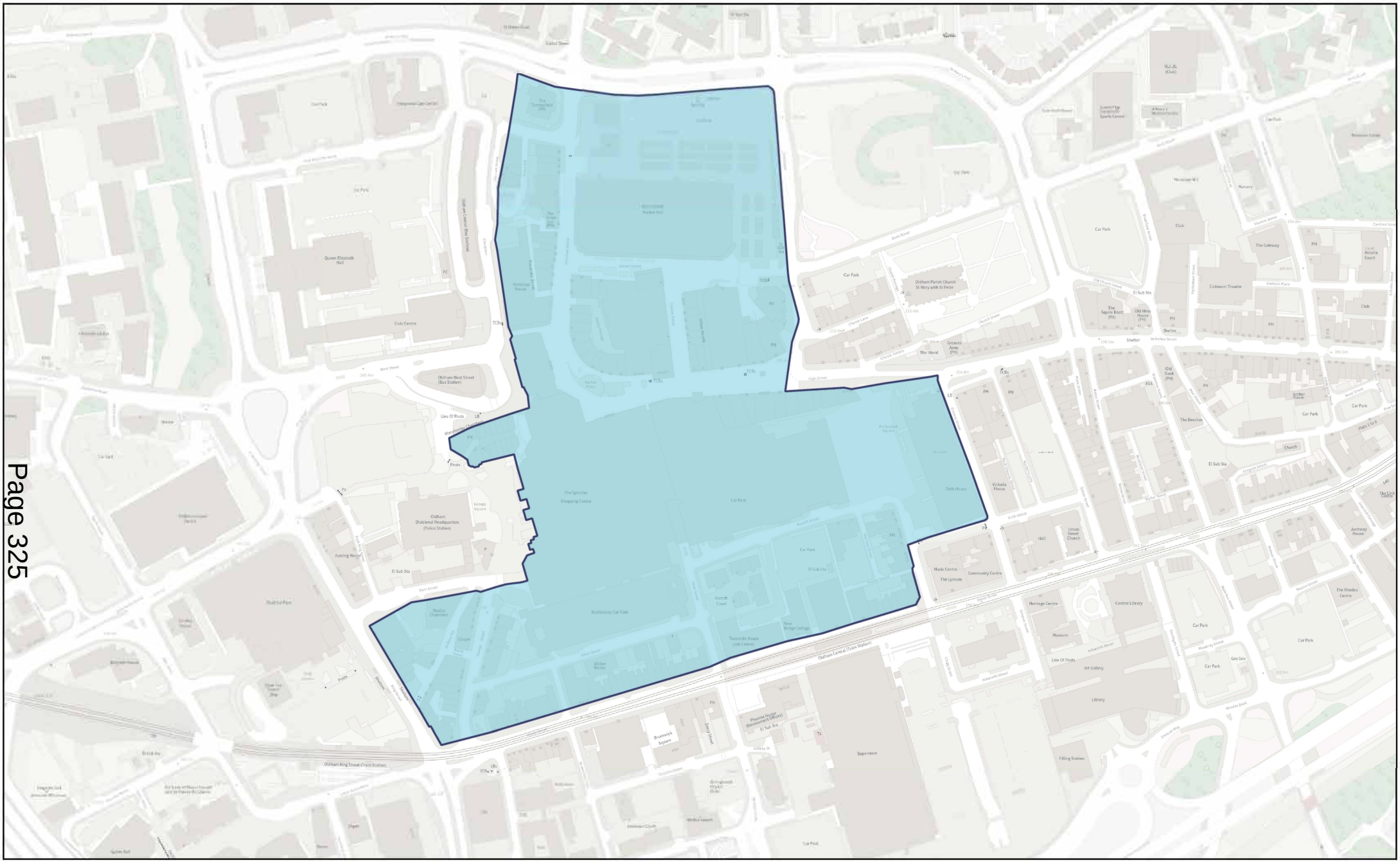
Oldham Council



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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Oldham Town Centre Central Shopping Core

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,500

Oldham Council

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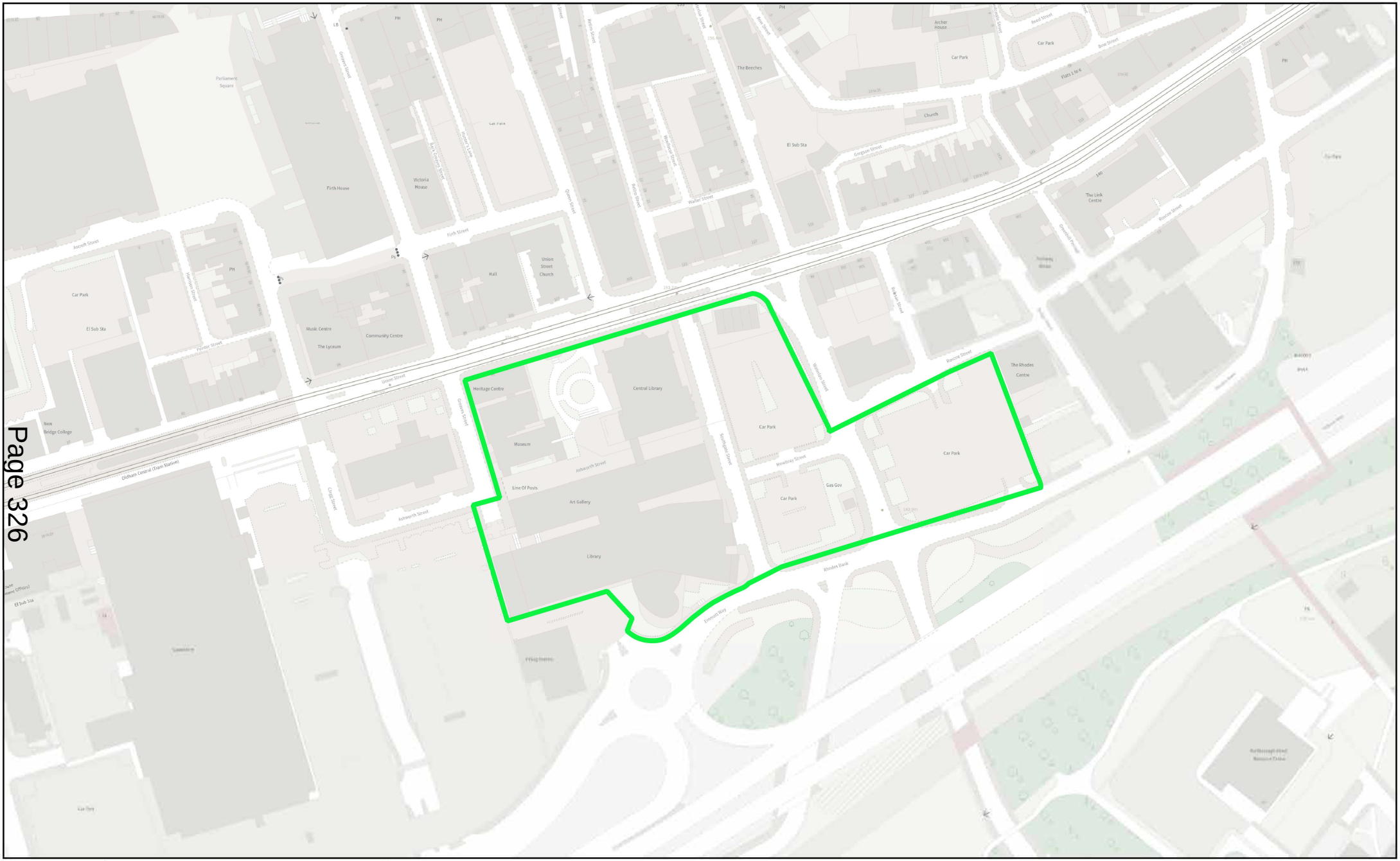

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Oldham Town Centre Cultural Quarter

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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De-designation of Oldham Town Centre Primary Shopping Frontages

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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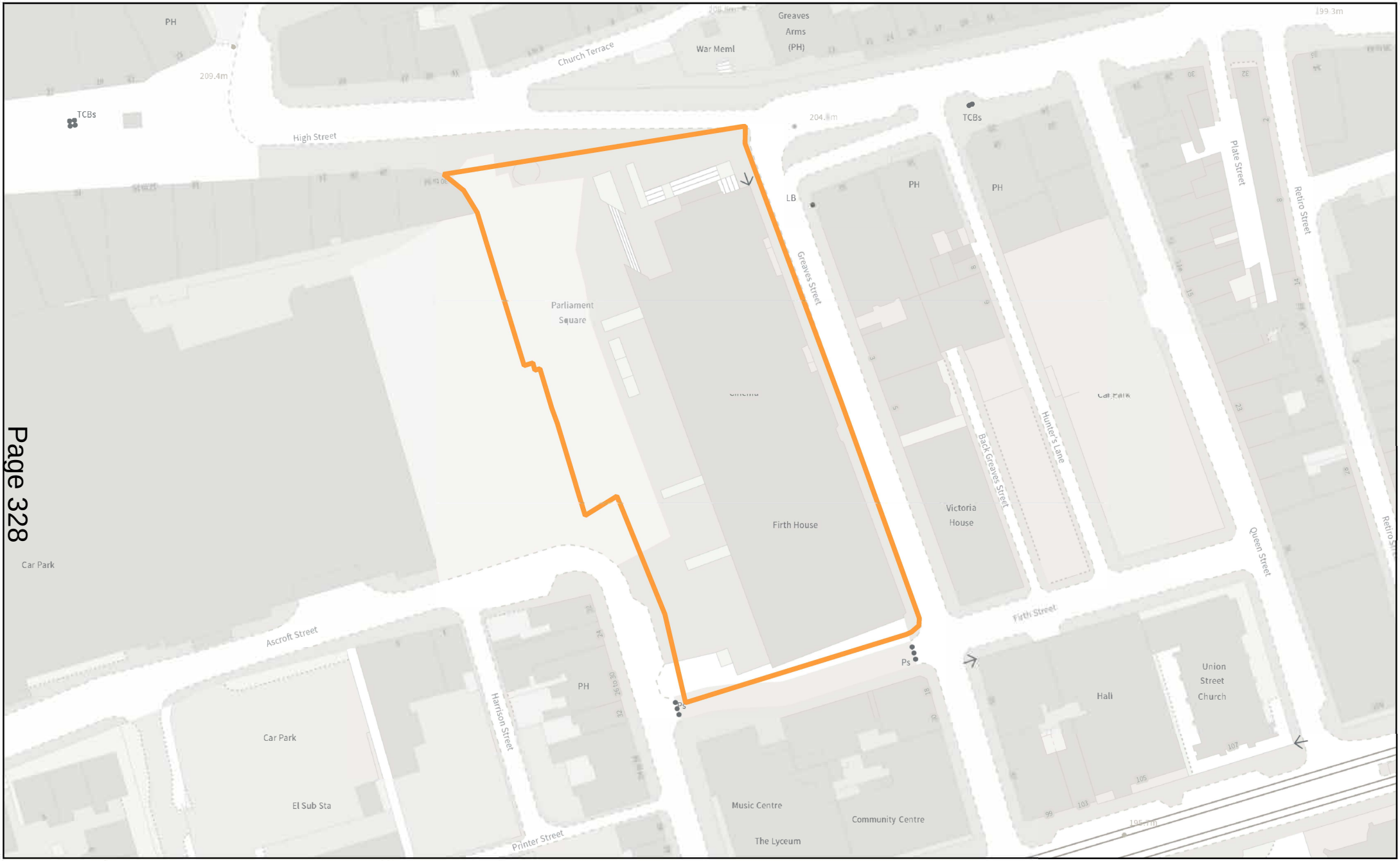

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De-designation of Oldham Town Centre Retail Quarter (Old Town Hall)

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,000

Oldham Council

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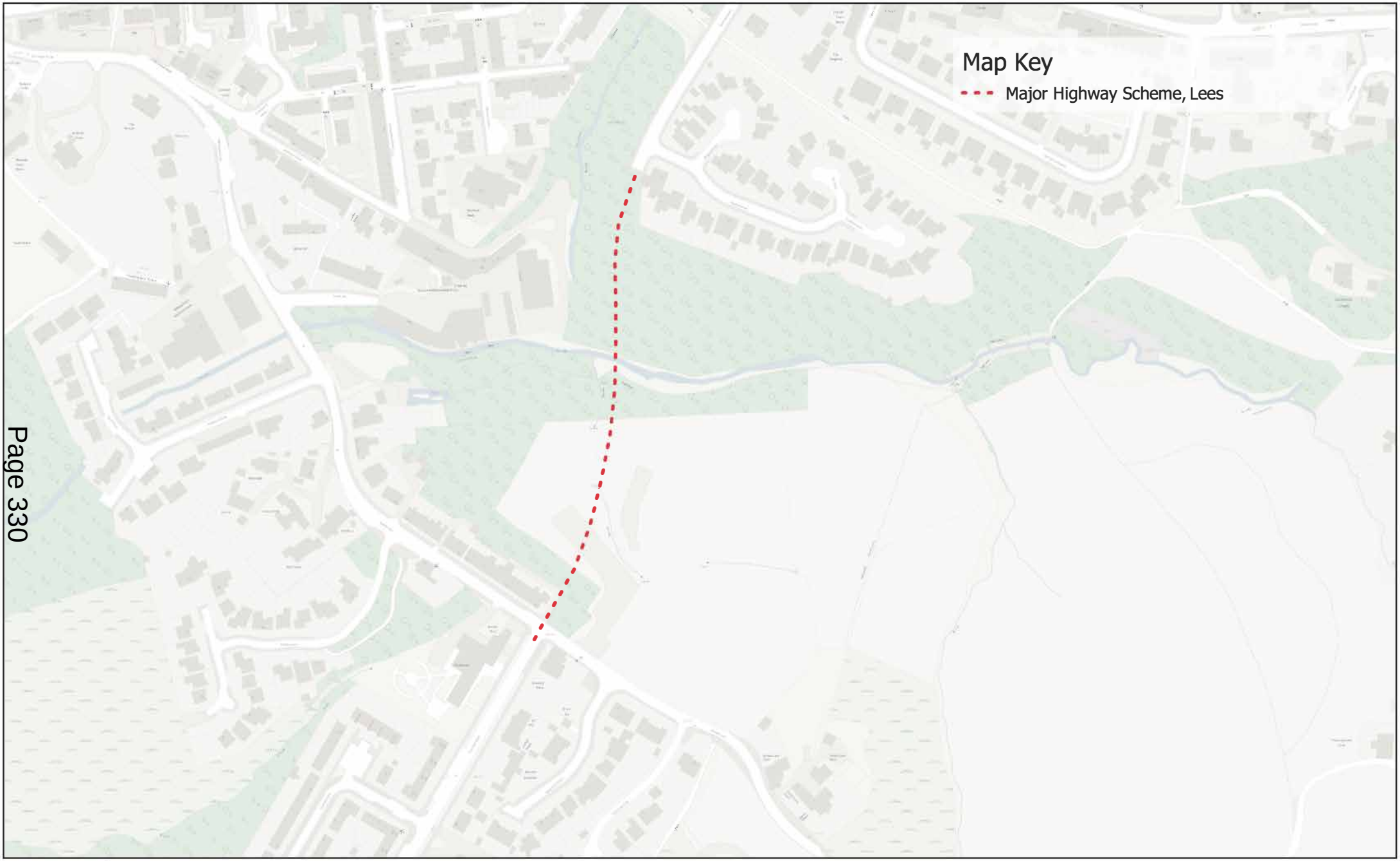
Oldham Council



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Division:	Planning
Date:	As Published
Drawing No.	

De-designation of Major Highways Scheme, Lees

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,000

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Oldham Local Plan

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January 2026

Oldham Council

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 3

January 2026

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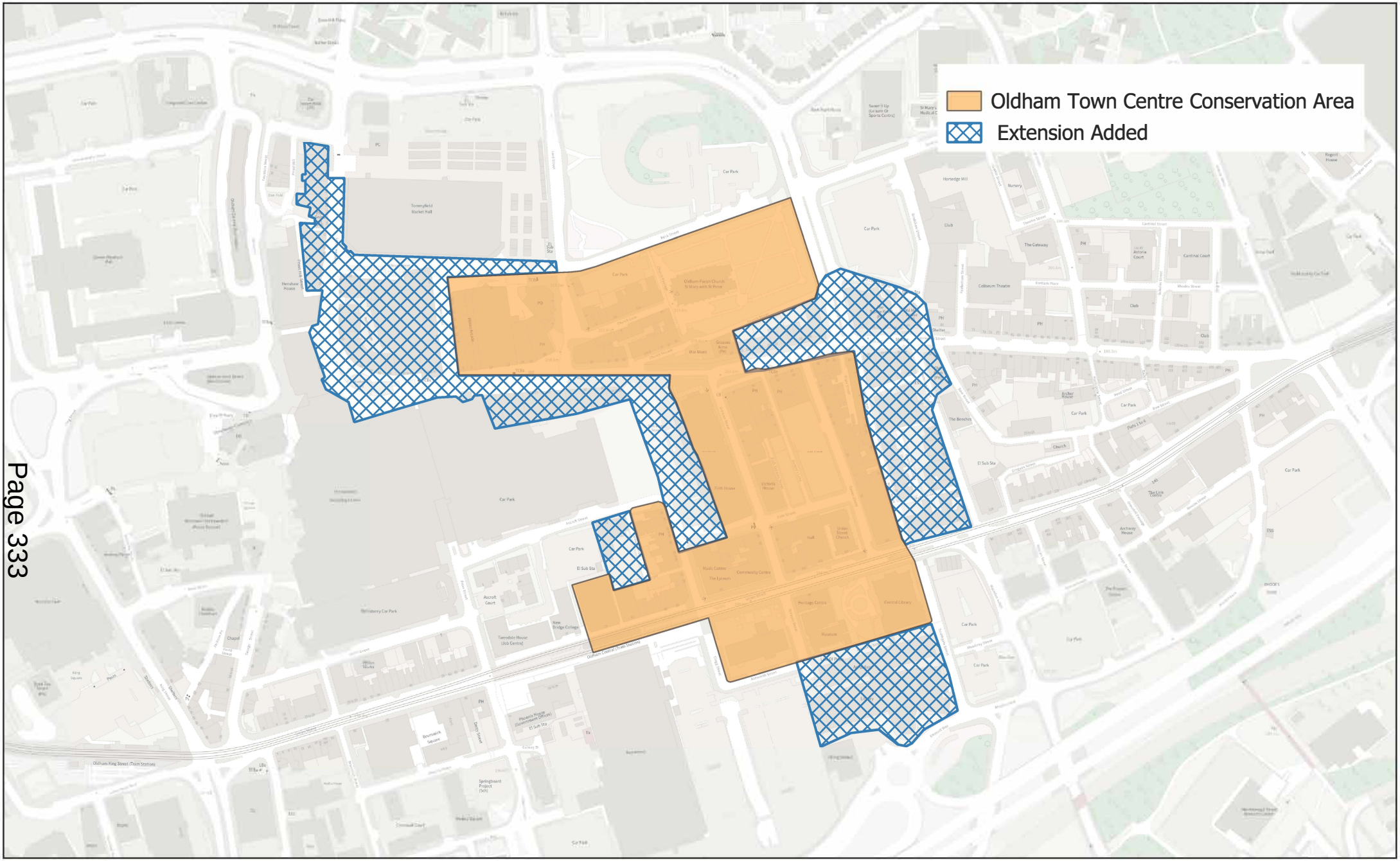

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

Boundary Amendment Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,500

Oldham Council

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 4

January 2026

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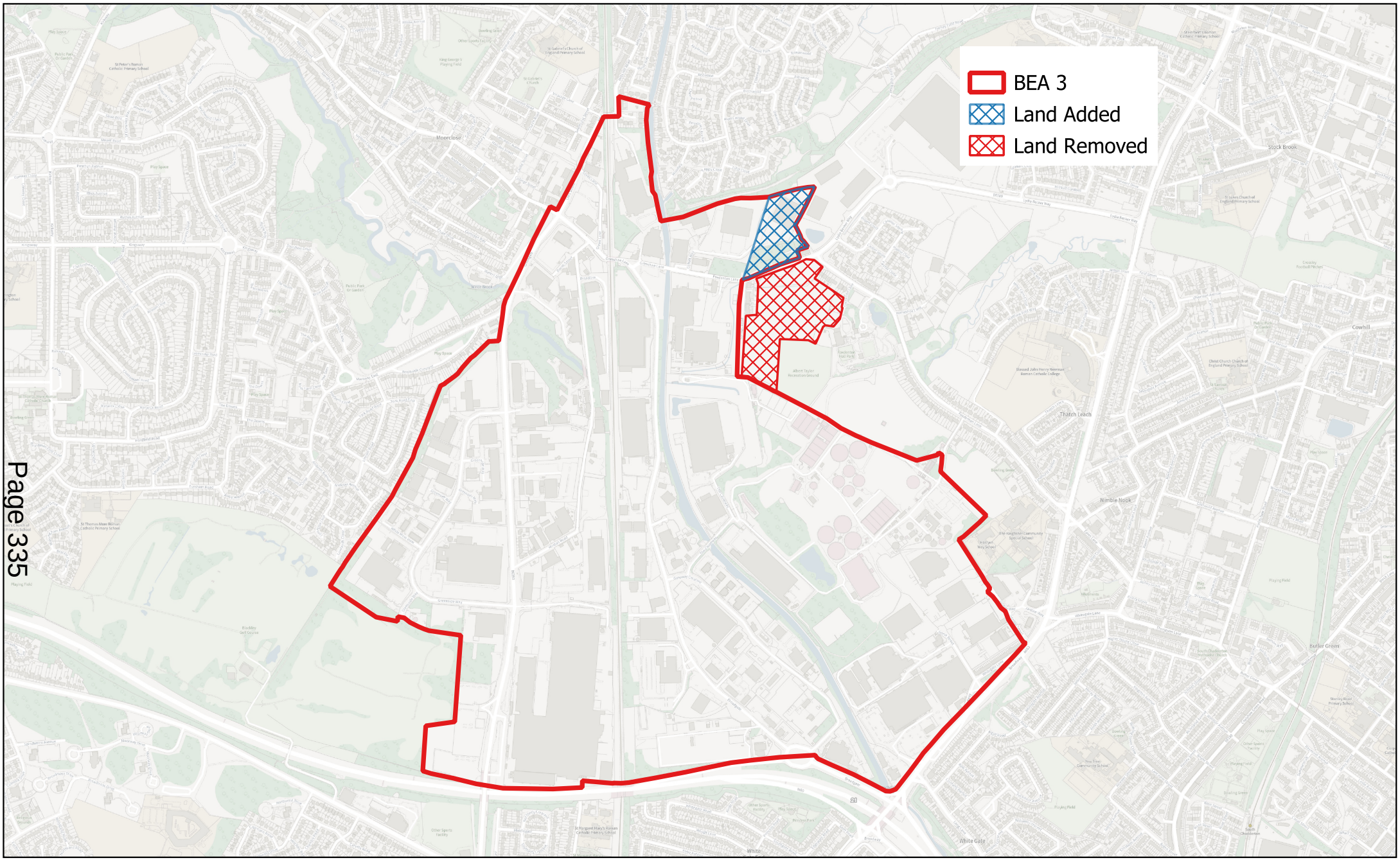

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Boundary Amendment BEA 3

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:13,000

Oldham Council

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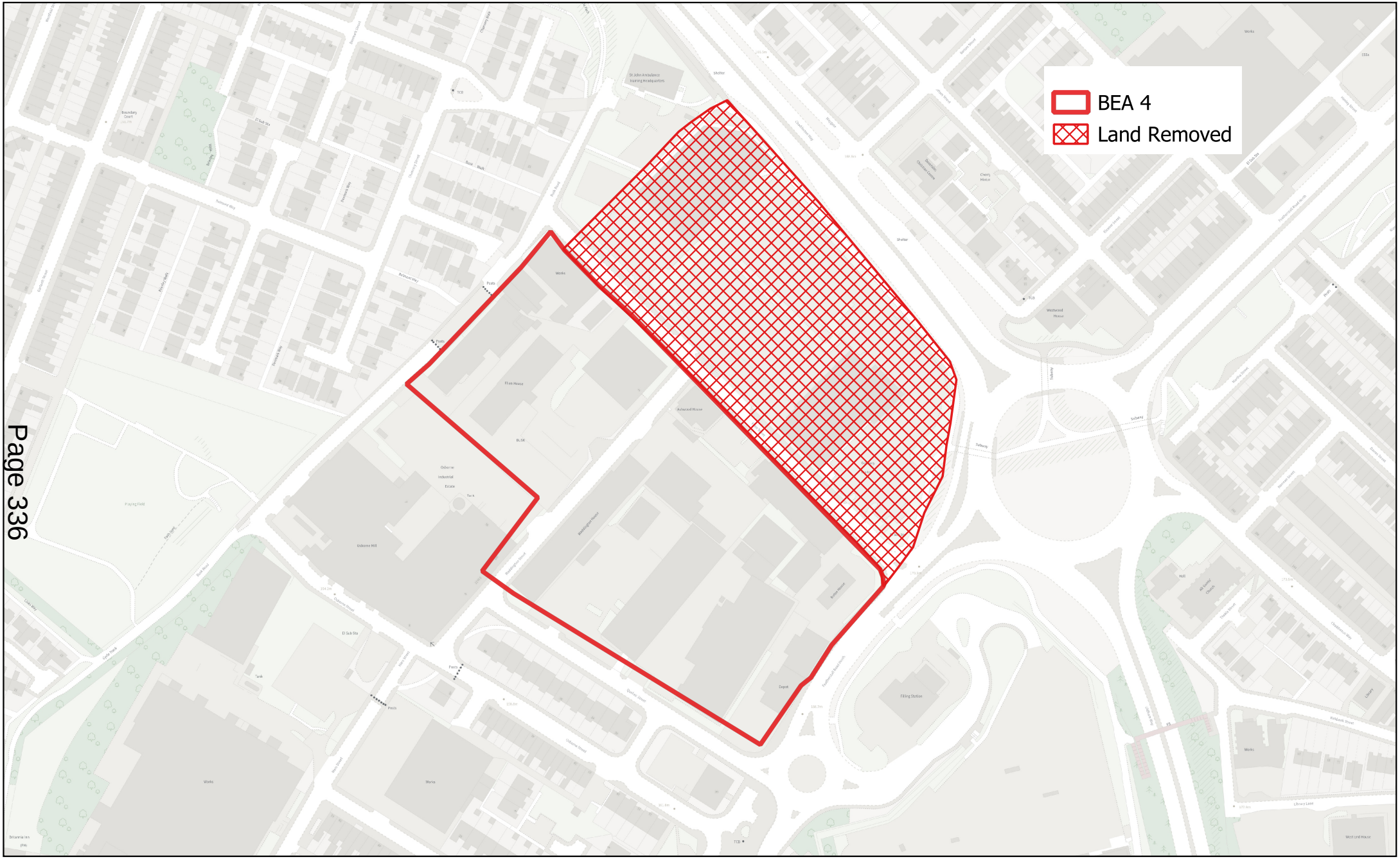

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Boundary Amendment BEA 4

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,500

Oldham Council

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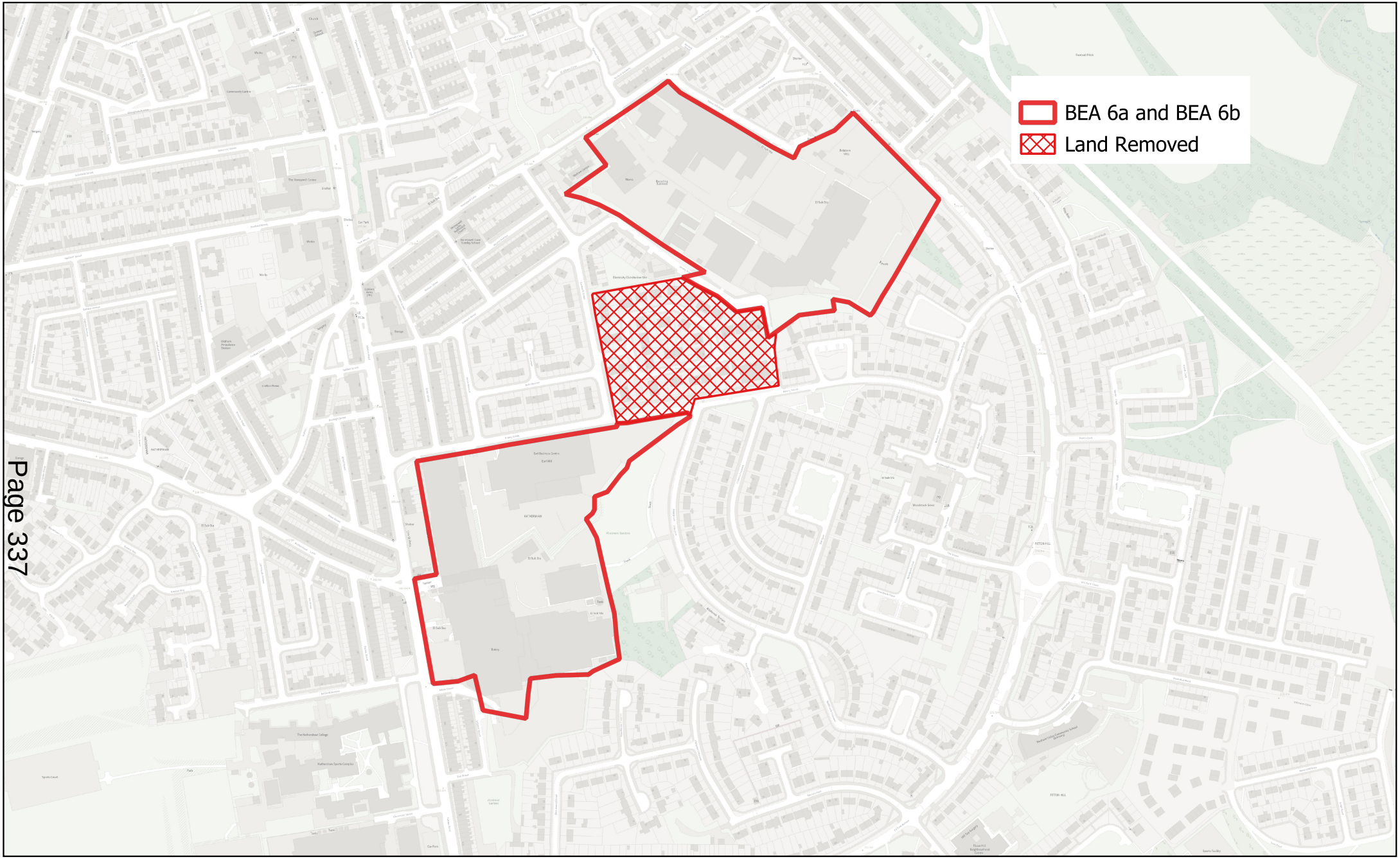

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Boundary Amendment BEA 6a and 6b

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:5,000

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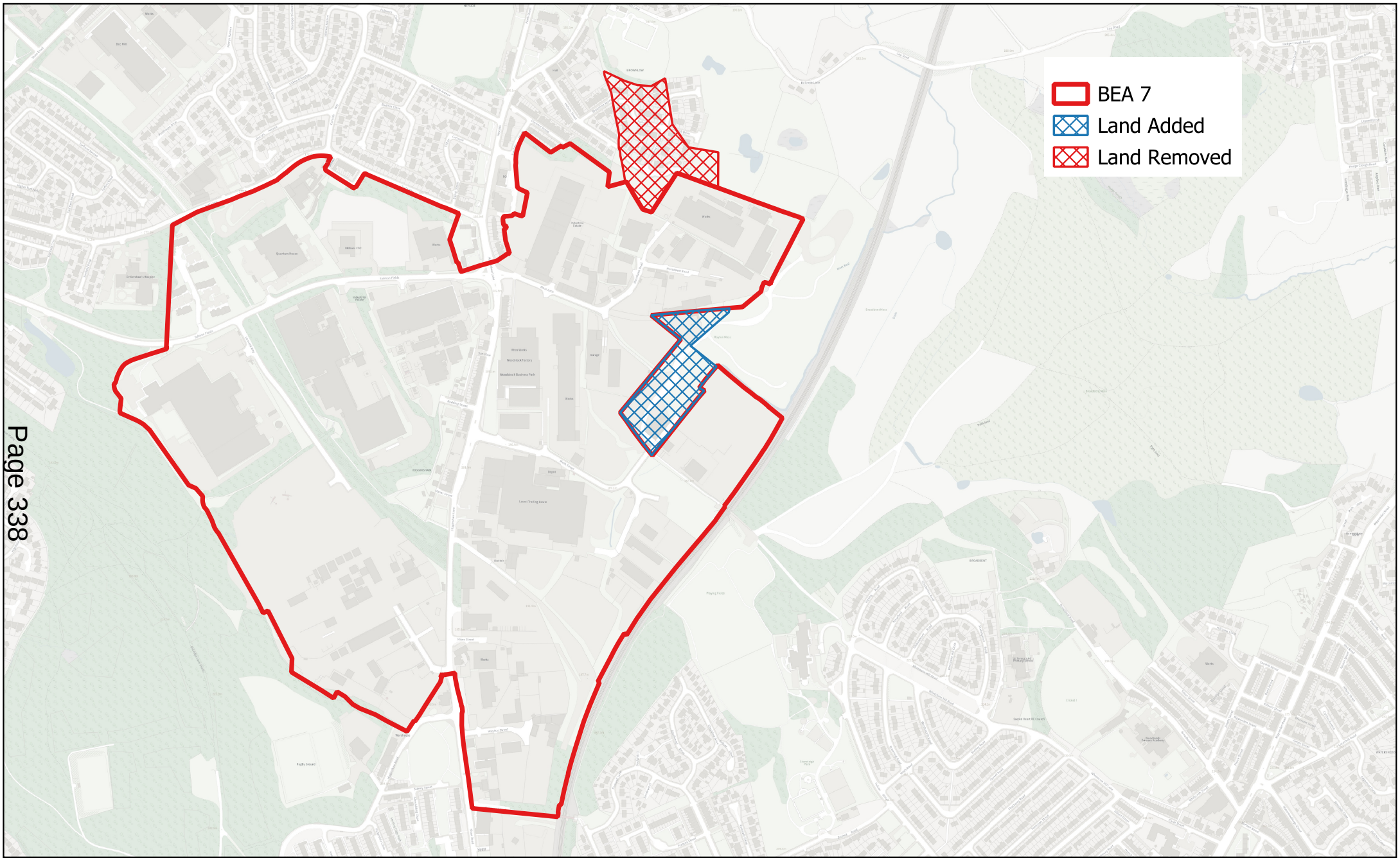

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Boundary Amendment BEA 7

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Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:8,000

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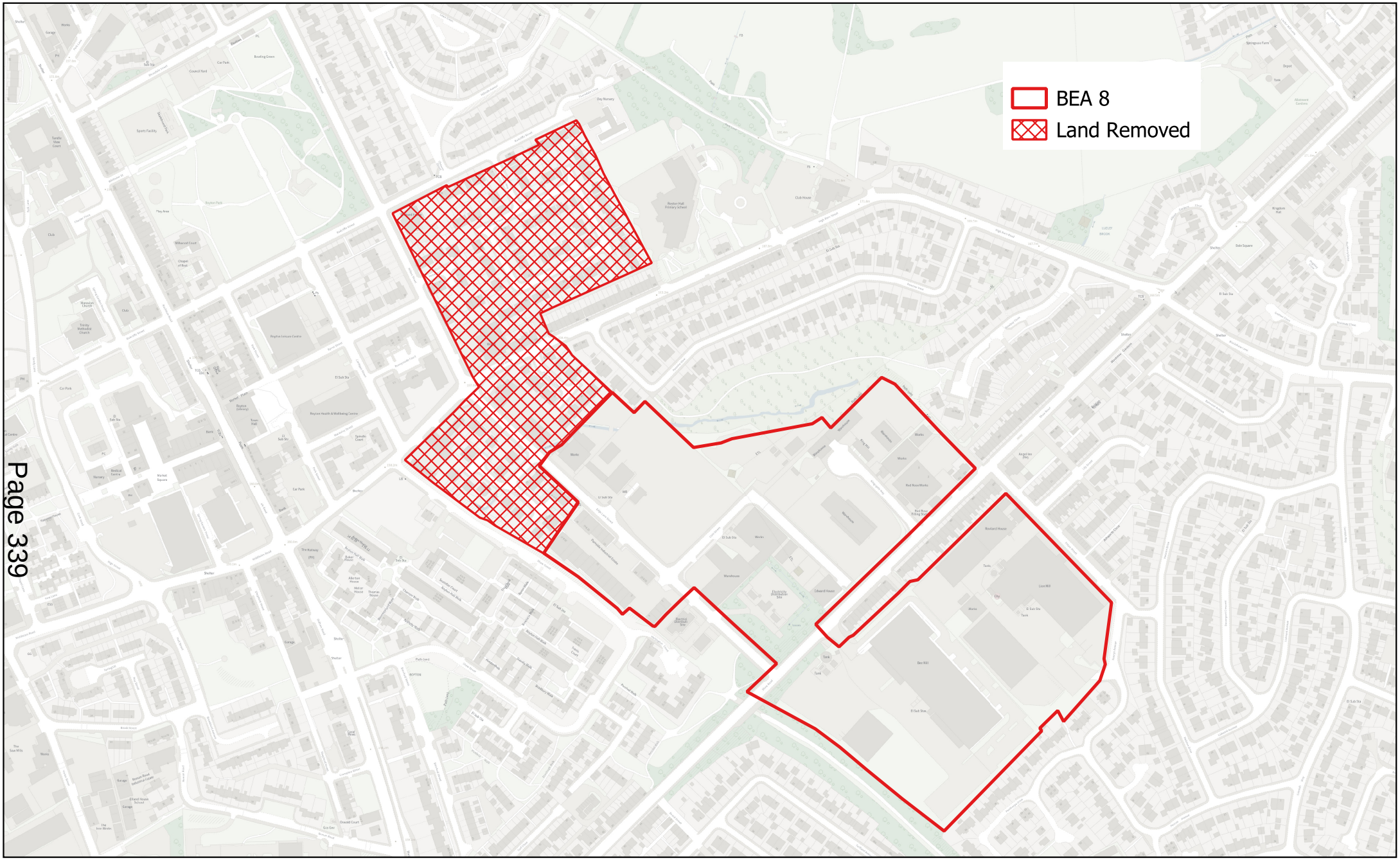

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Boundary Amendment BEA 8

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,500

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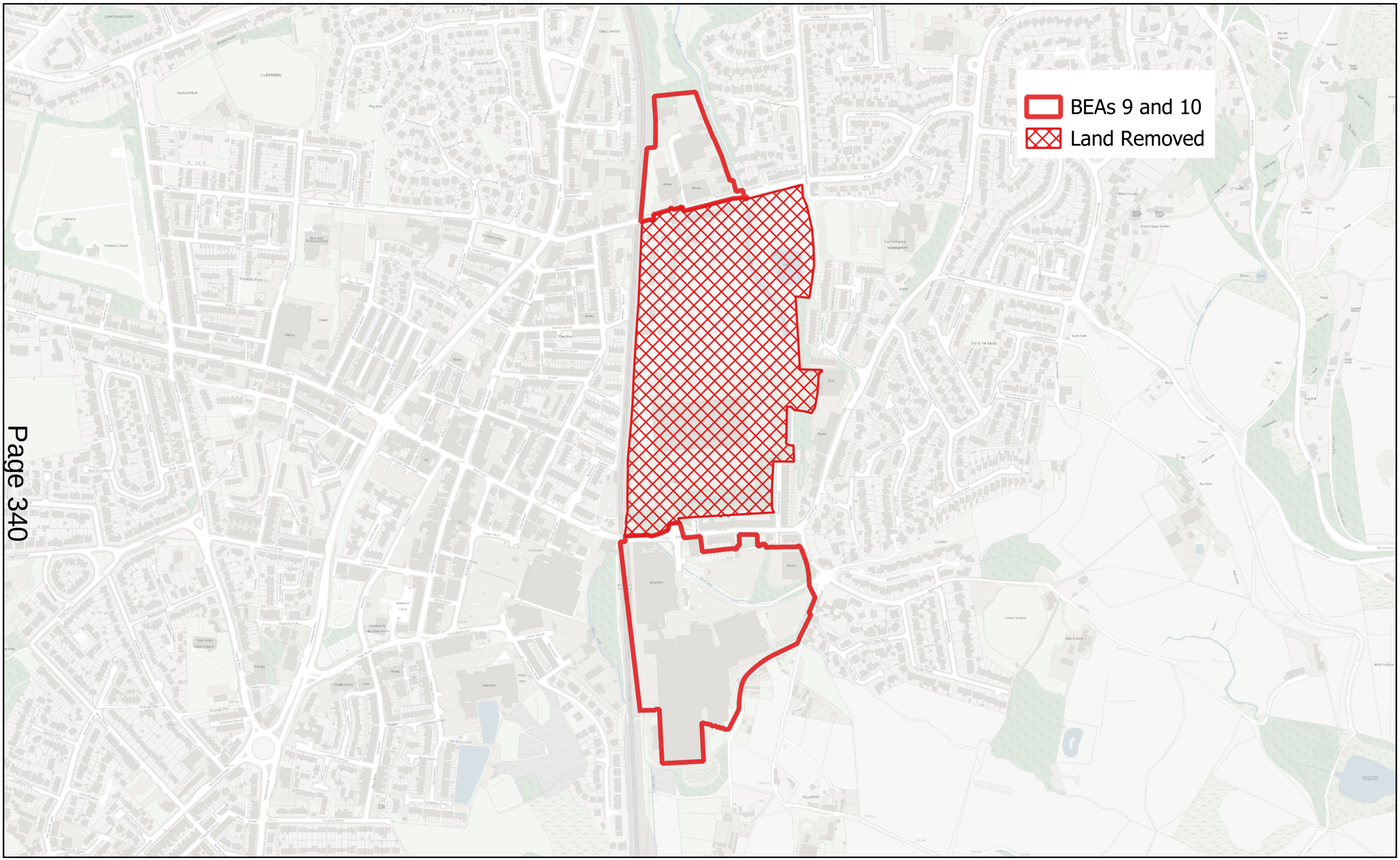

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BEA 9 - now BEA 9 Shaw and BEA 10 Linney Lane

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:7,500

Oldham Council

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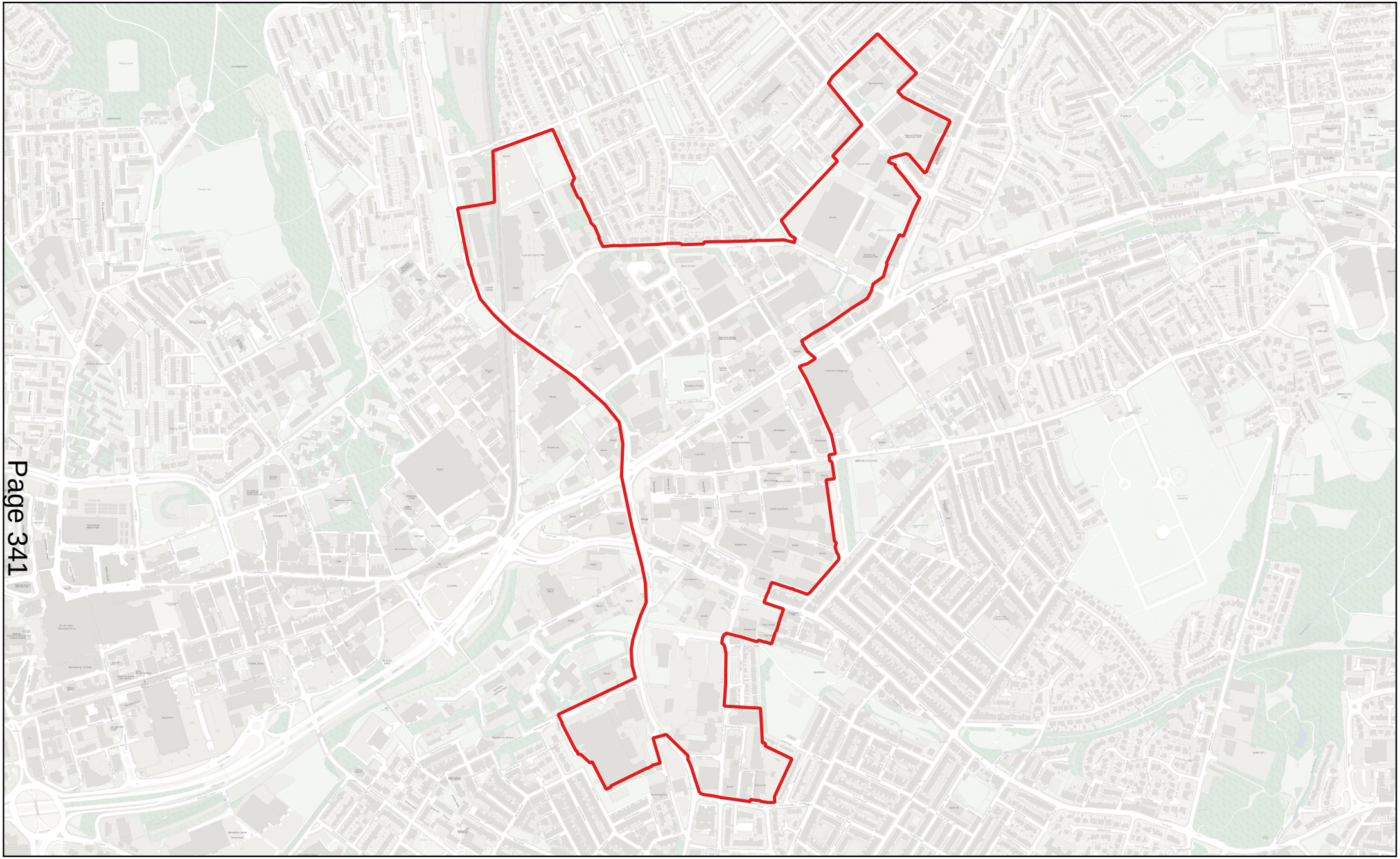

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BEA 10– now BEA 11 Greenacres

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:10,000

Oldham Council

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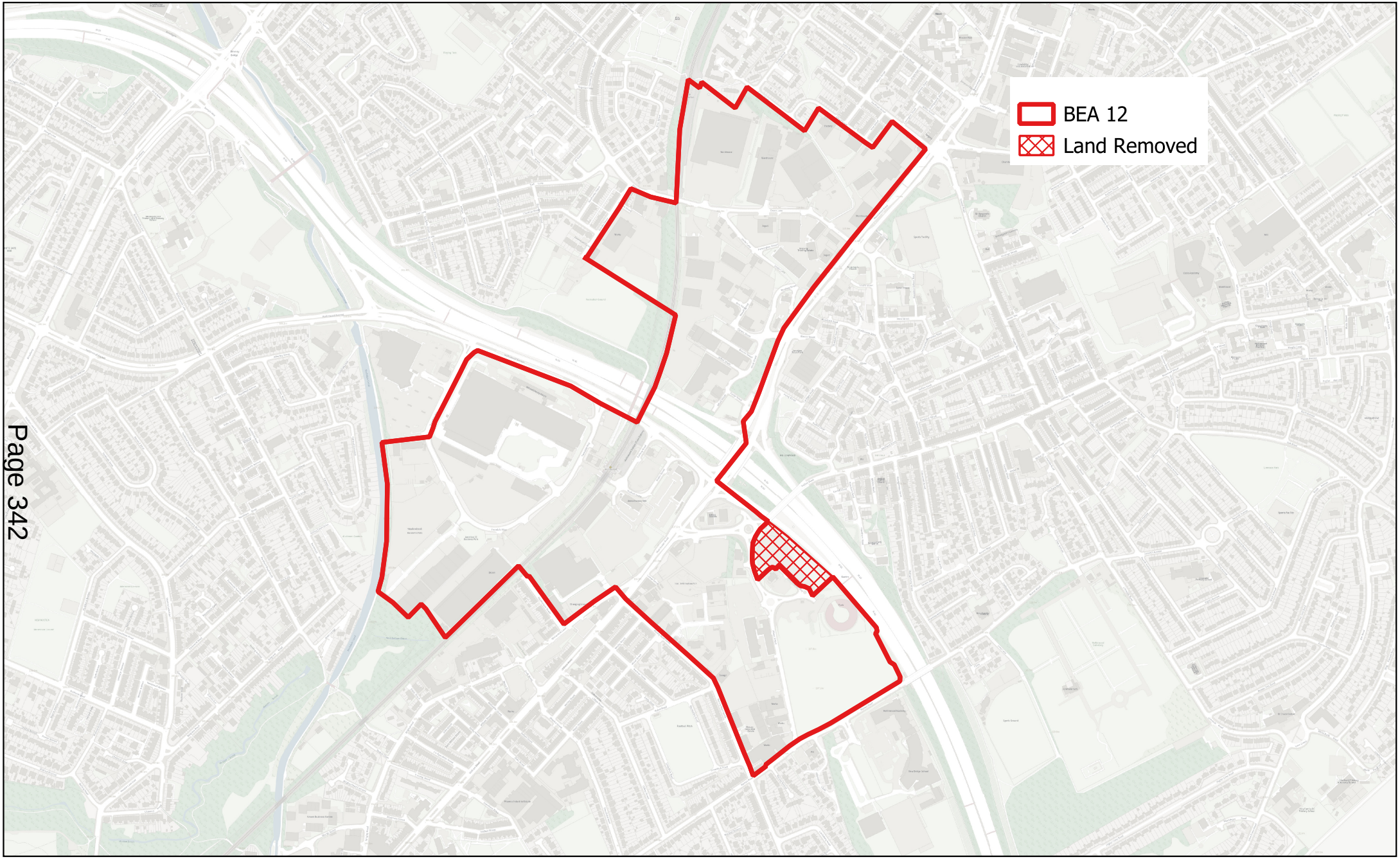

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Hollinwood Business District – now BEA 12

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:10,000

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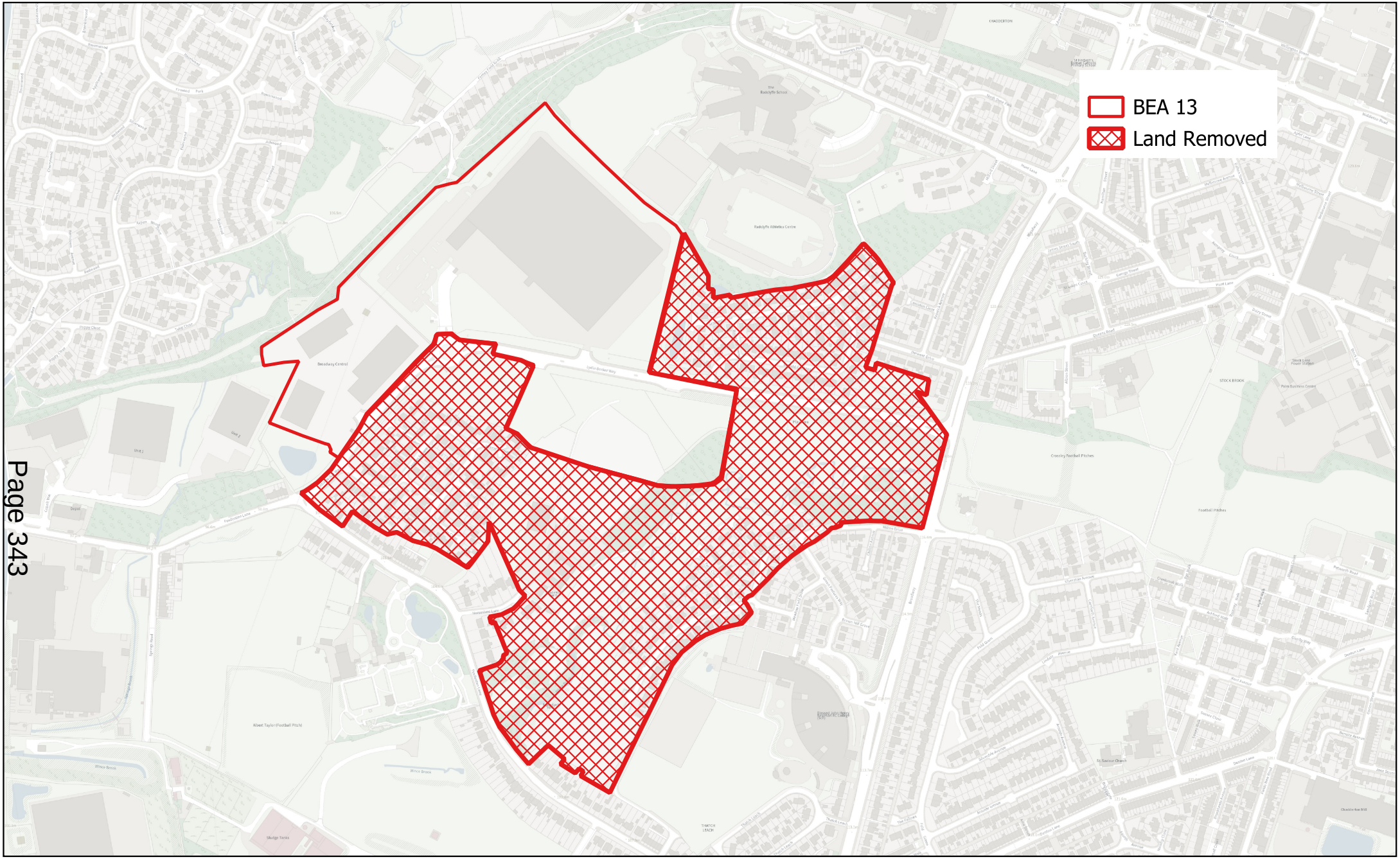

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Foxdenton – now BEA 13 Broadway Green

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:6,500

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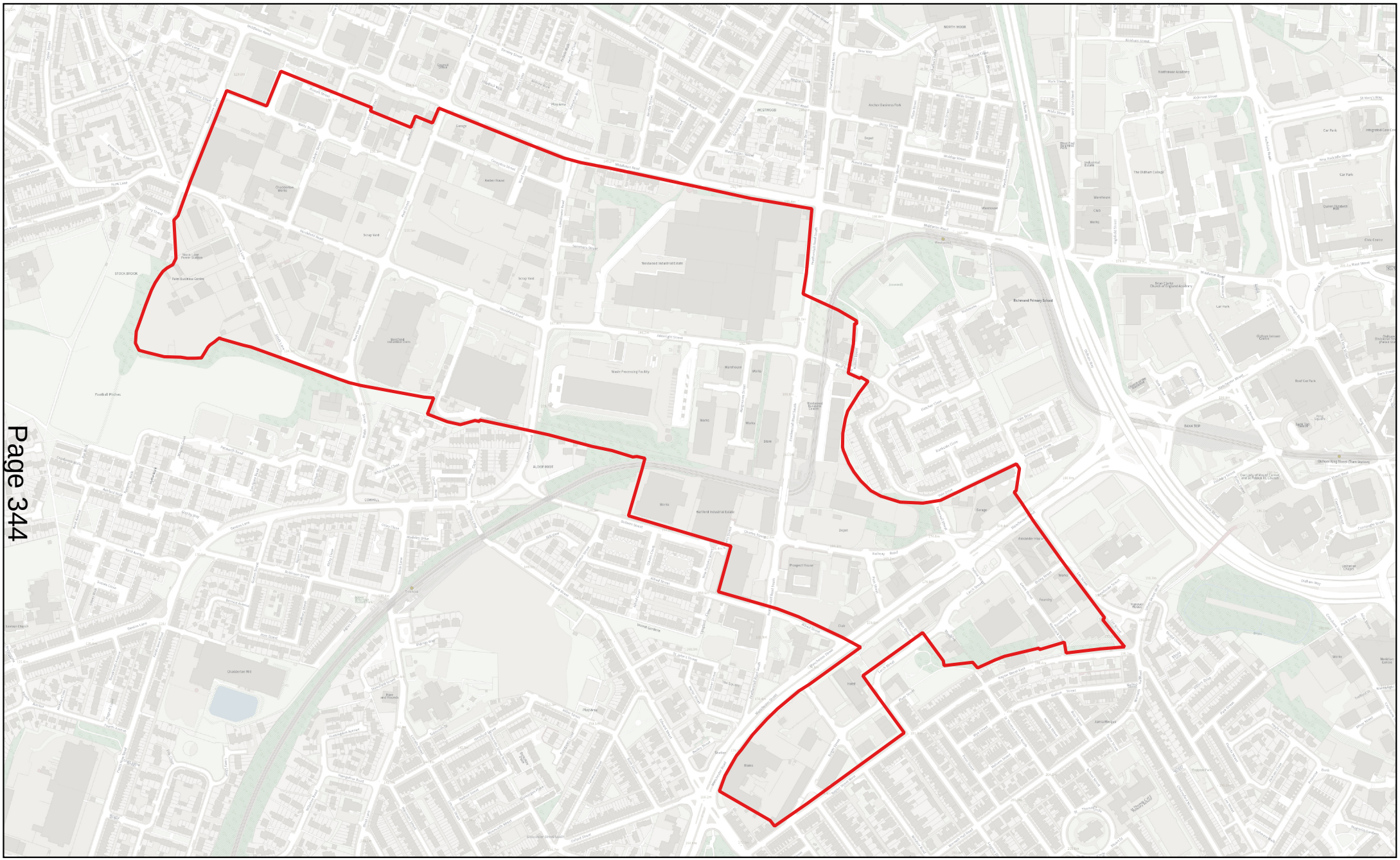

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Chadderton Technology Park – now BEA 14
Chadderton

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:7,000

Oldham Council

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SEA 1- now BEA 15

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:600

Oldham Council

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SEA 2 - now BEA 16

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,200

Oldham Council

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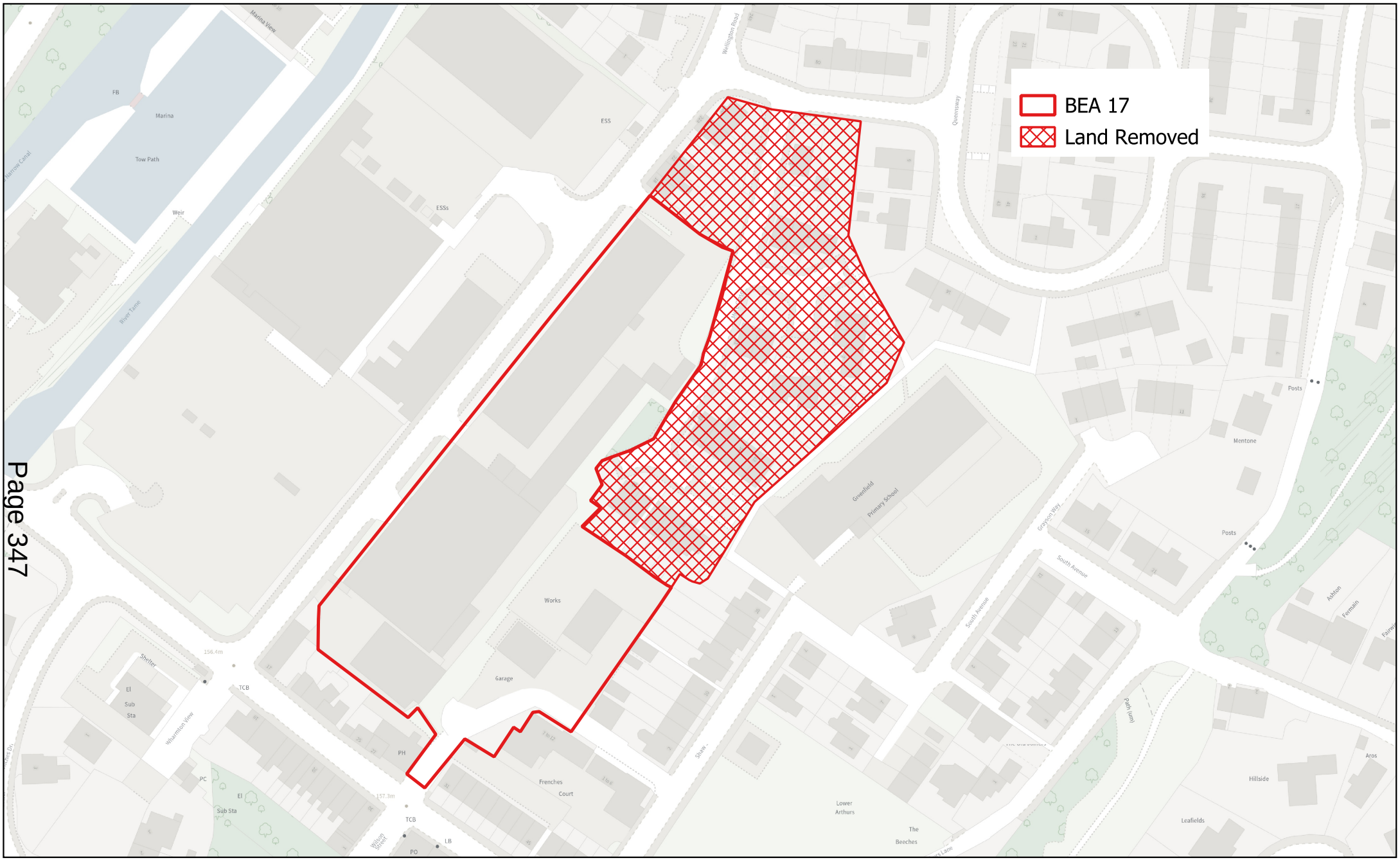

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SEA 3 - now BEA 17

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

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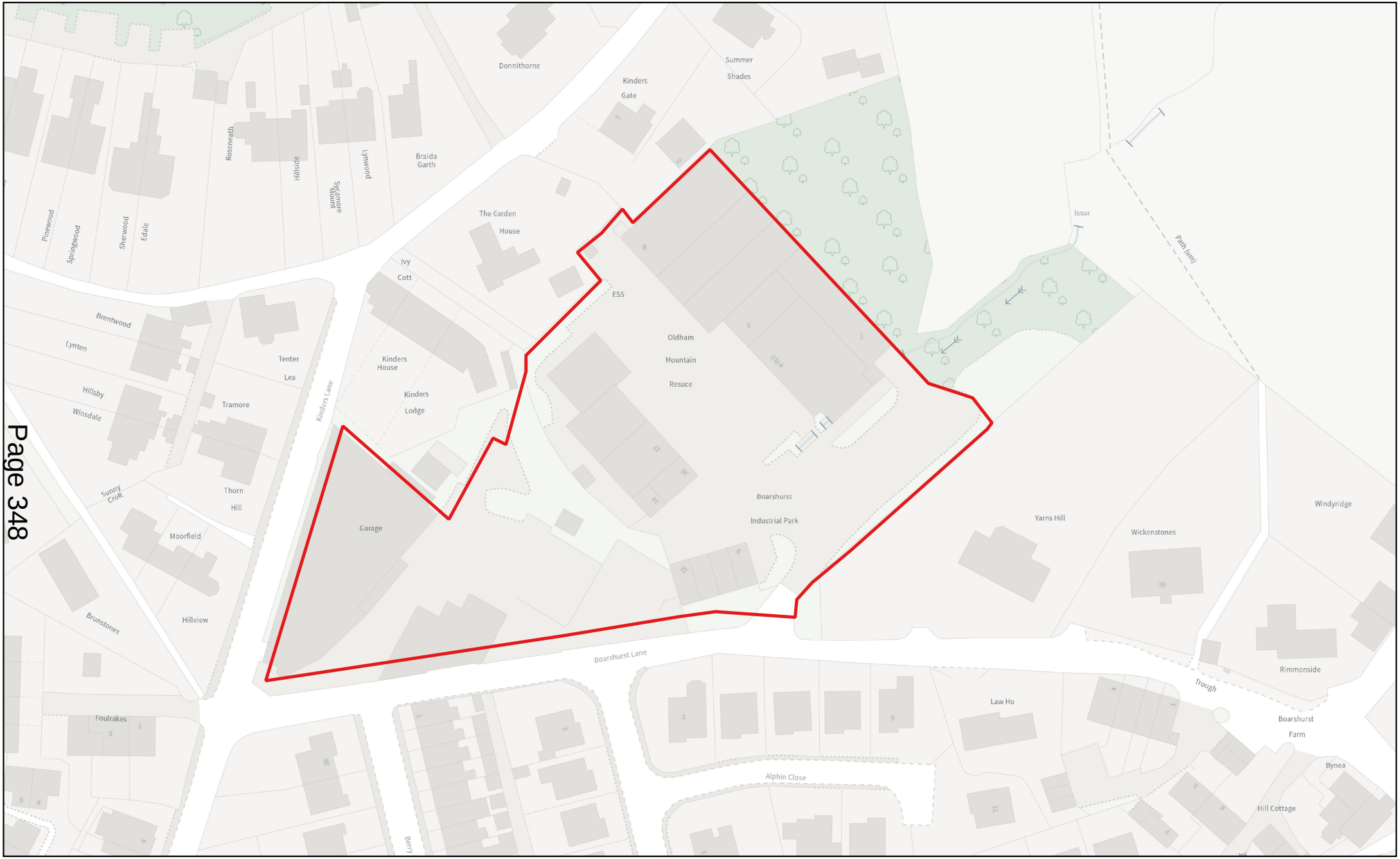

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SEA 4 - now BEA 18

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,200

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SEA 5 - now BEA 19

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,632

Oldham Council

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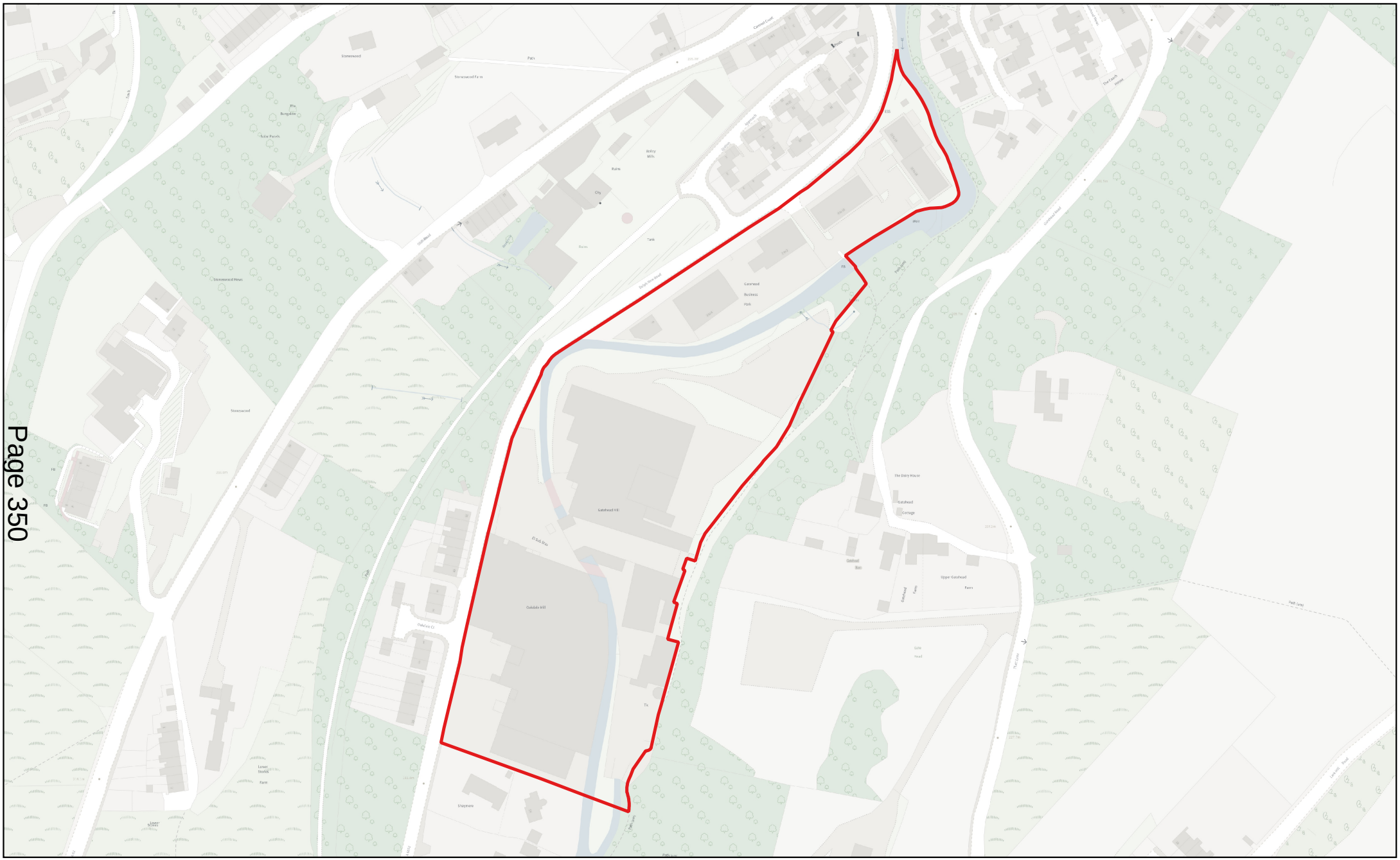

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SEA 6 - now BEA 20

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,500

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SEA 7 - now BEA 21

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,200

Oldham Council

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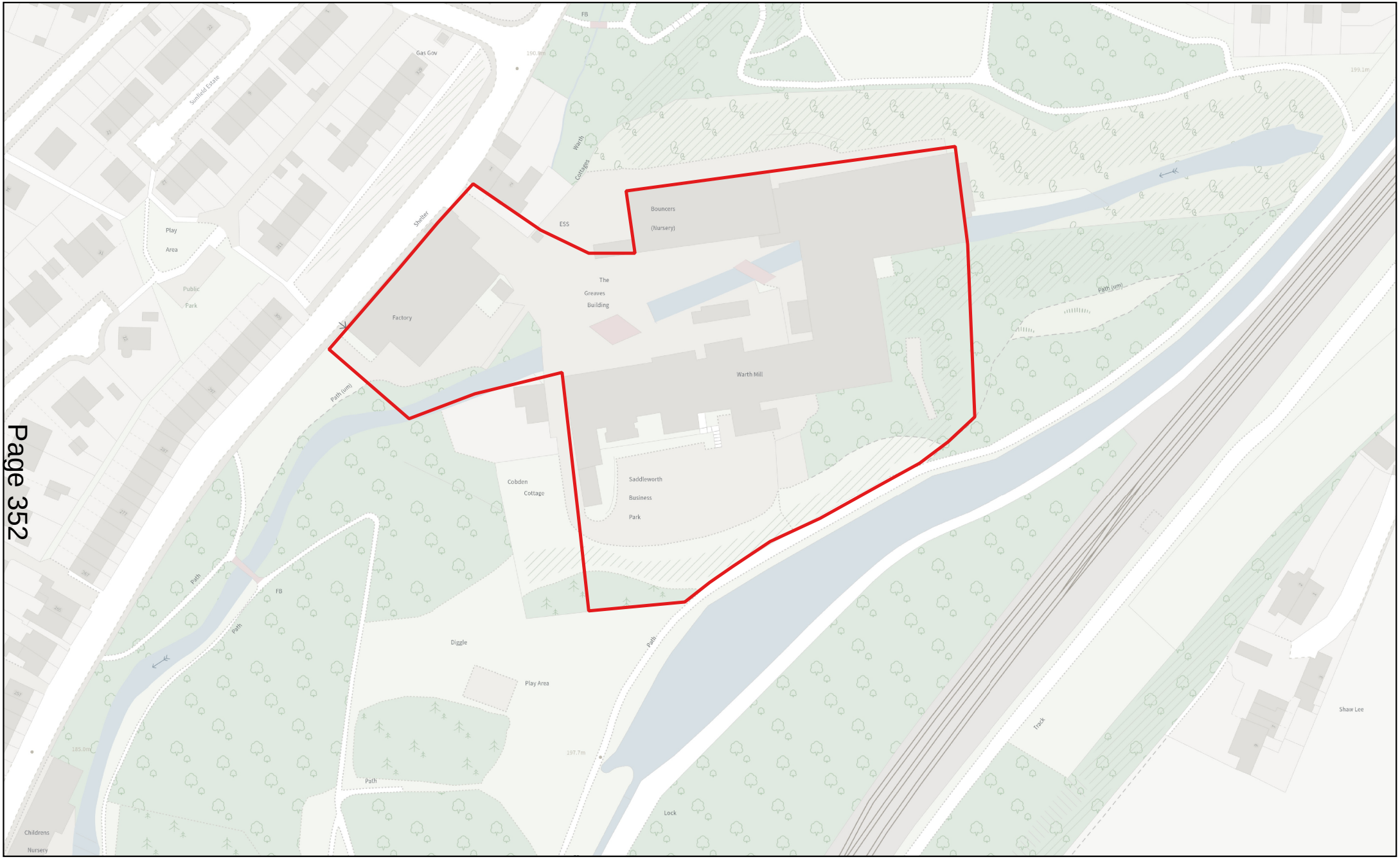

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SEA 9 - now BEA 22

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
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Oldham
OL1 1LF

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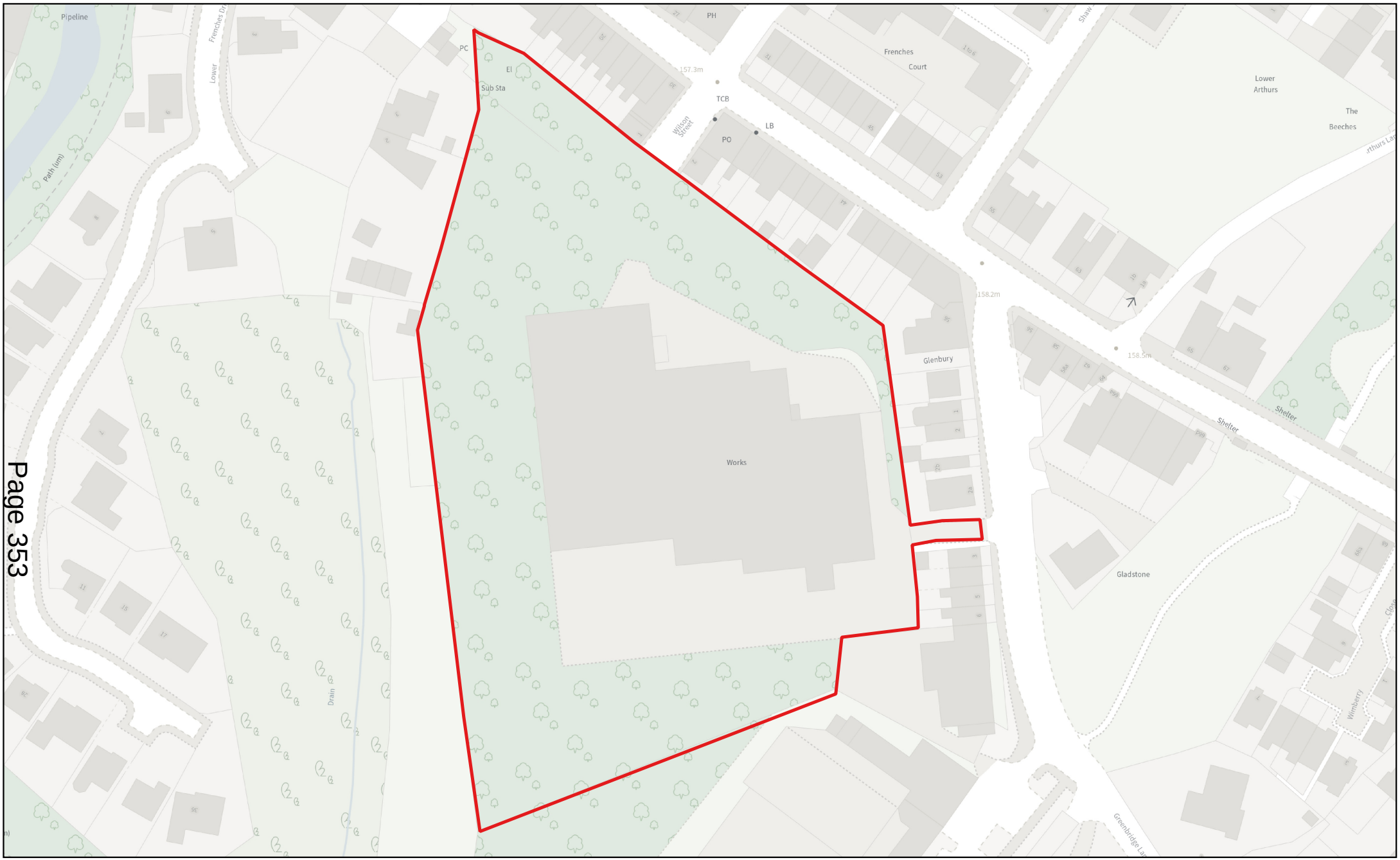

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SEA 10 - now BEA 23

Oldham Council
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West Street
Oldham
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De-designation of SEA 8 - Shaw Pallets

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Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
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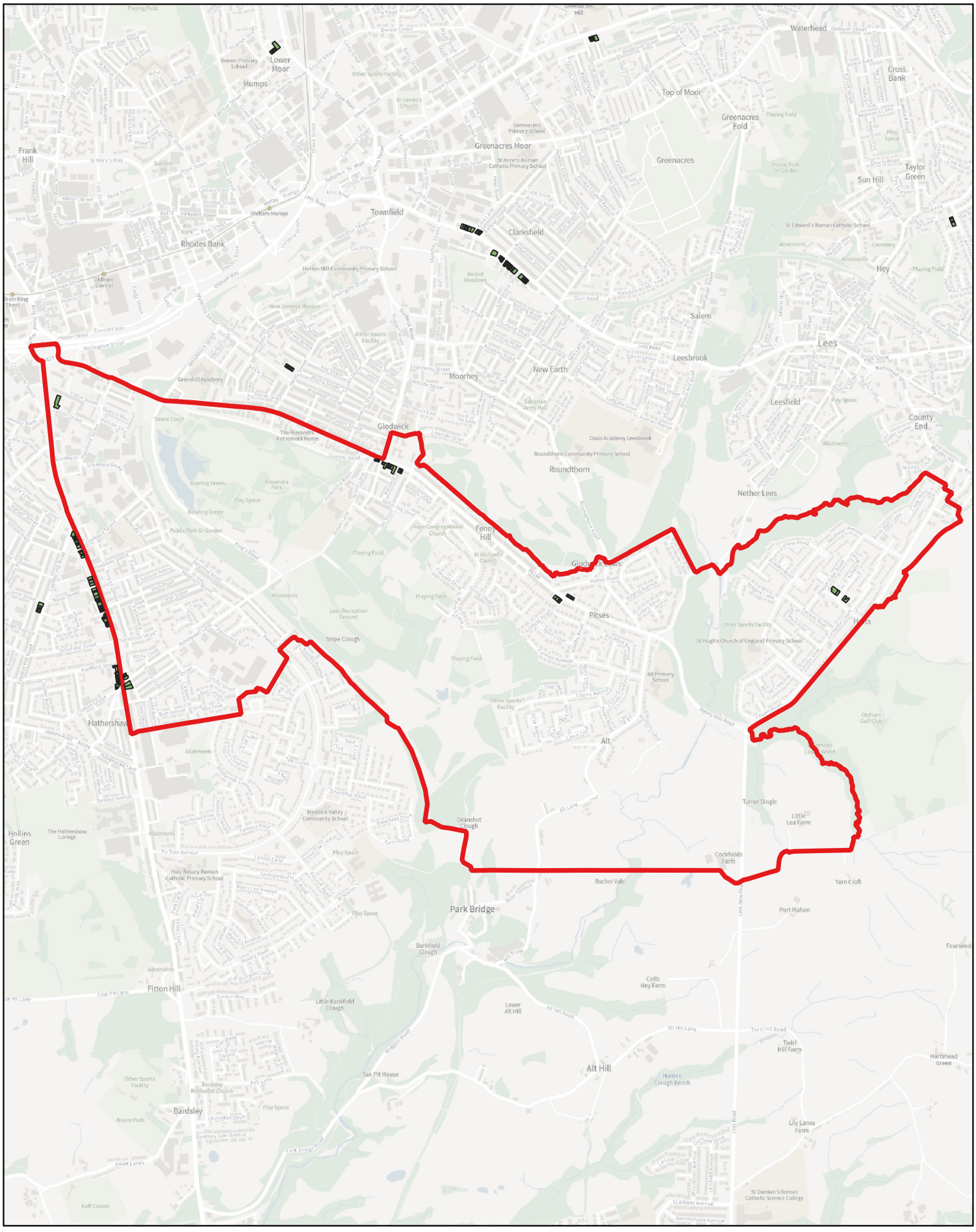
Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 5

January 2026

Oldham Council



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Local Shopping Parades - Alexandra

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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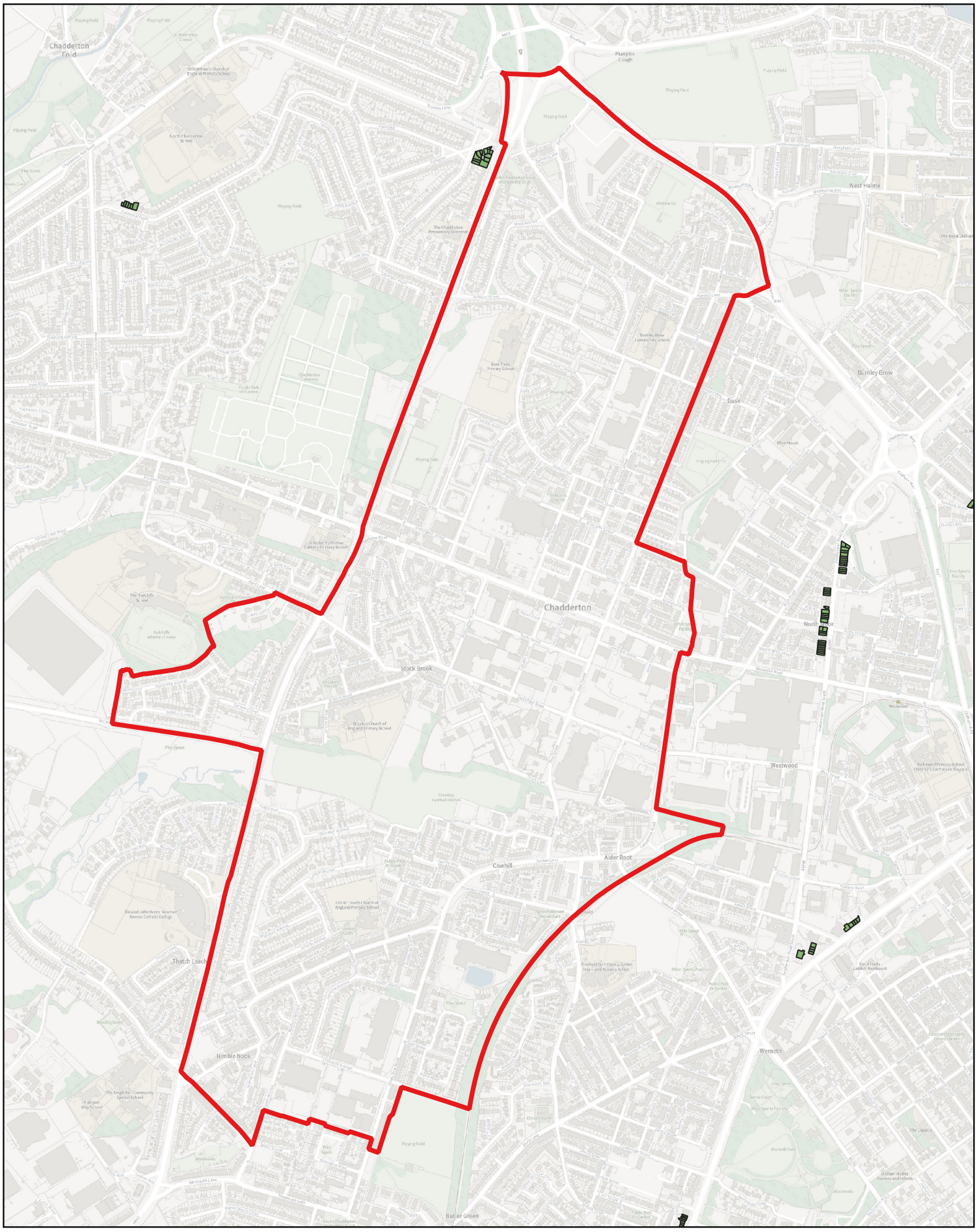

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Local Shopping Parades - Chadderton Central

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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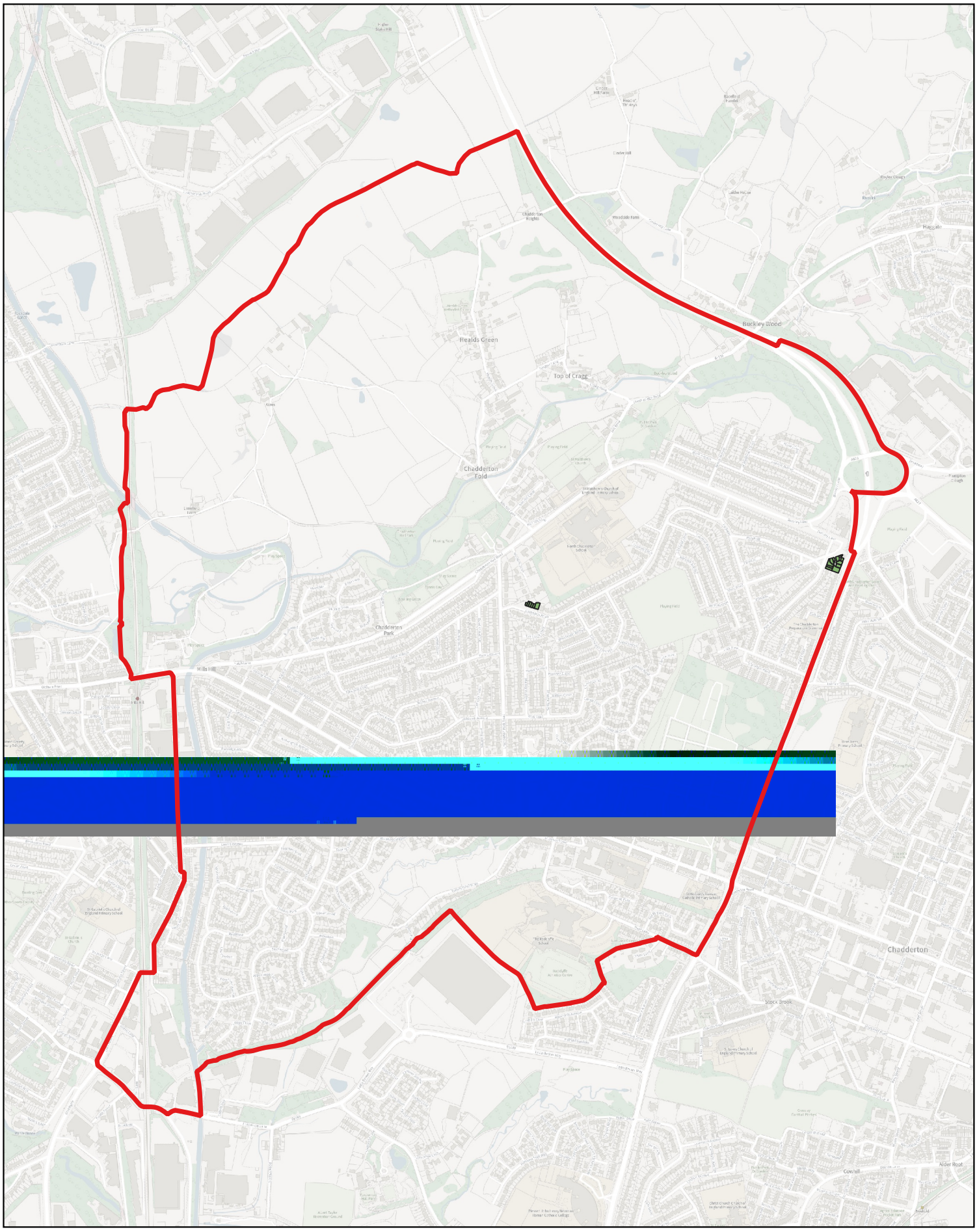

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Local Shopping Parades - Chadderton North

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Date:	As published
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Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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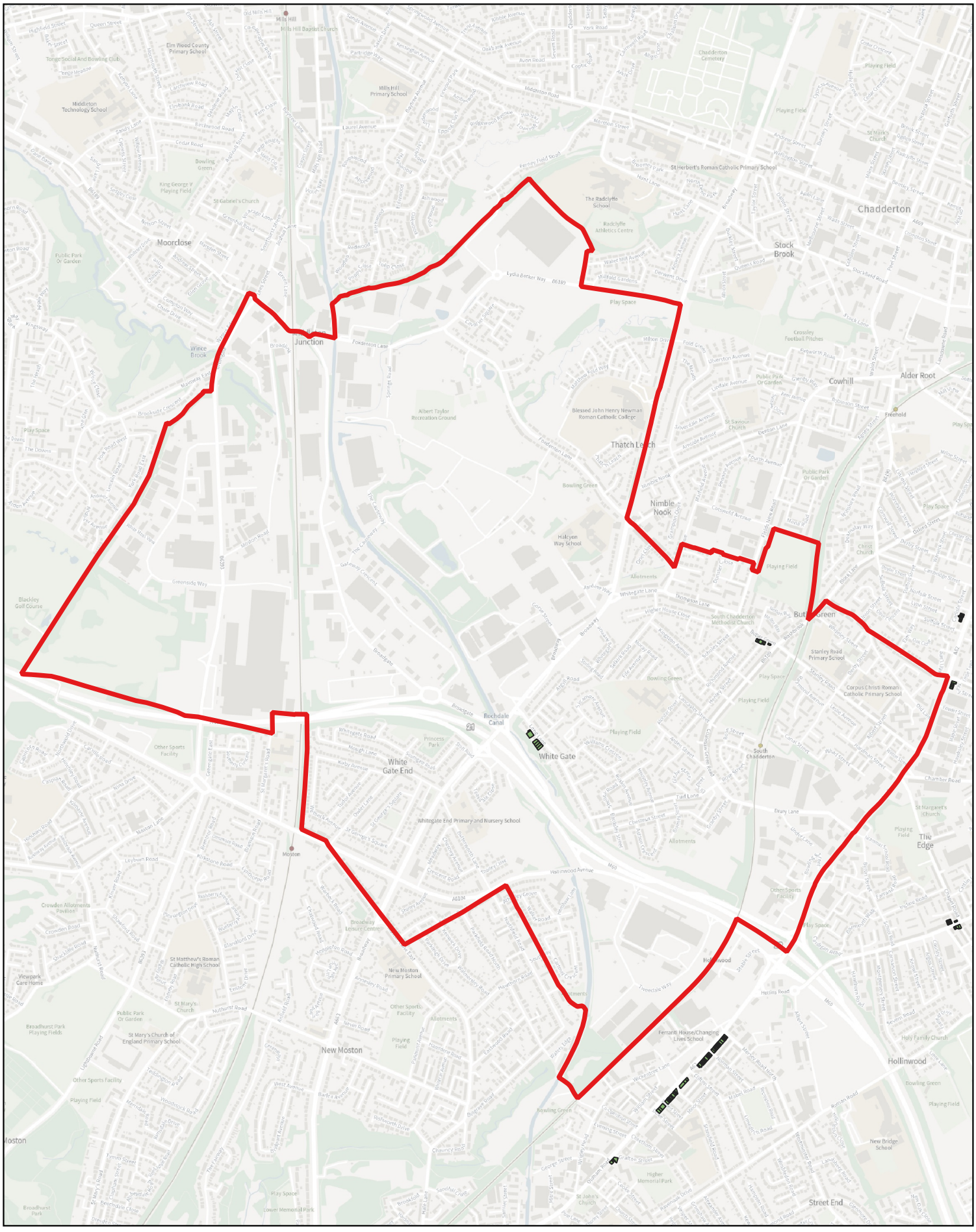

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Local Shopping Parades - Chadderton South

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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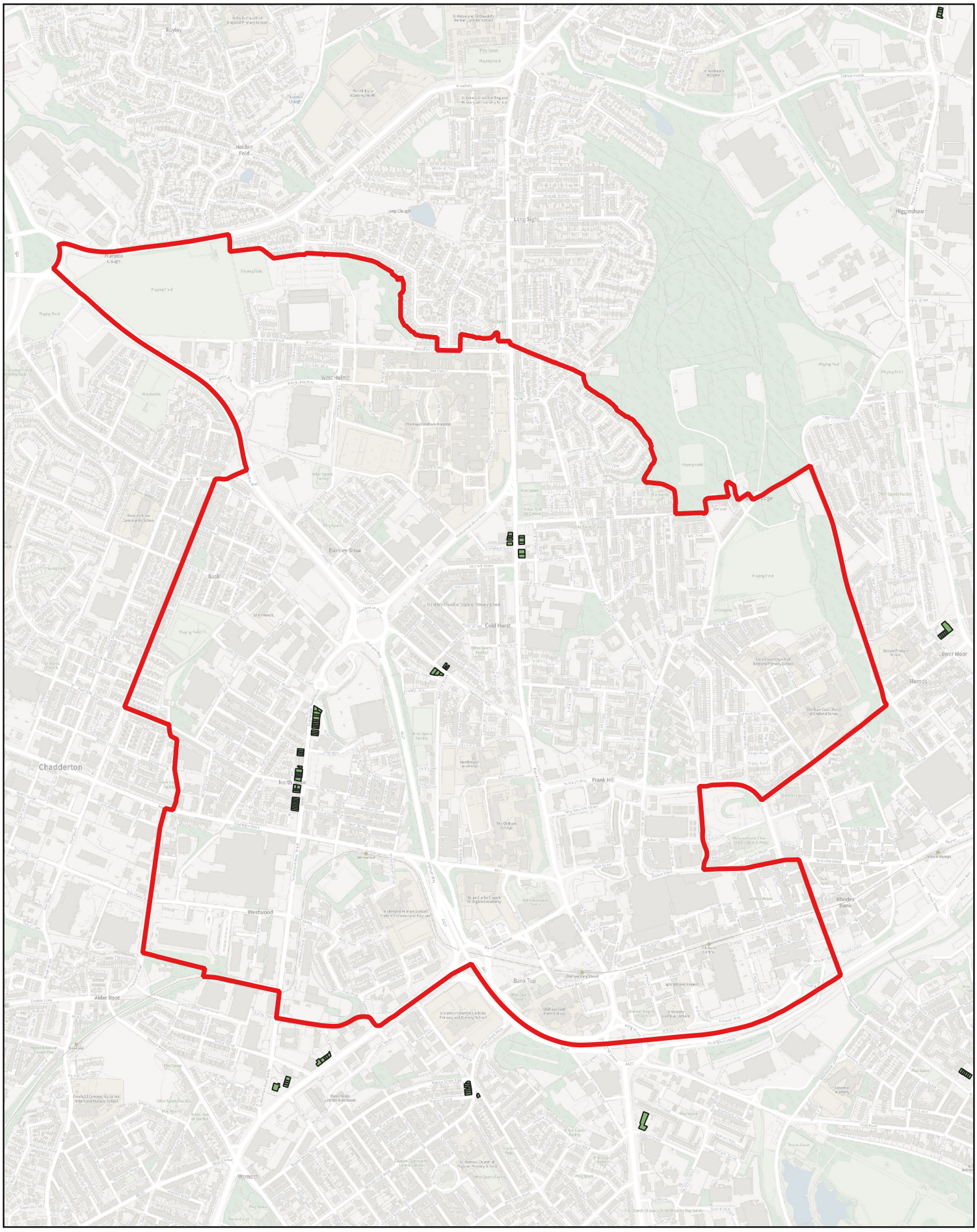

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Local Shopping Parades - Coldhurst

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Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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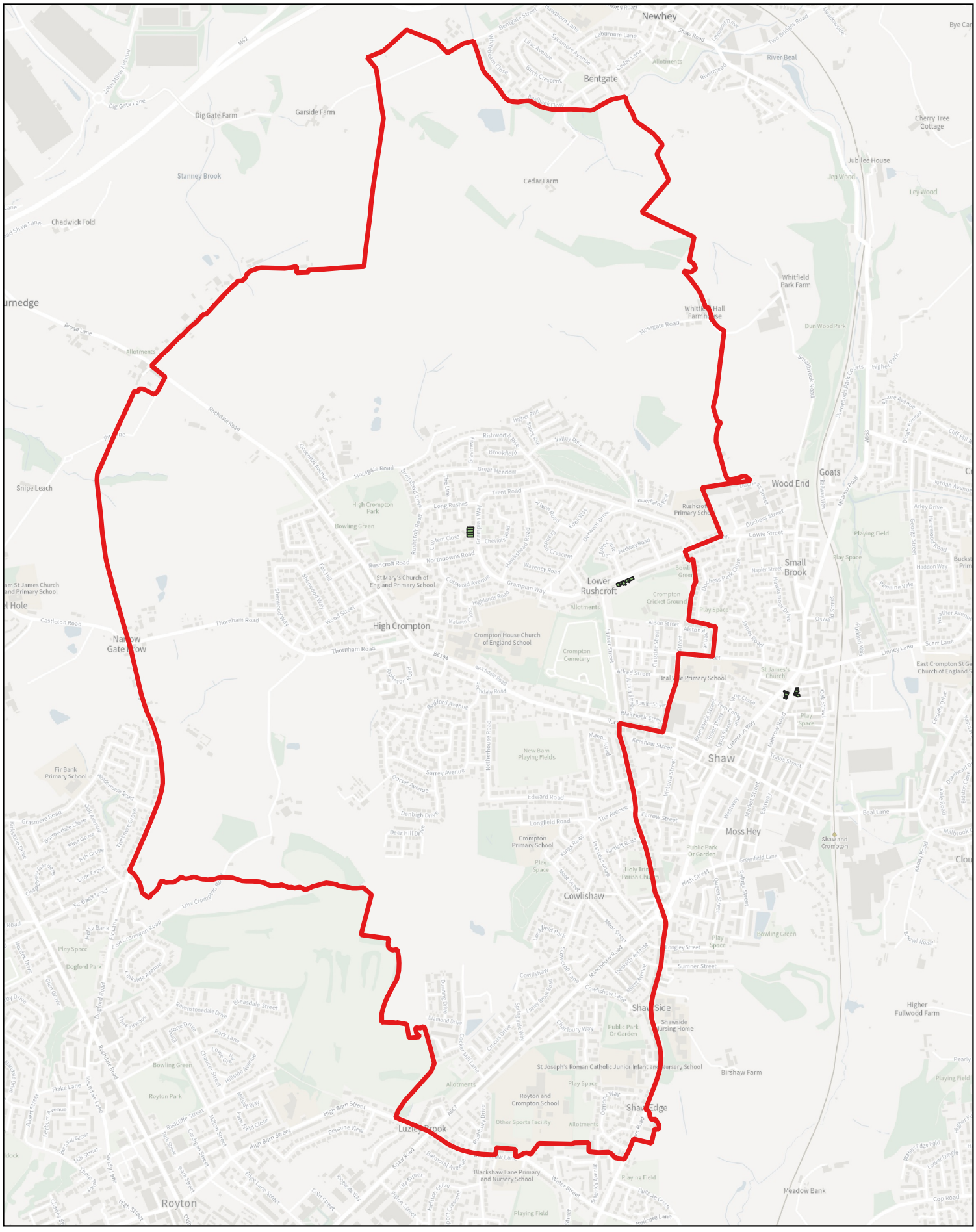

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Local Shopping Parades - Crompton

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
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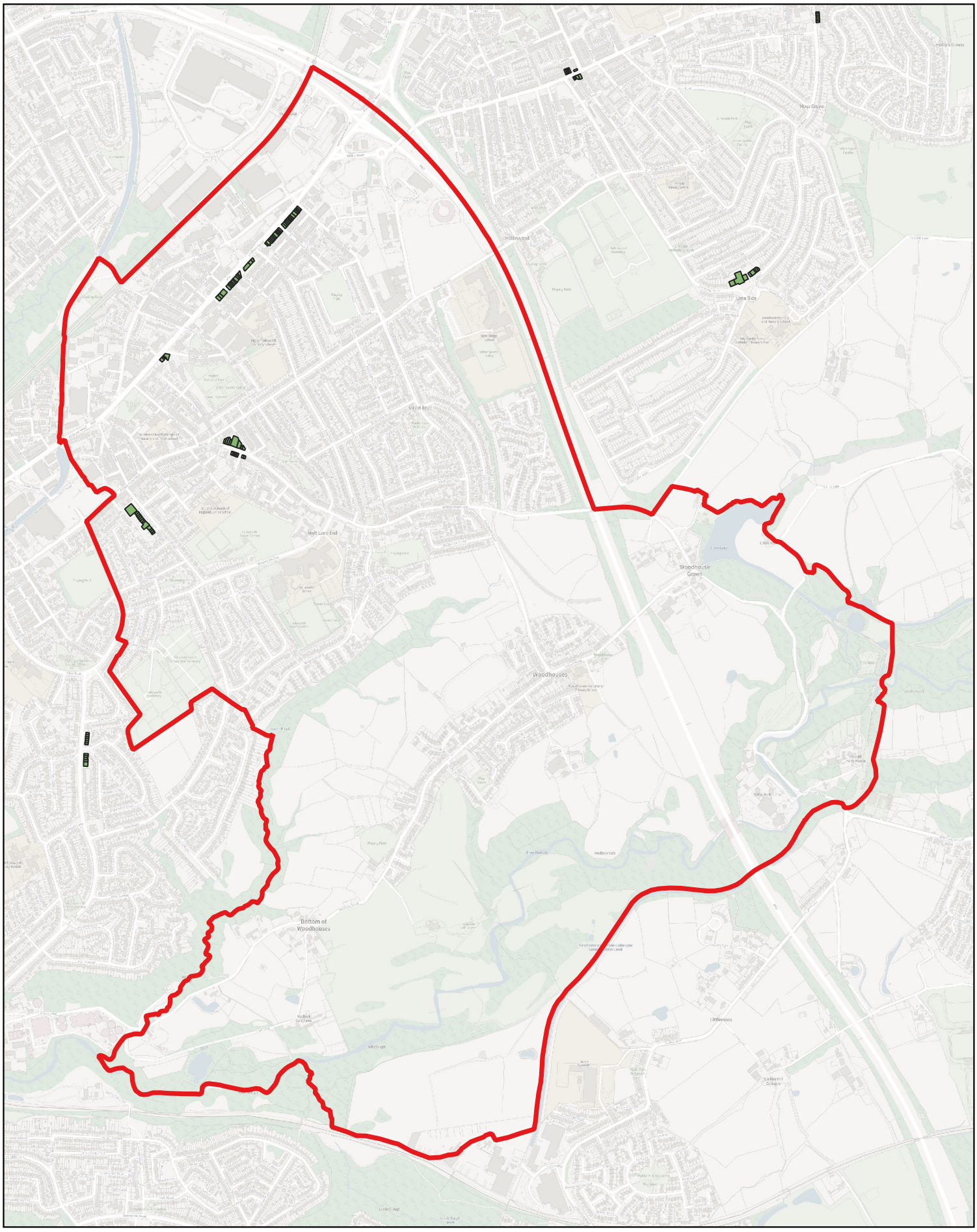

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Local Shopping Parades - Failsworth East

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Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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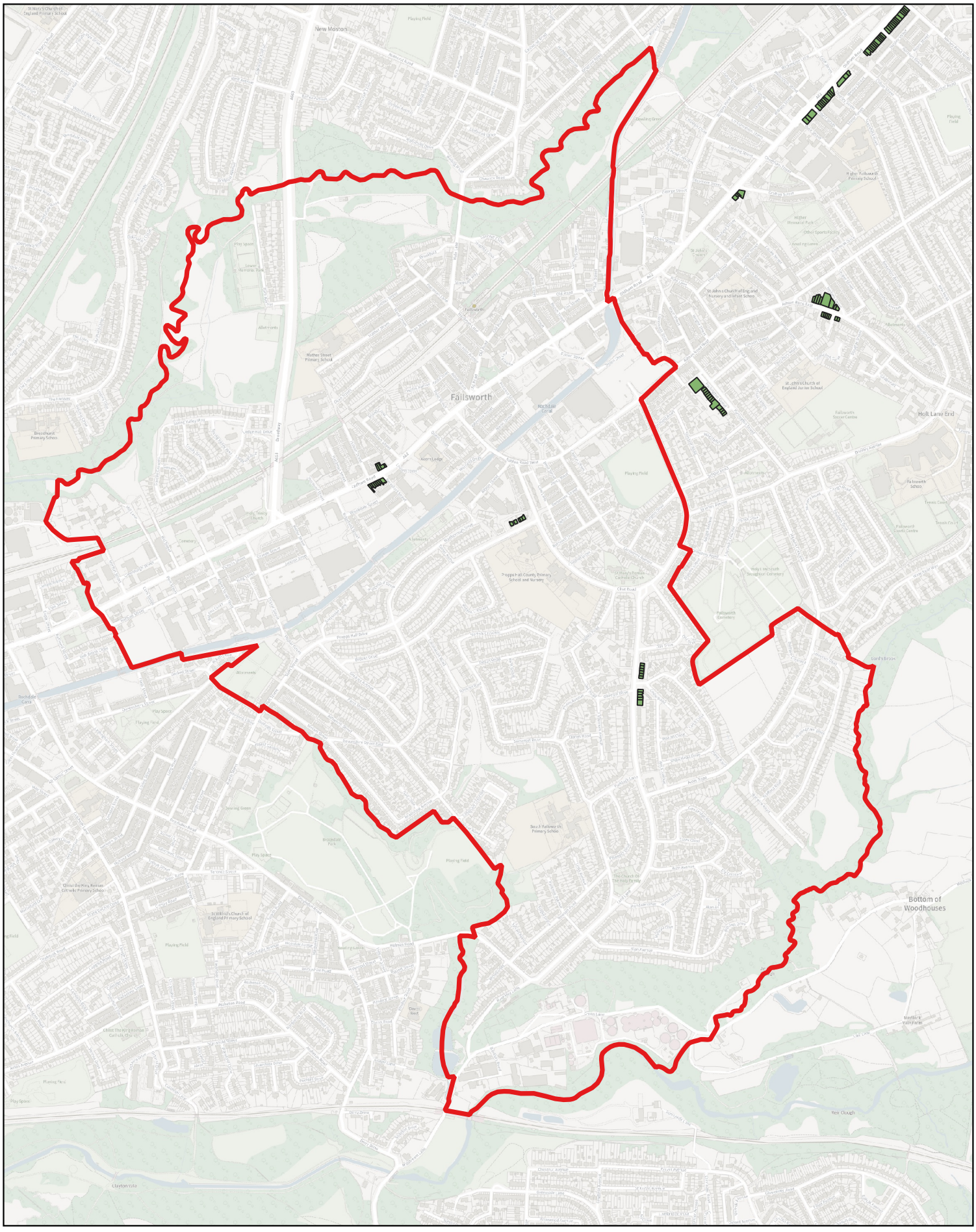

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Local Shopping Parades - Failsworth West

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Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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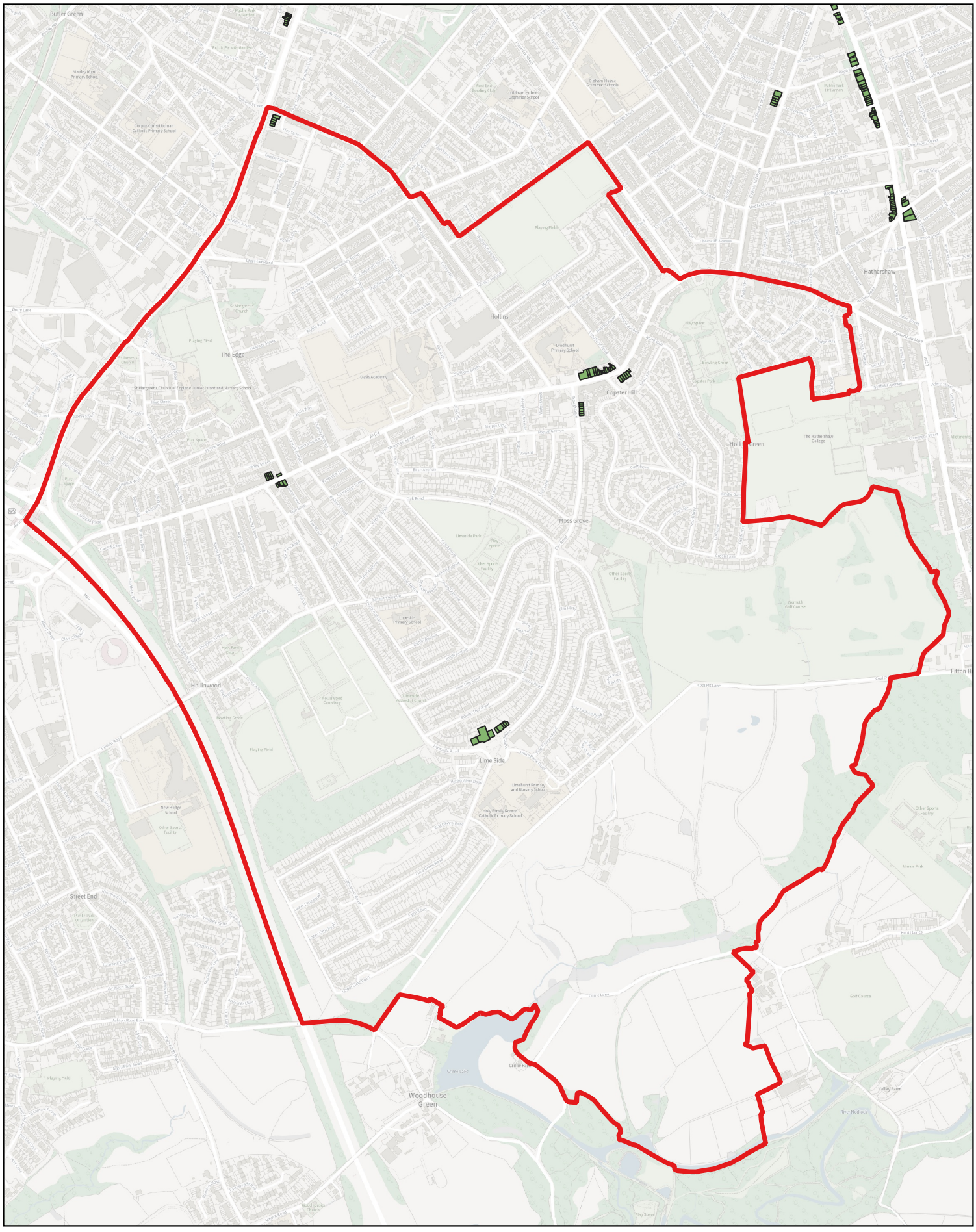

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Local Shopping Parades - Hollinwood

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Oldham
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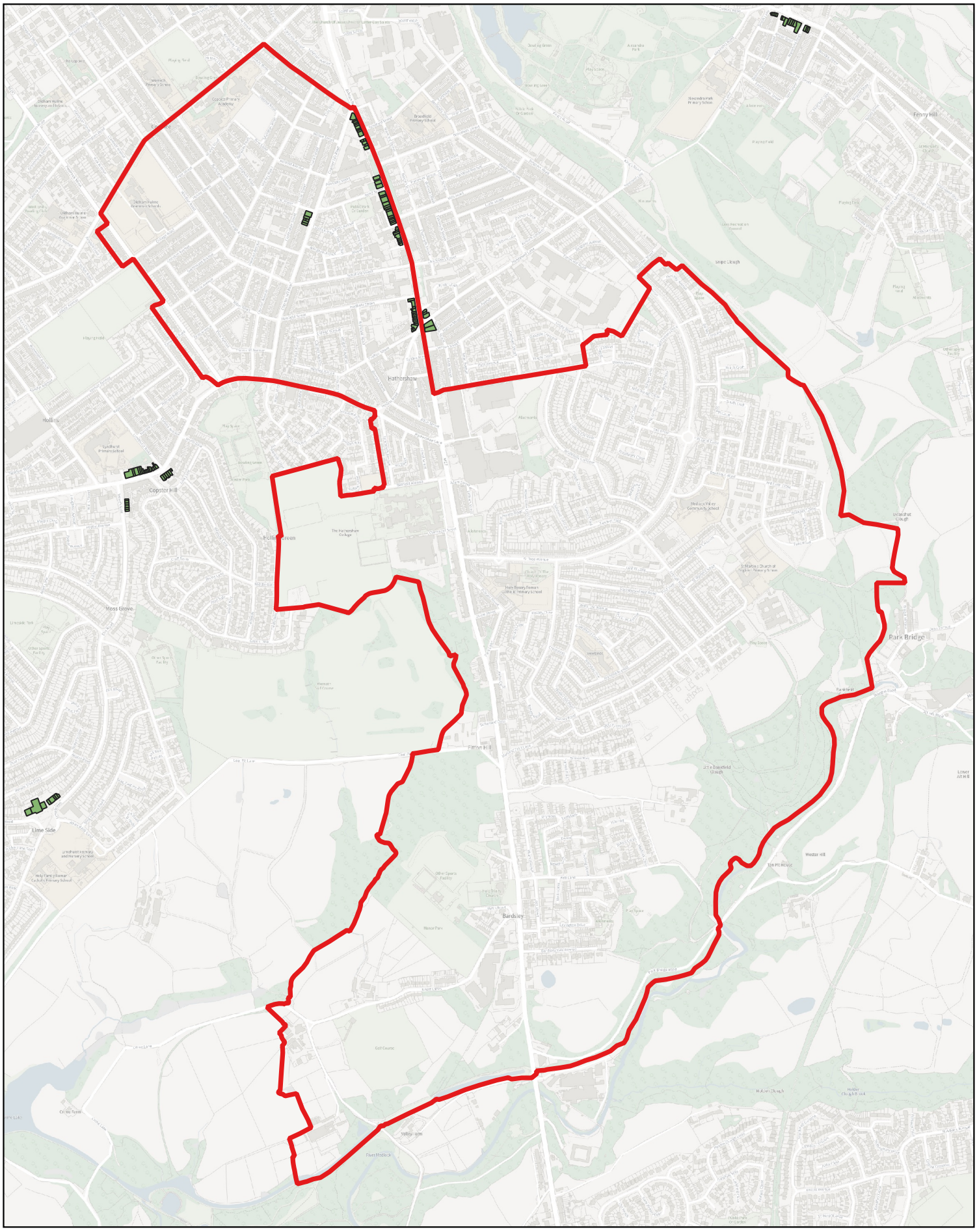

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Local Shopping Parades - Medlock Vale

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Oldham
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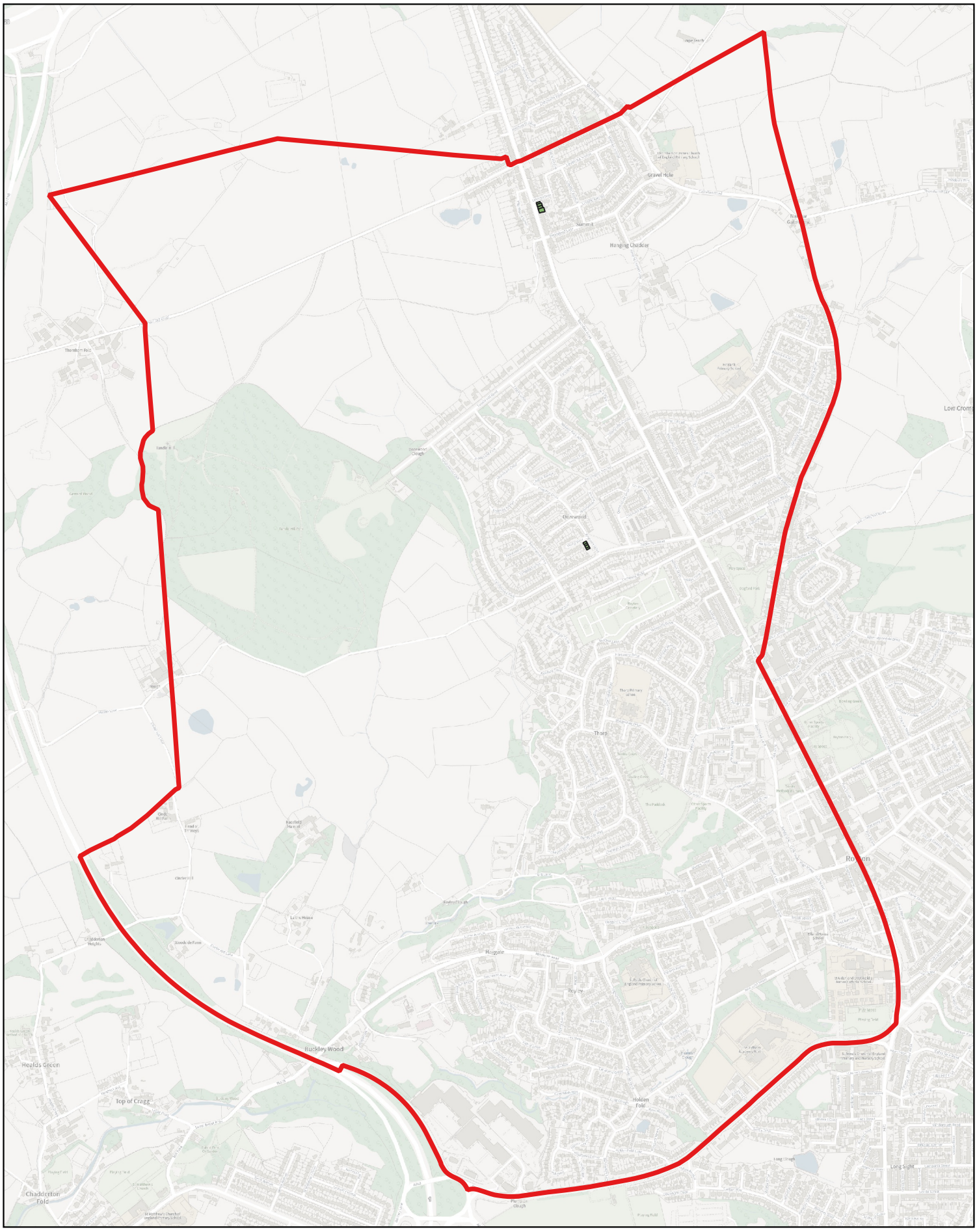

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Local Shopping Parades - Royton North

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Oldham
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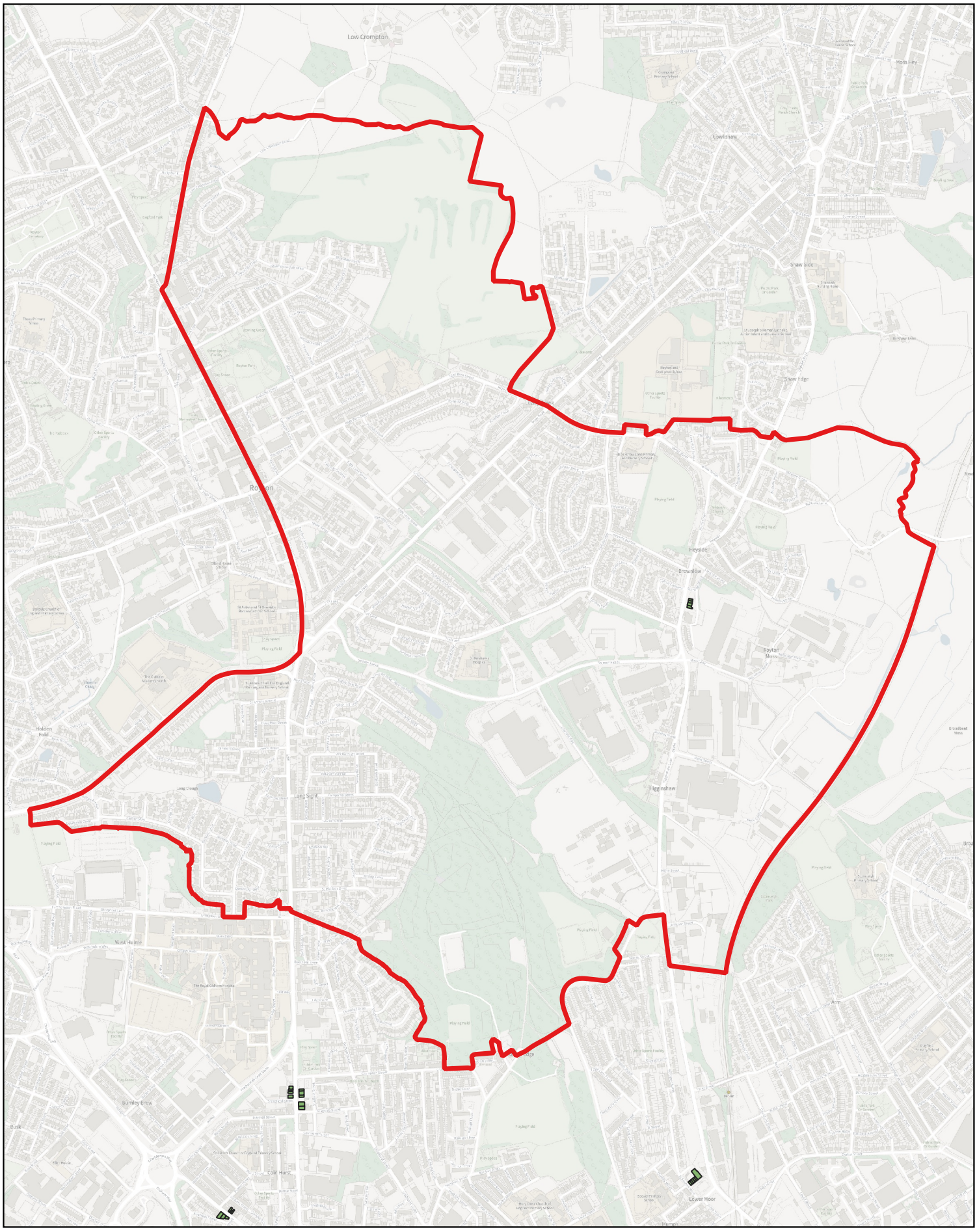

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Local Shopping Parades - Royton South

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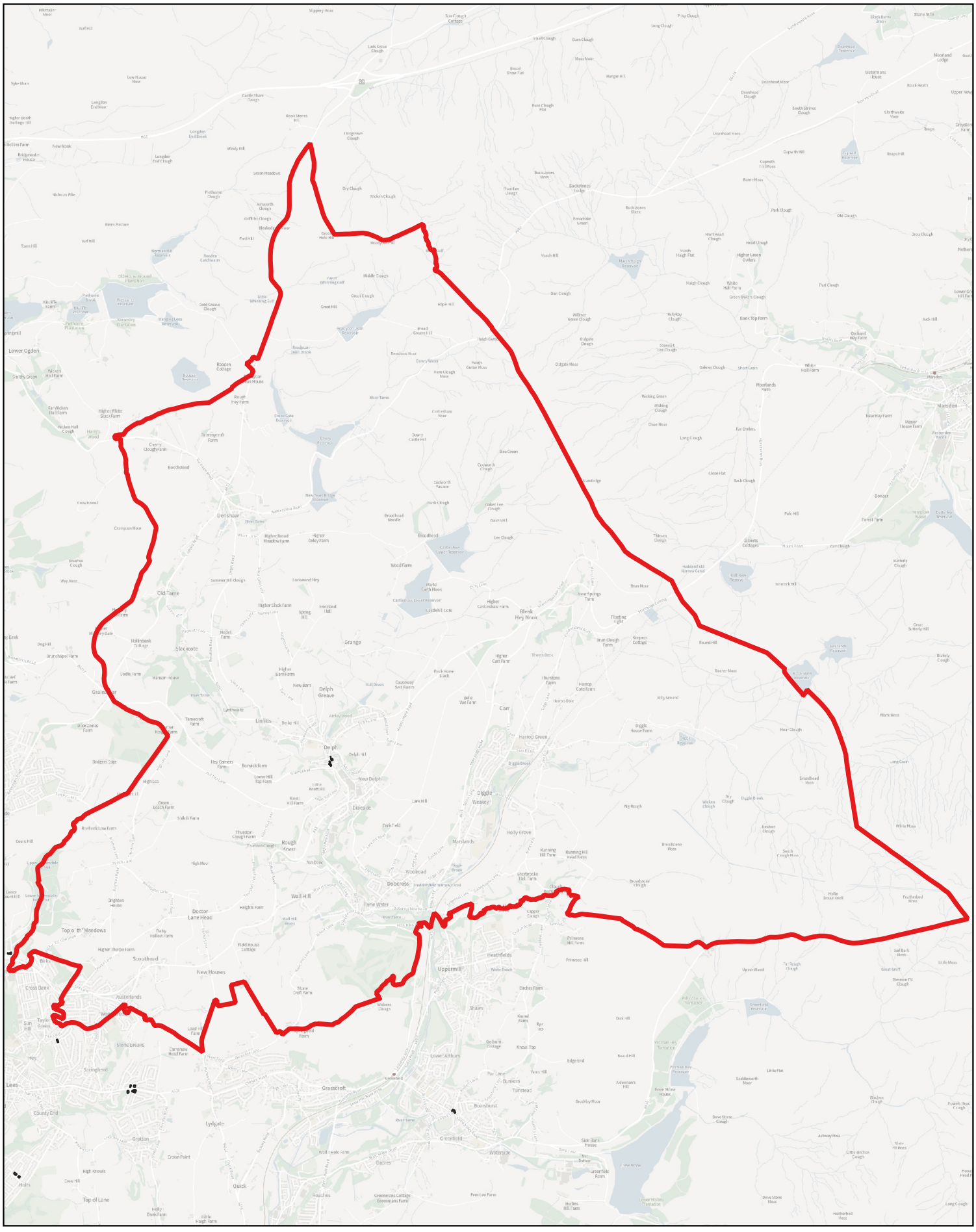

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Local Shopping Parades - Saddleworth North

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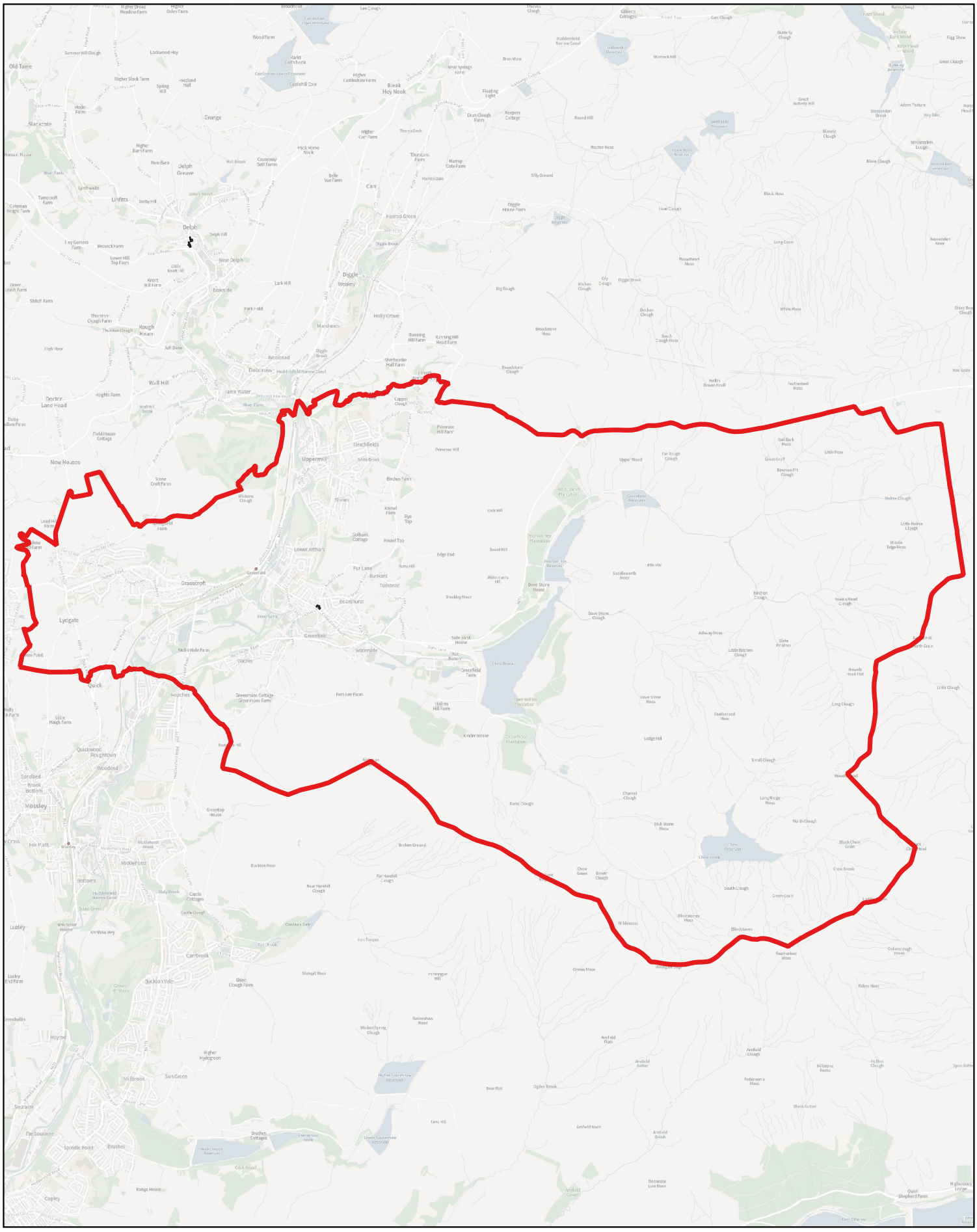

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Local Shopping Parades - Saddleworth South

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Oldham
OL1 1LF

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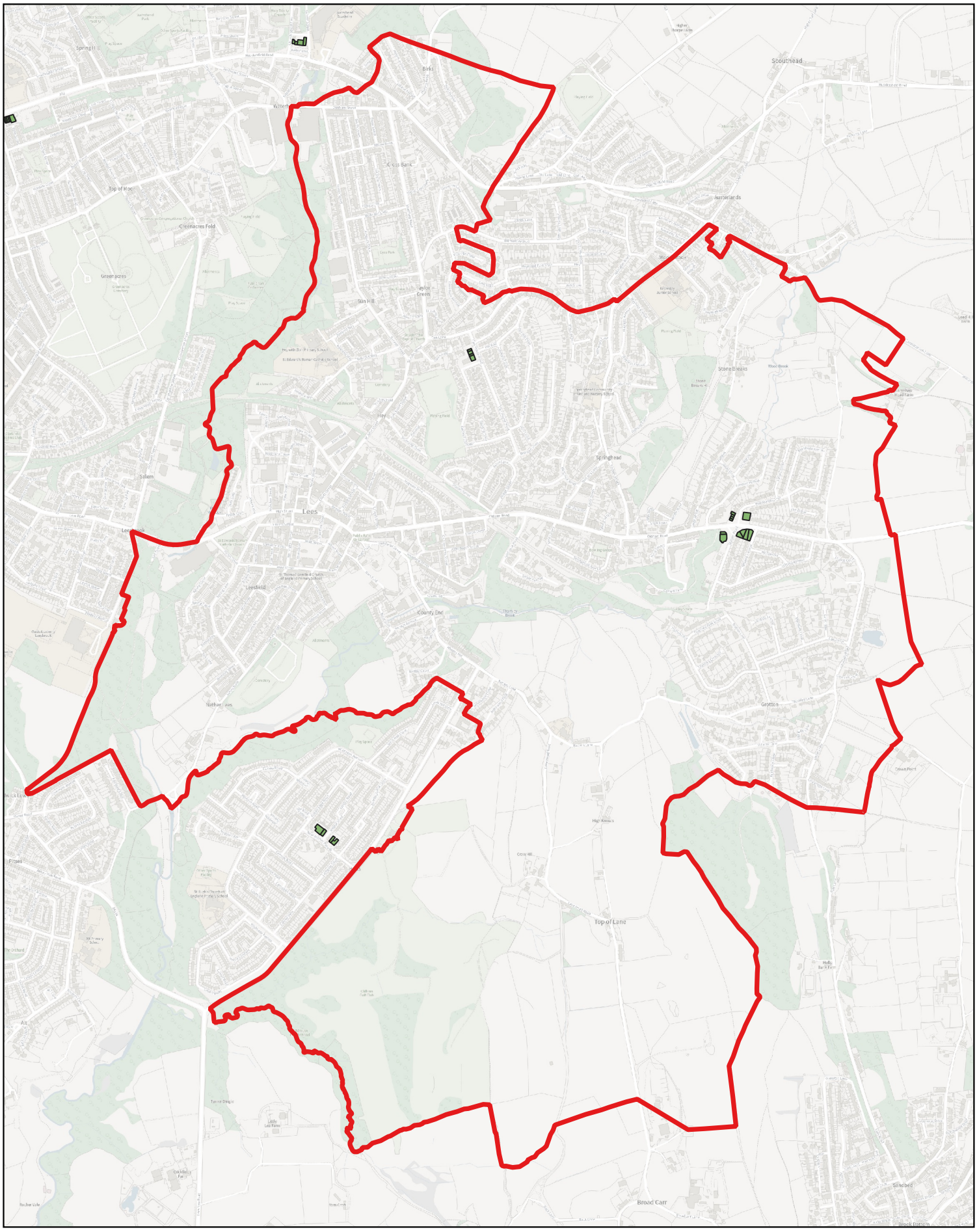

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Local Shopping Parades - Saddleworth West & Lees

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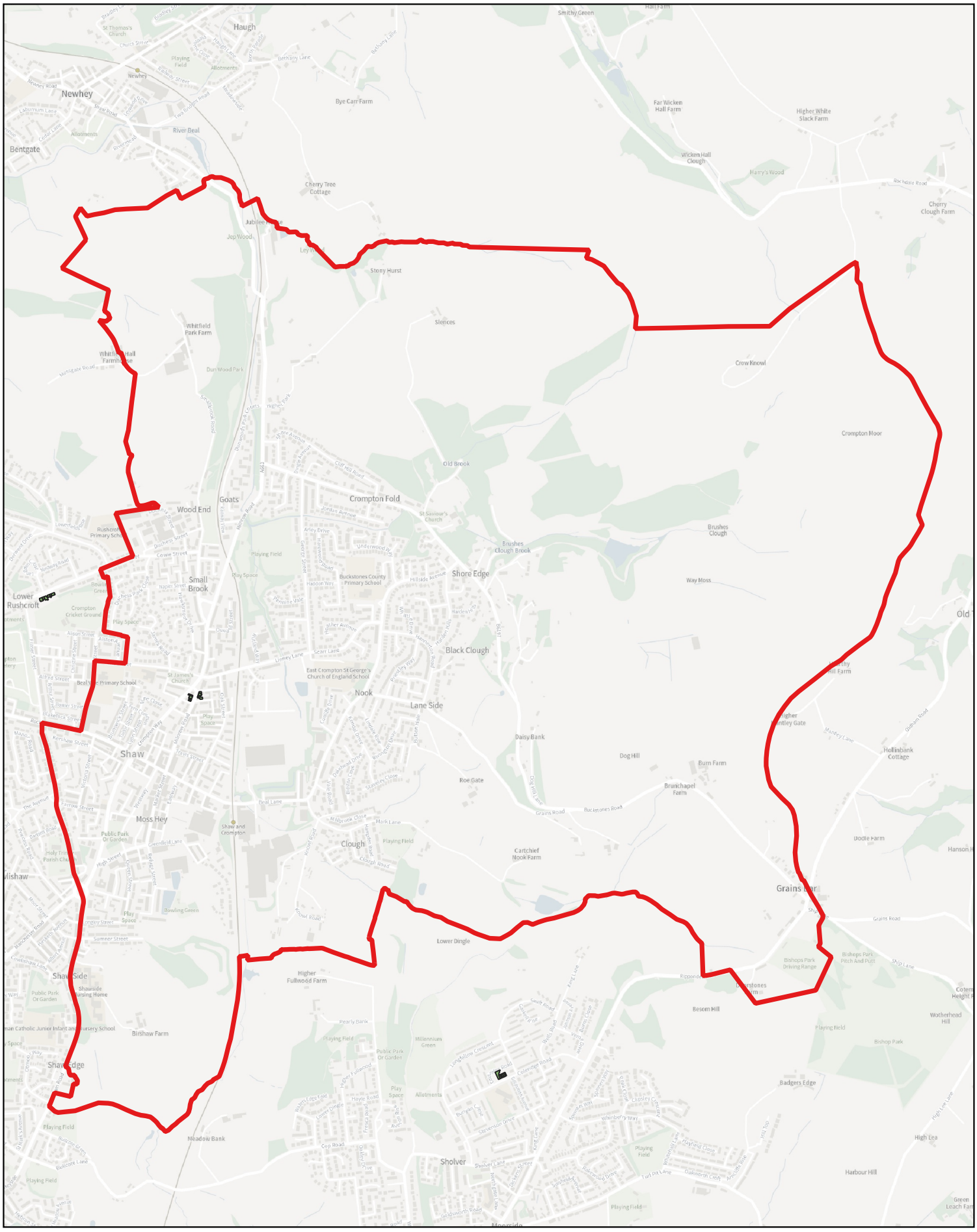

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Local Shopping Parades - Shaw

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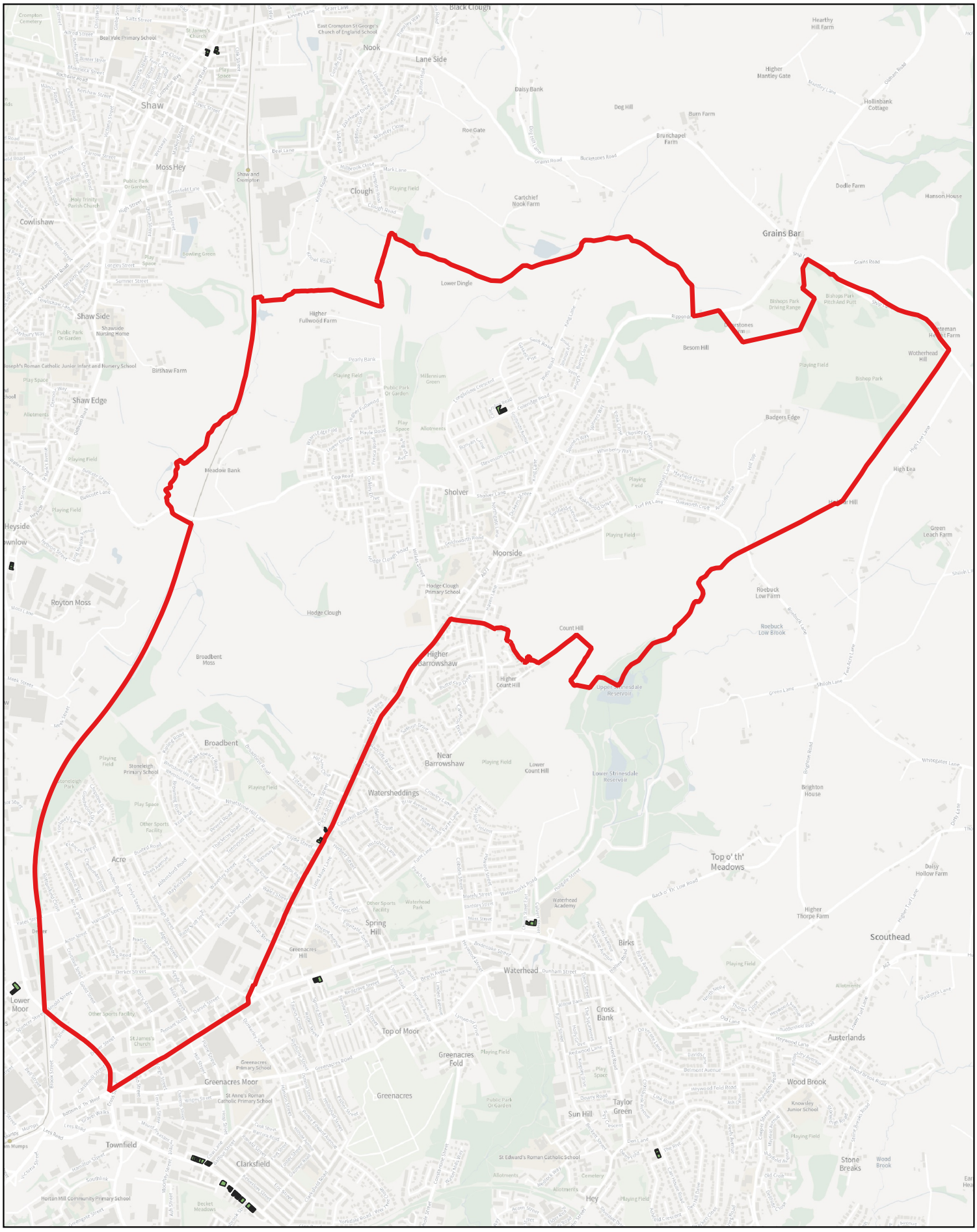

1:19,000

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Local Shopping Parades - St James'

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Local Shopping Parades - St Mary's

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Oldham
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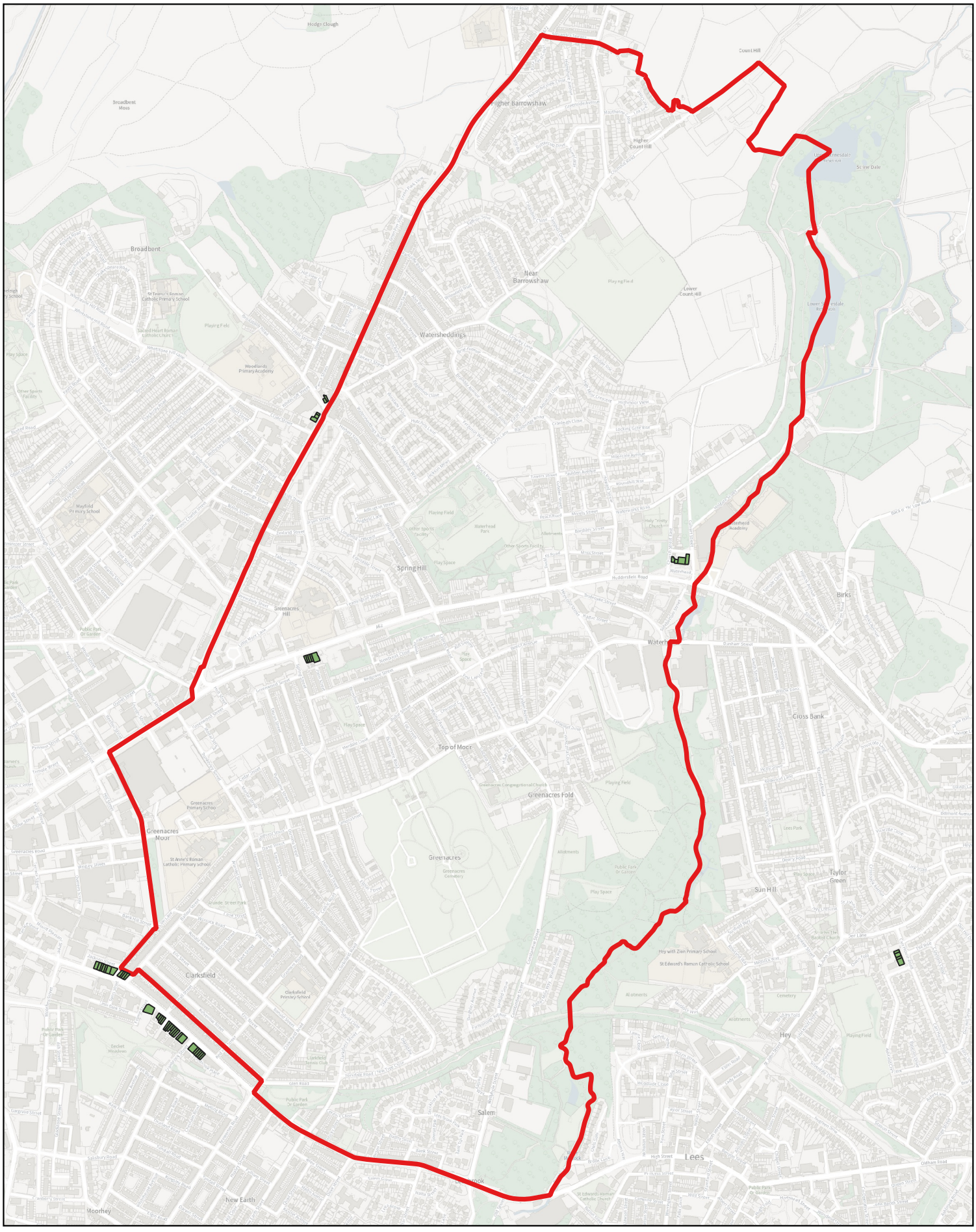

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Local Shopping Parades - Waterhead

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Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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Local Shopping Parades - Werneth

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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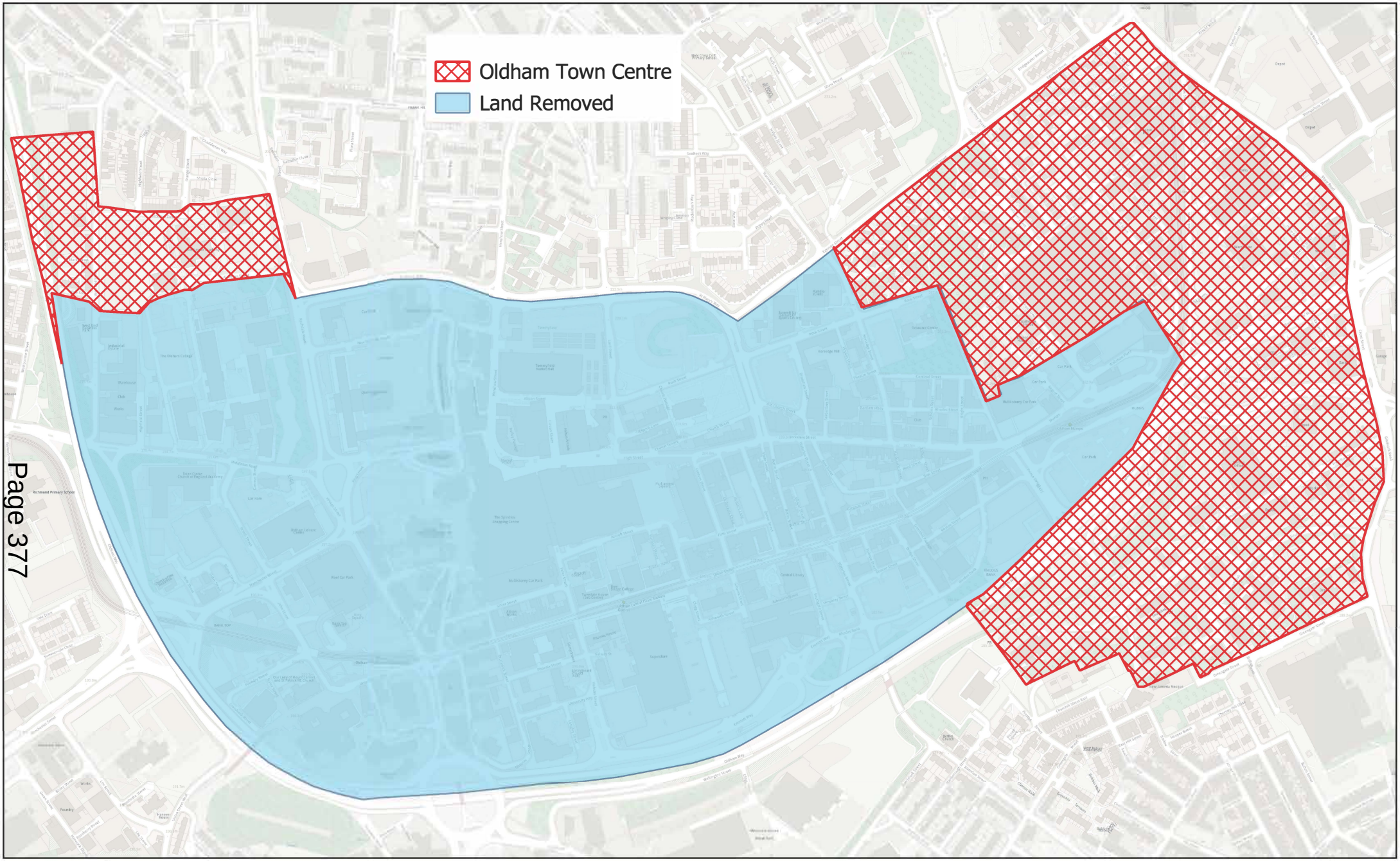
Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 6

January 2026

Oldham Council



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Division:	Planning
Date:	As published
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Boundary Amendment Oldham Town Centre

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:6,600

Oldham Council

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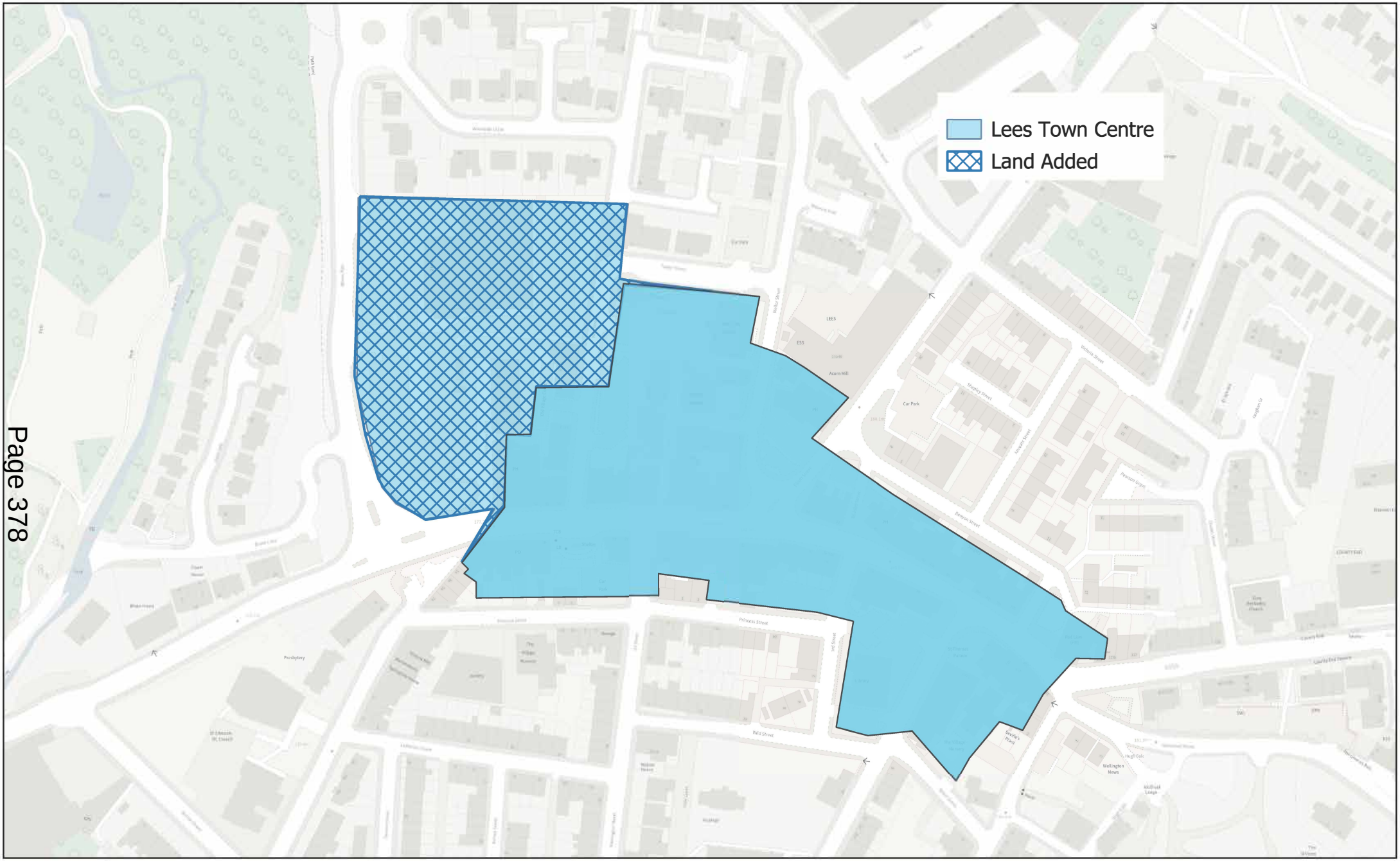

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Boundary Amendment Lees District Centre

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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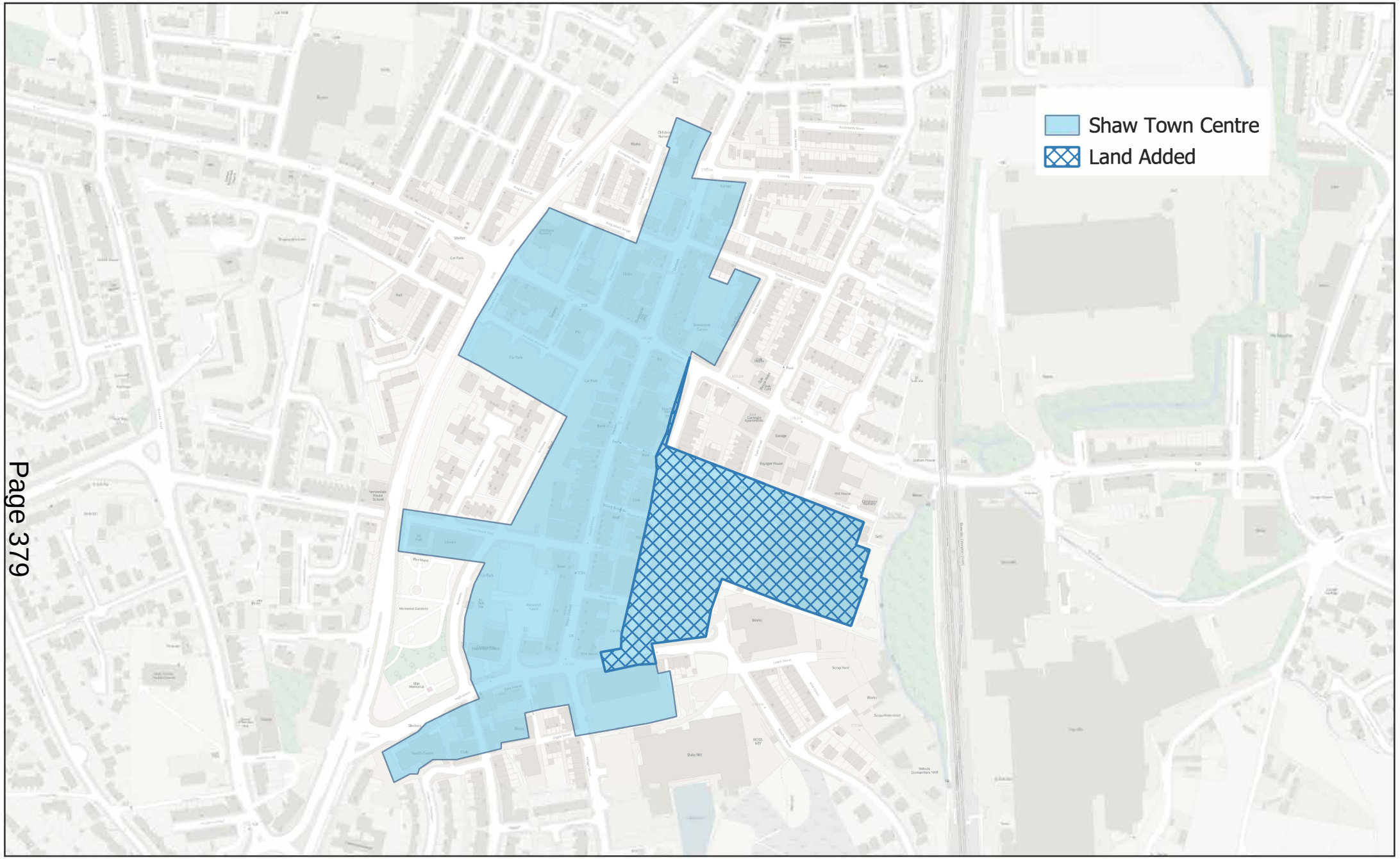

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Boundary Amendment Shaw District Centre

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,000

Oldham Council

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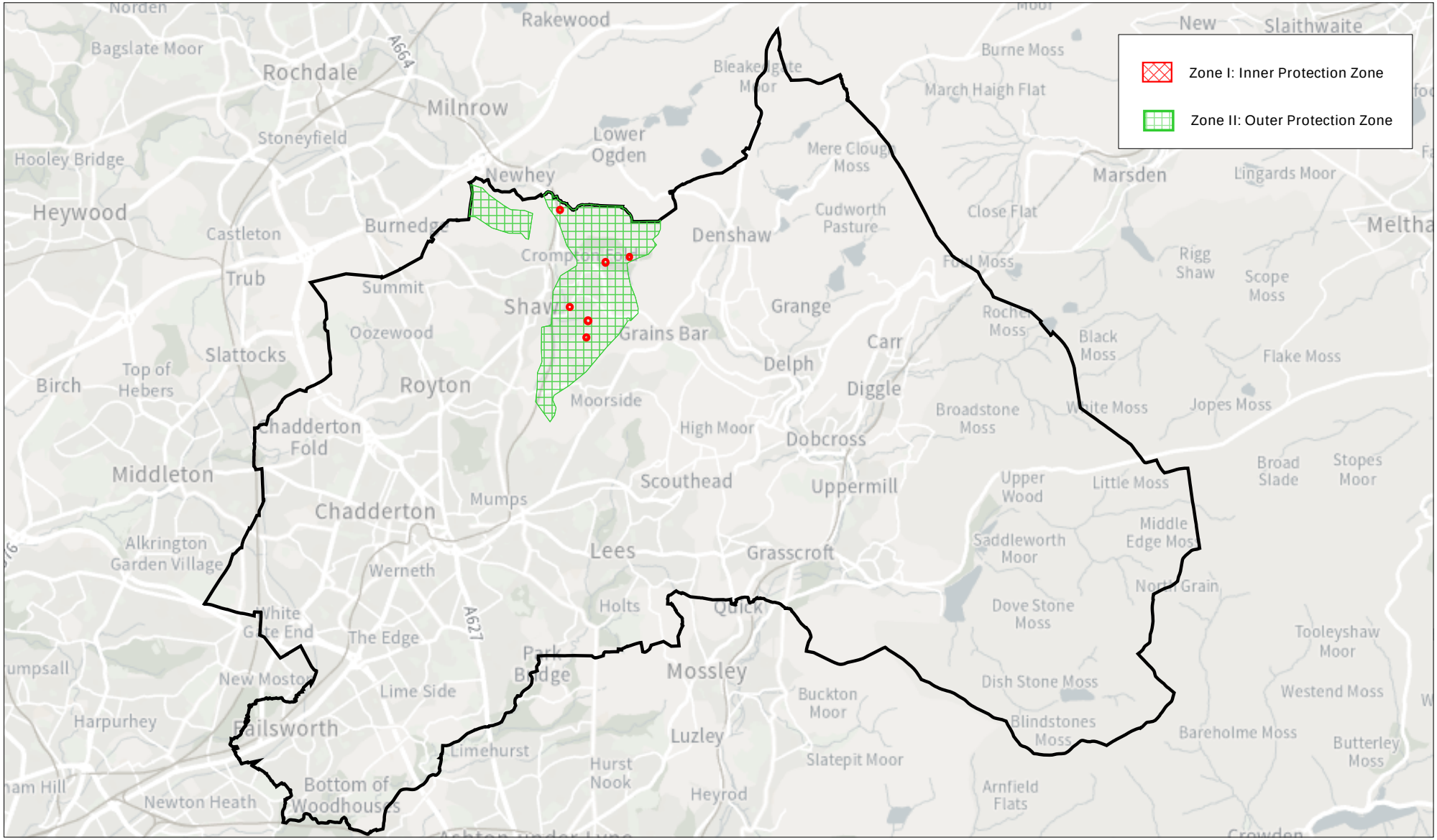
Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 7

January 2026

Oldham Council



Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs)

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Oldham Council

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendices 9-11

January 2026

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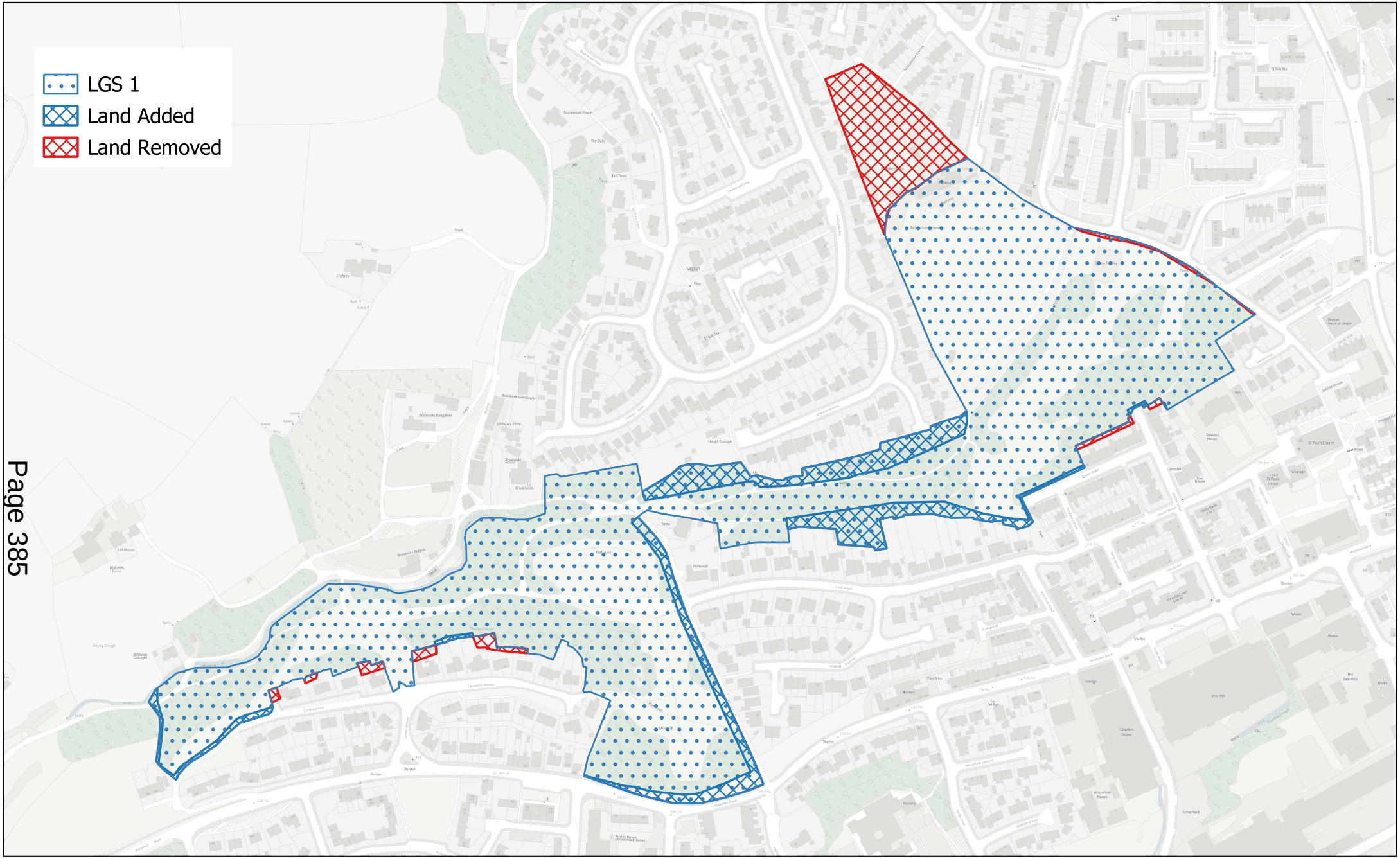
Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 9

January 2026

Oldham Council



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Boundary Amendment LGS 1

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,000

Oldham Council

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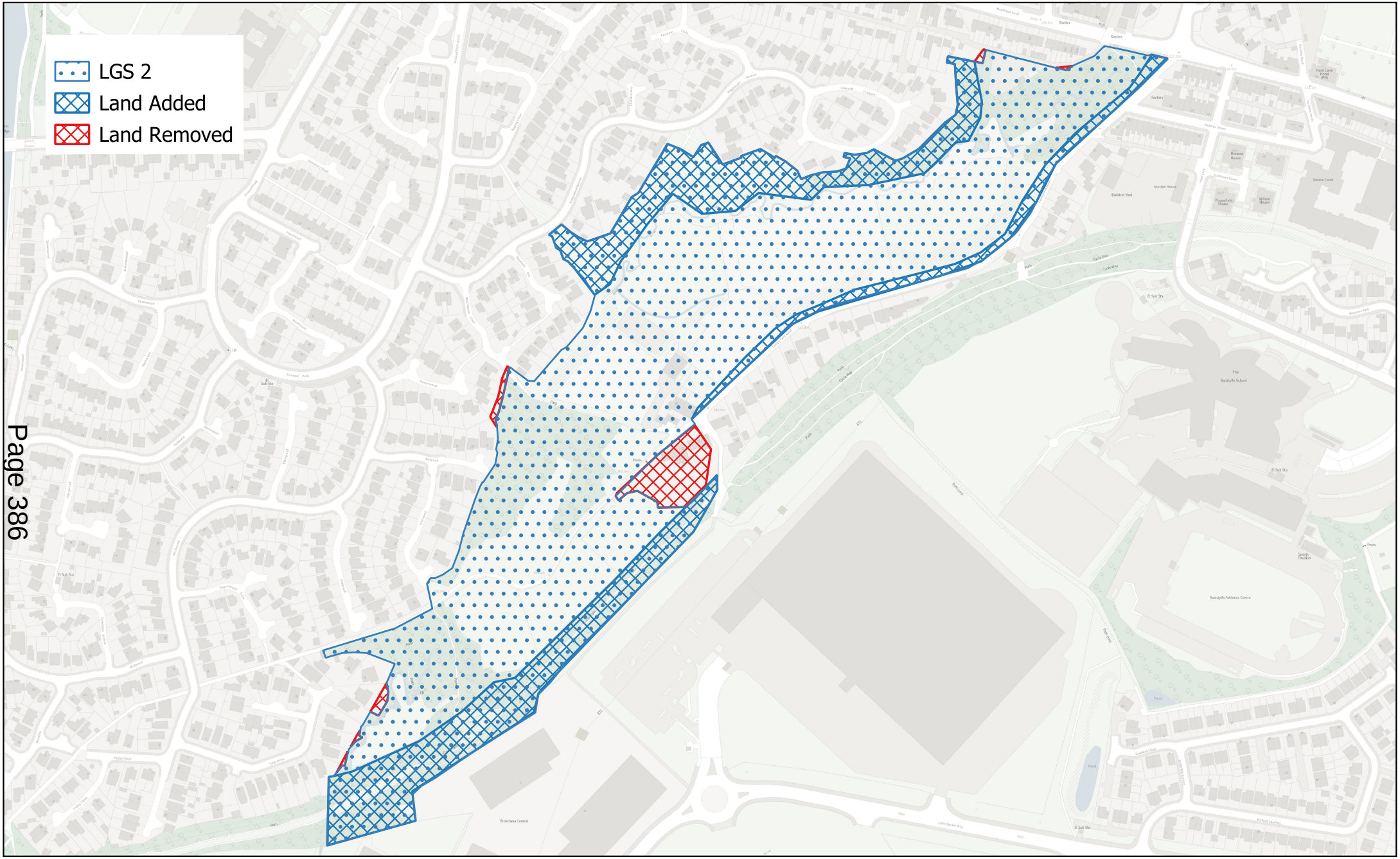

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Boundary Amendment LGS 2

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,000

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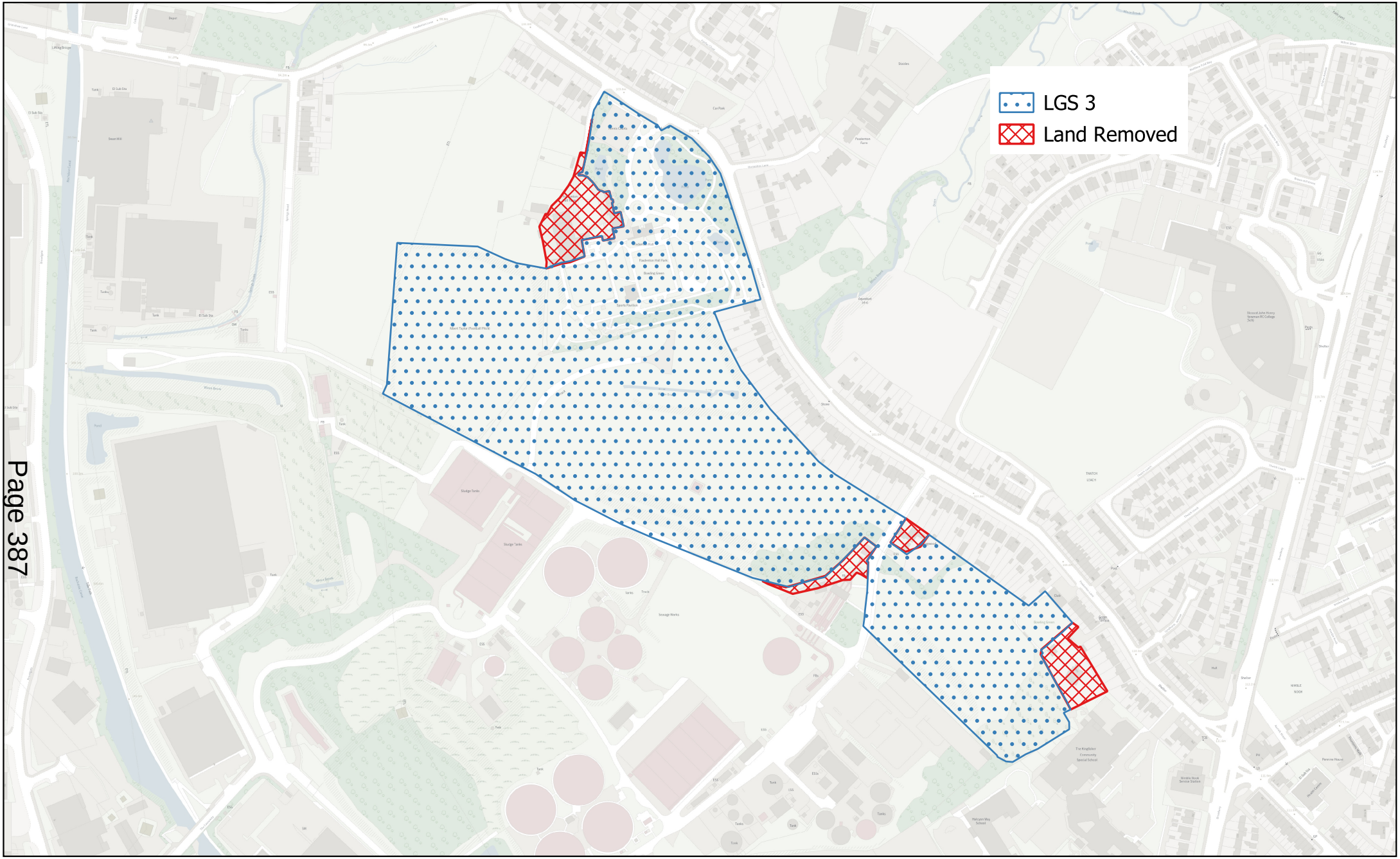

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Boundary Amendment LGS 3

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,500

Oldham Council

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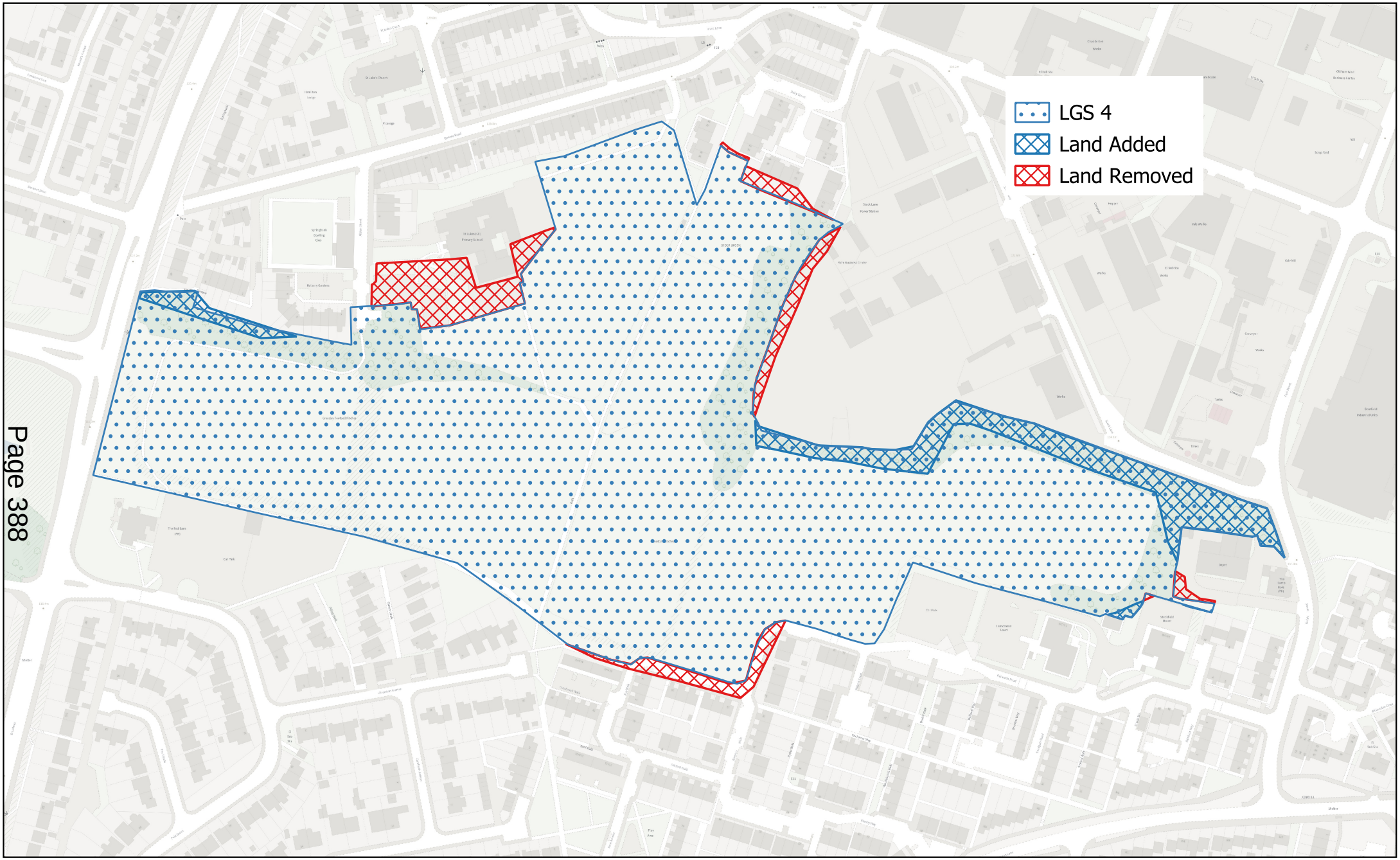

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Boundary Amendment LGS 4

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,901

Oldham Council

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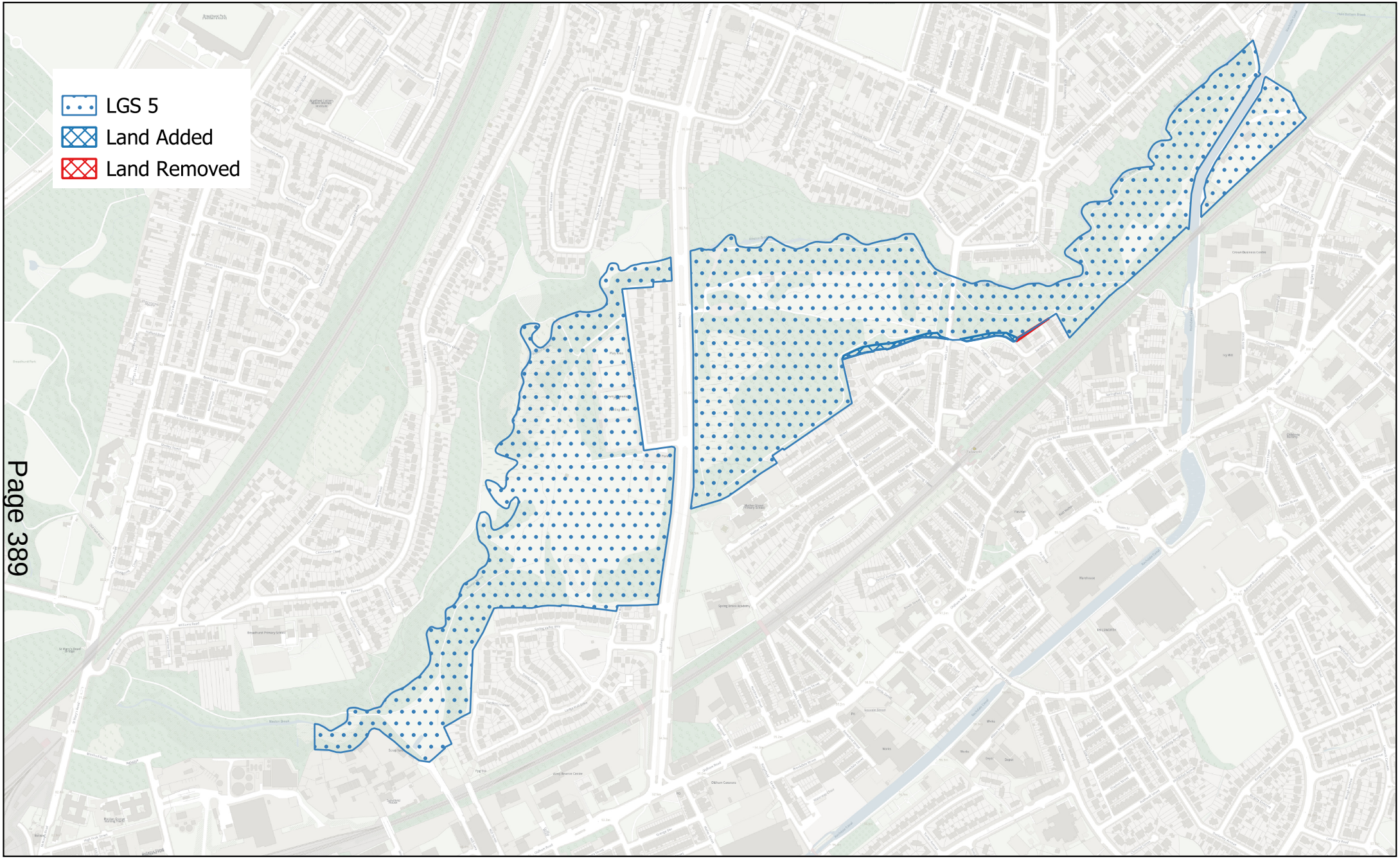

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Boundary Amendment LGS 5

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:7,500

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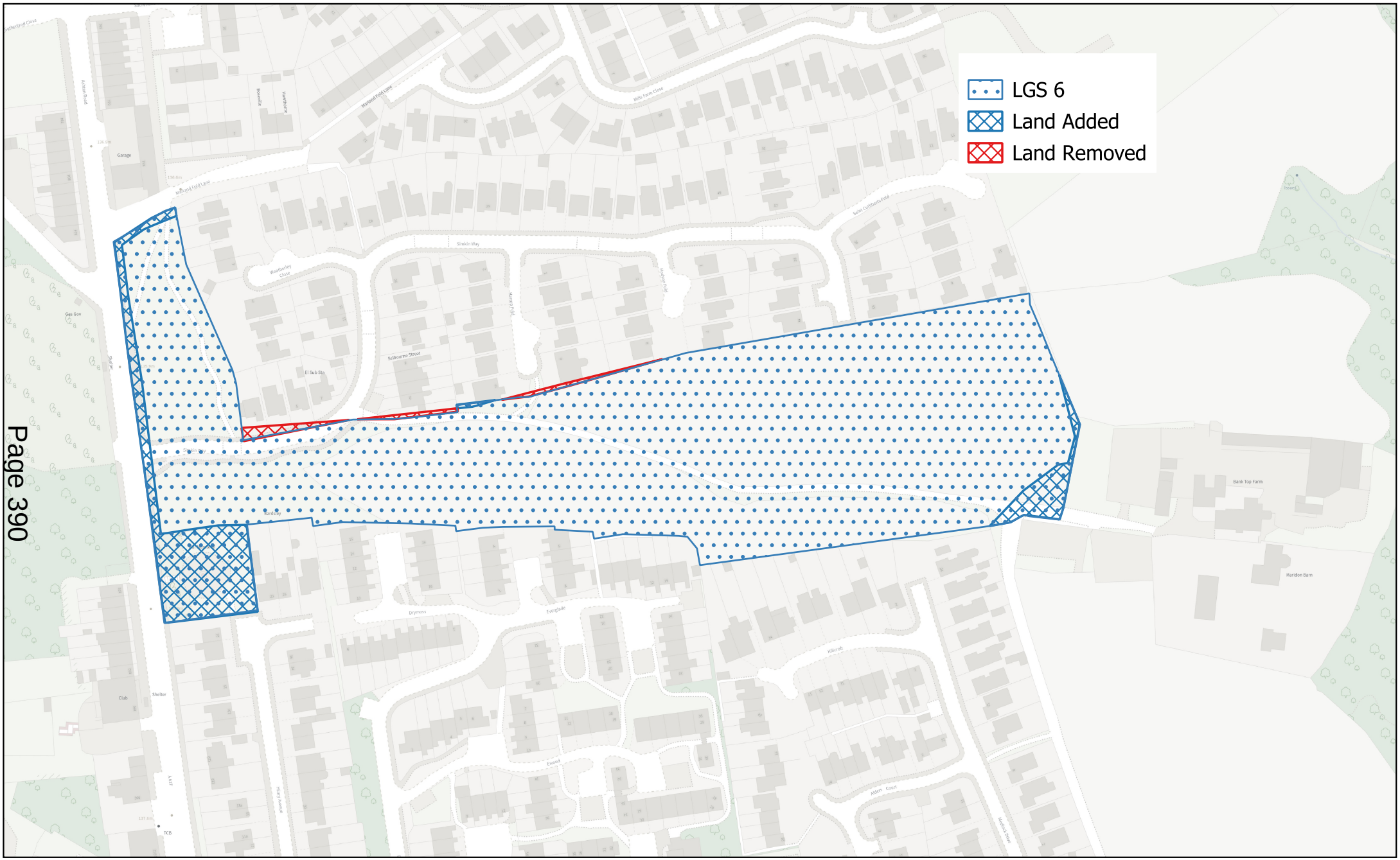

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Boundary Amendment LGS 6

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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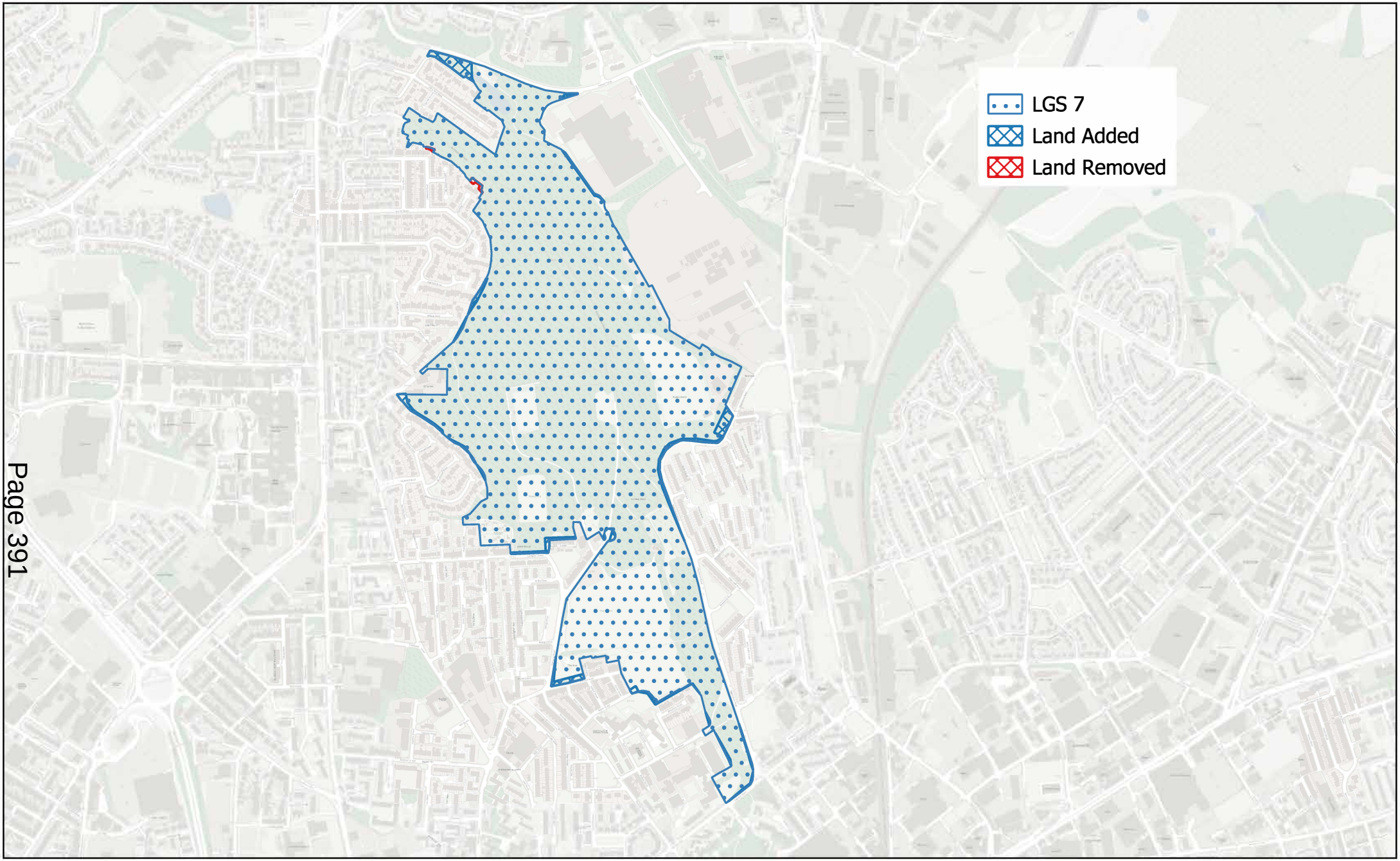

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Boundary Amendment LGS 7

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:11,000

Oldham Council

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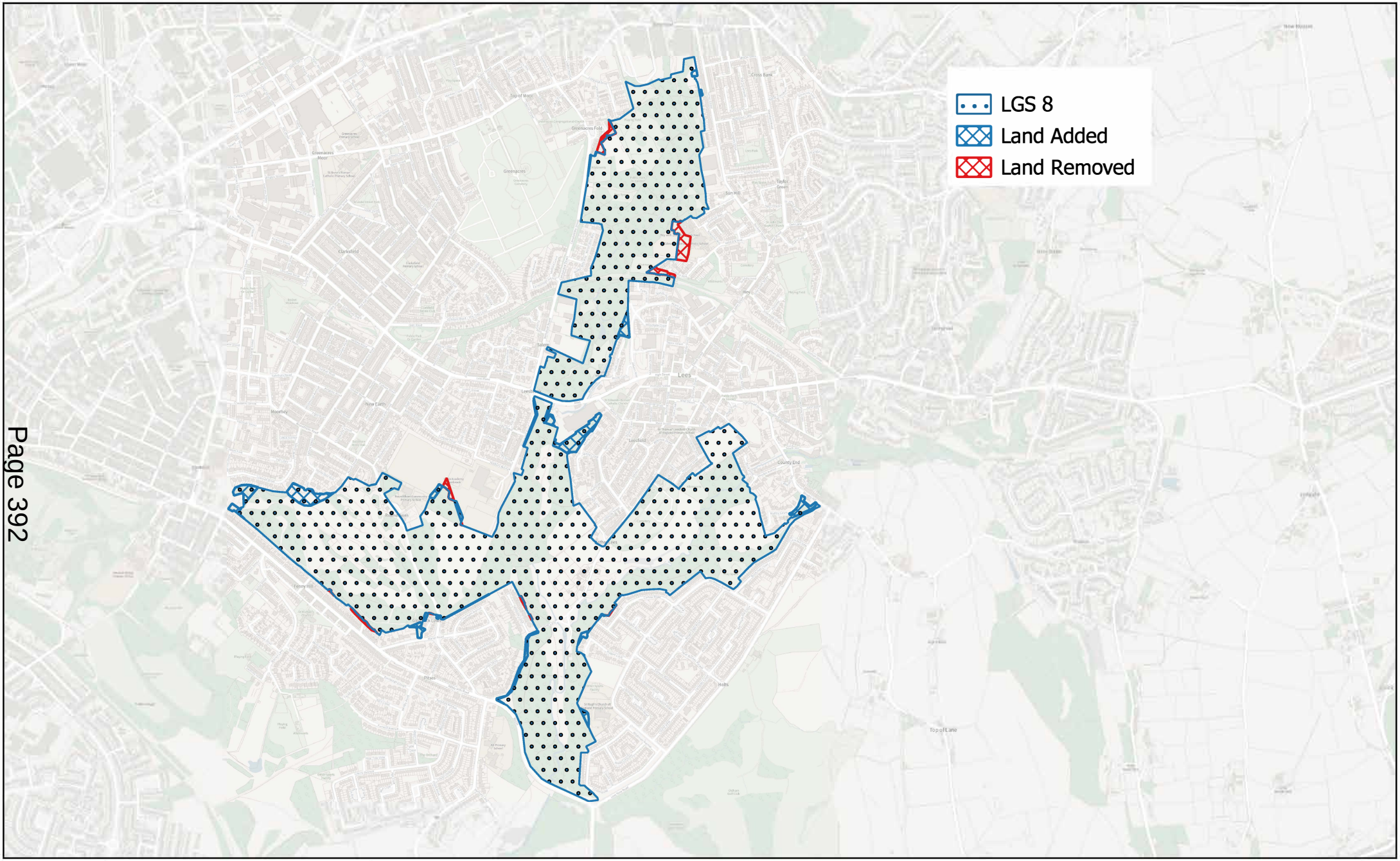

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Boundary Amendment LGS 8

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:16,000

Oldham Council

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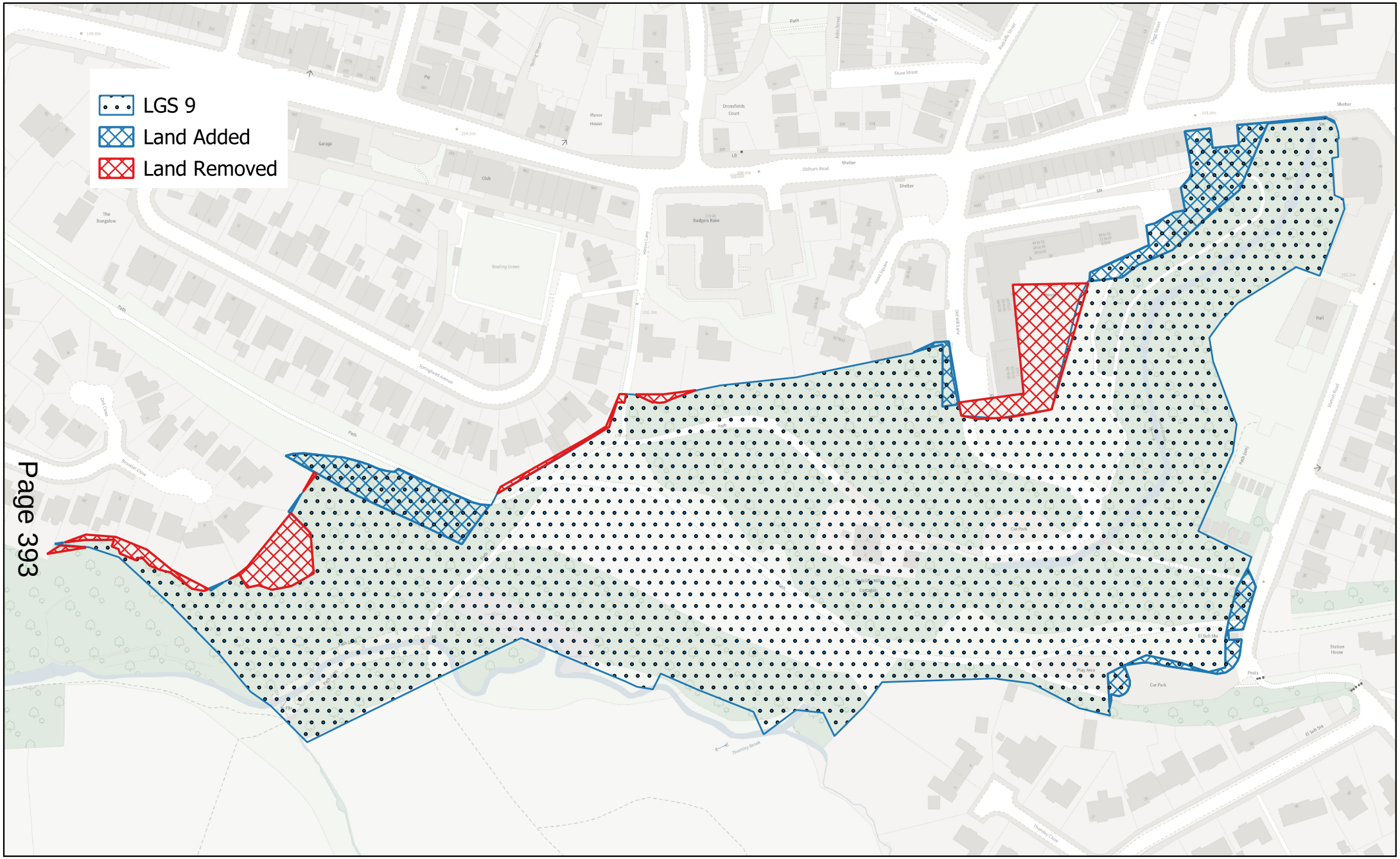

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Boundary Amendment LGS 9

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

Oldham Council

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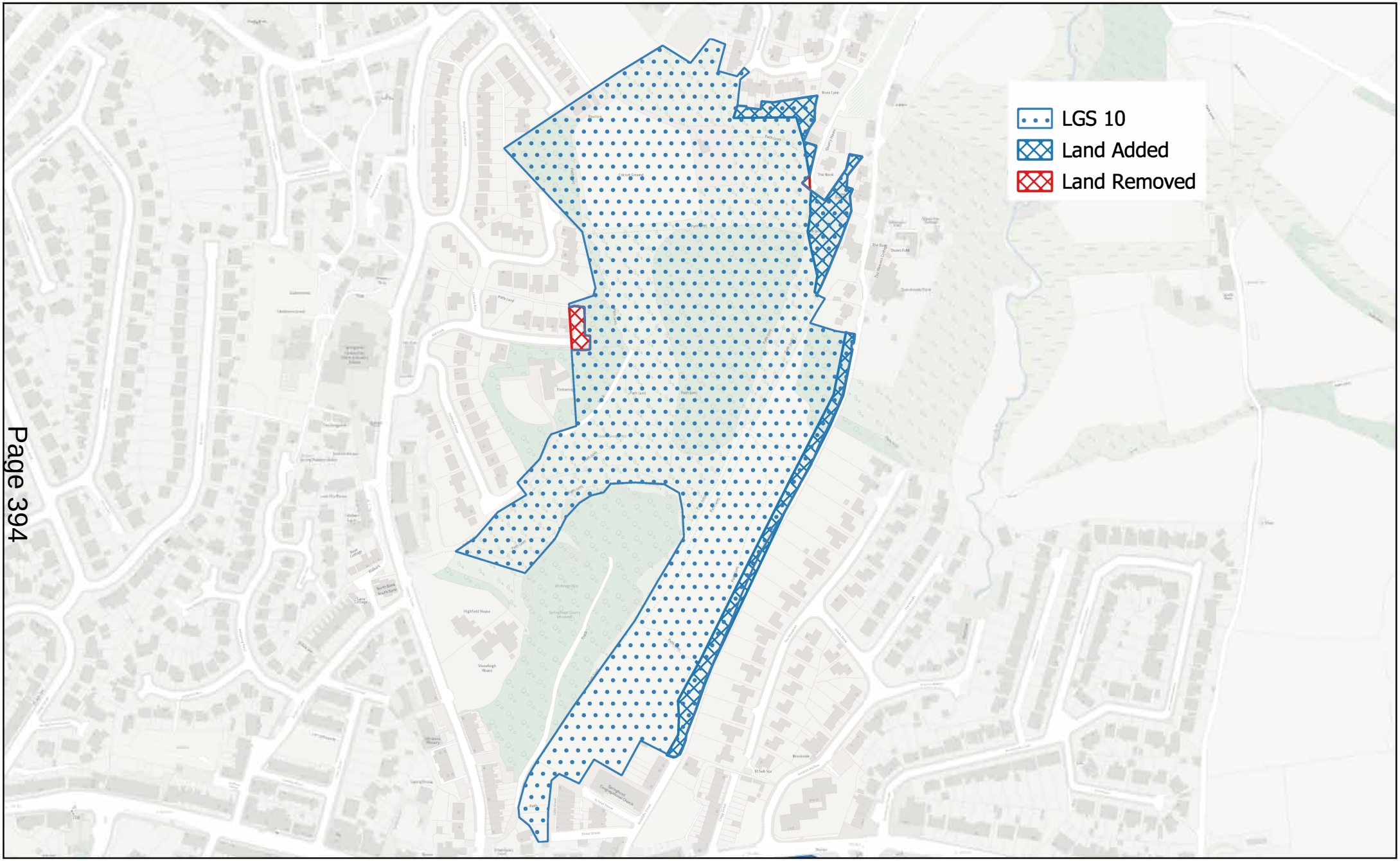

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Boundary Amendment LGS 10

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,800

Oldham Council

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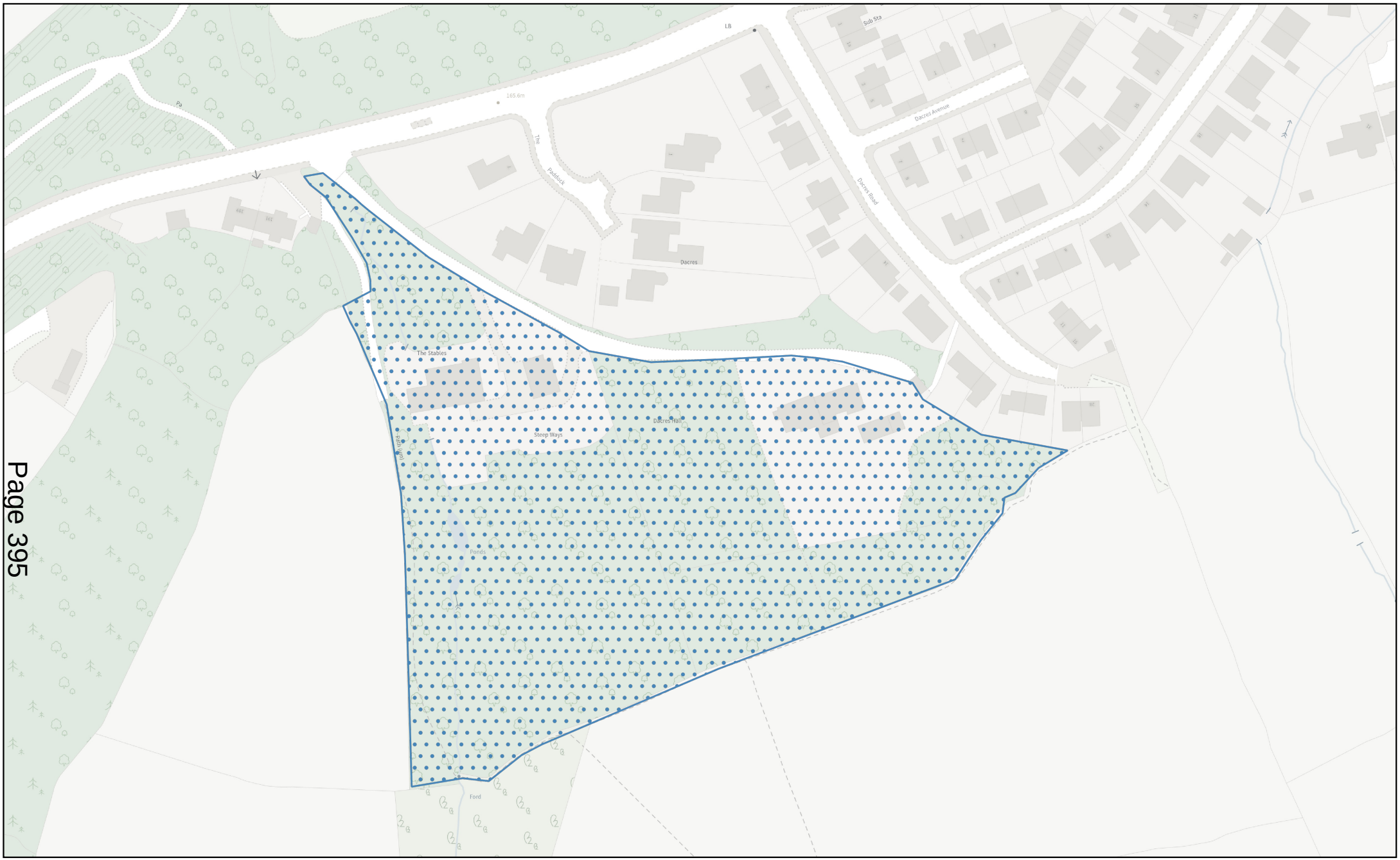

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OPOL 14 now LGS 11

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,550

Oldham Council

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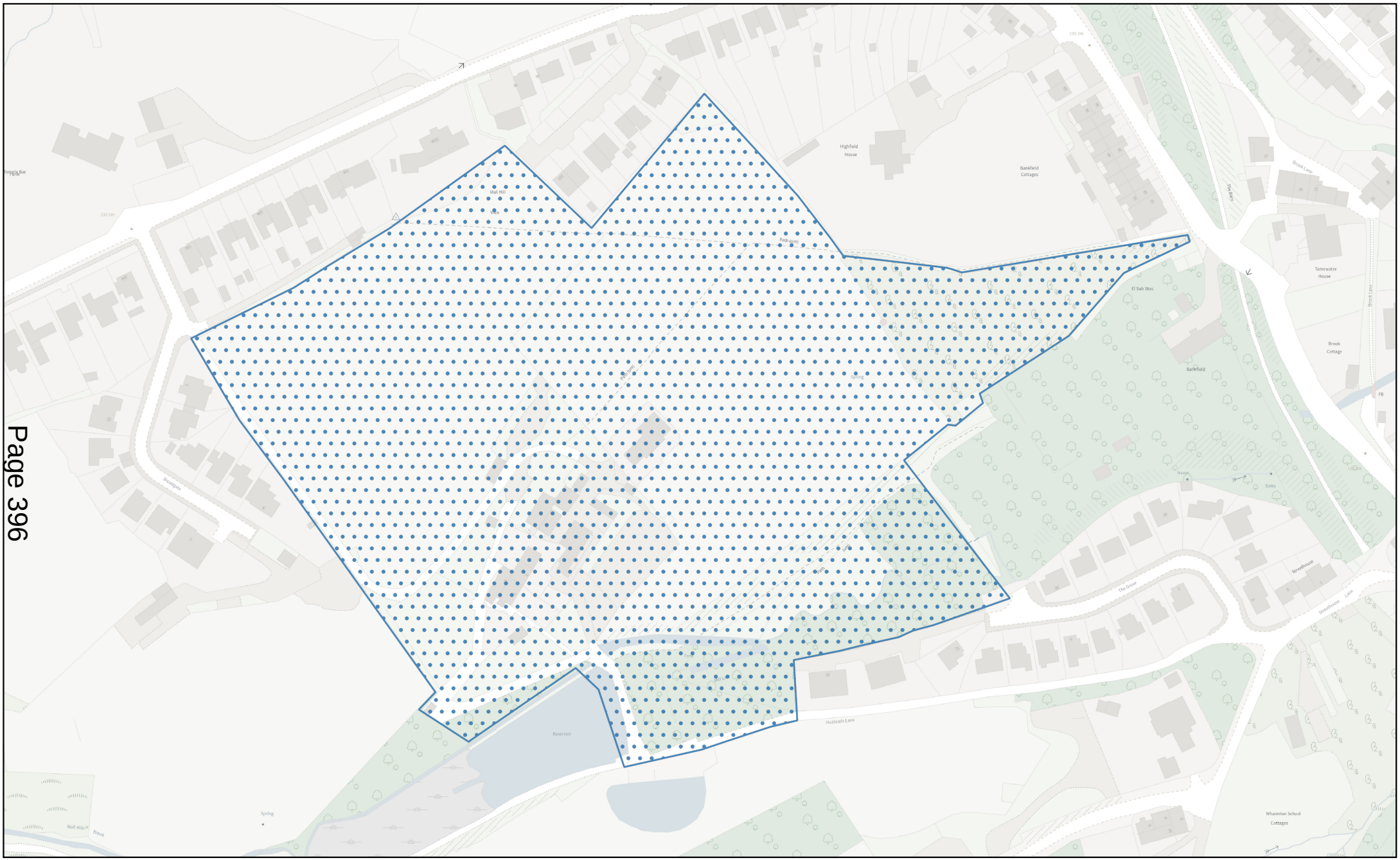

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OPOL 15 now LGS 12

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

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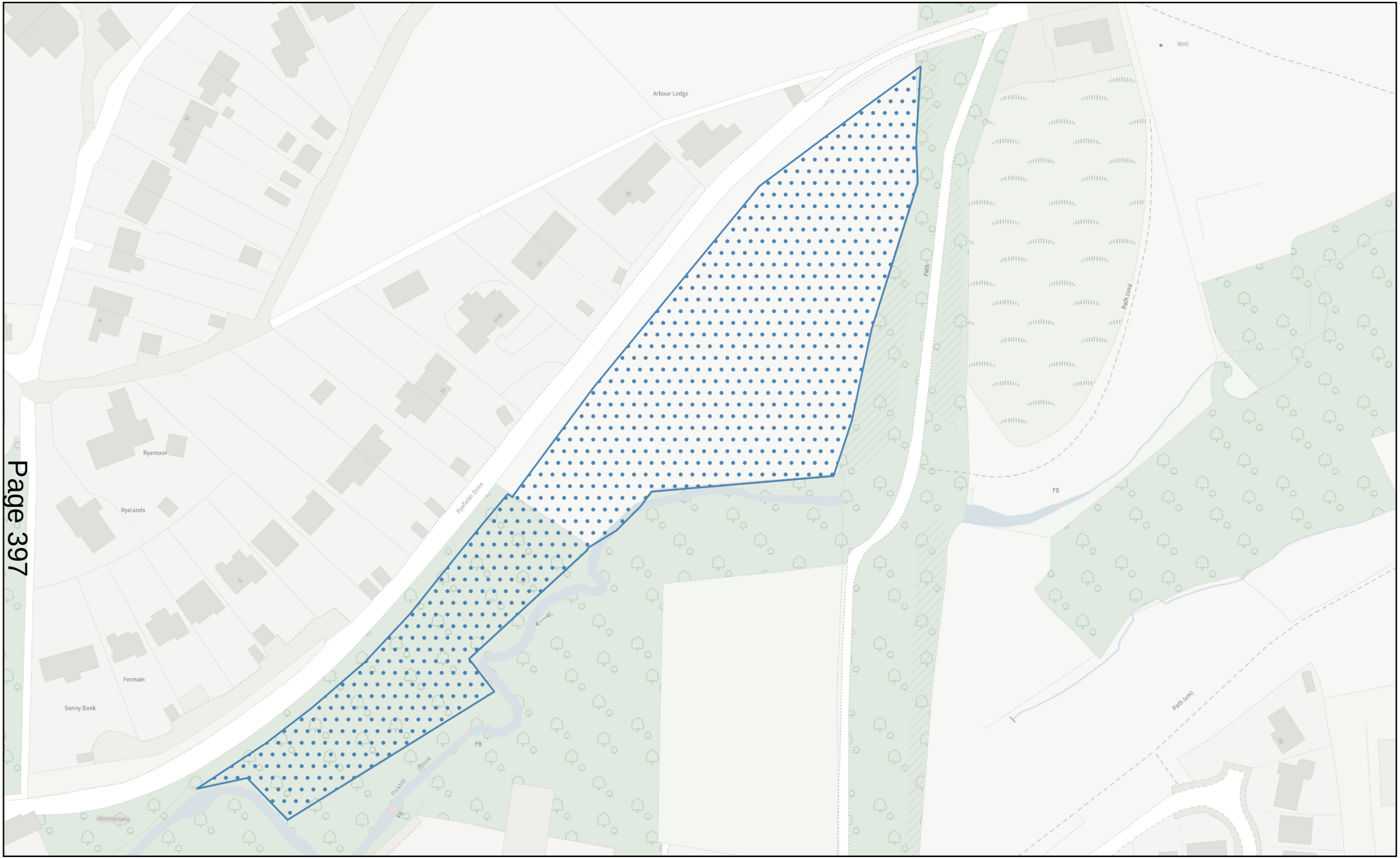

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OPOL 16 now LGS 13

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,487

Oldham Council

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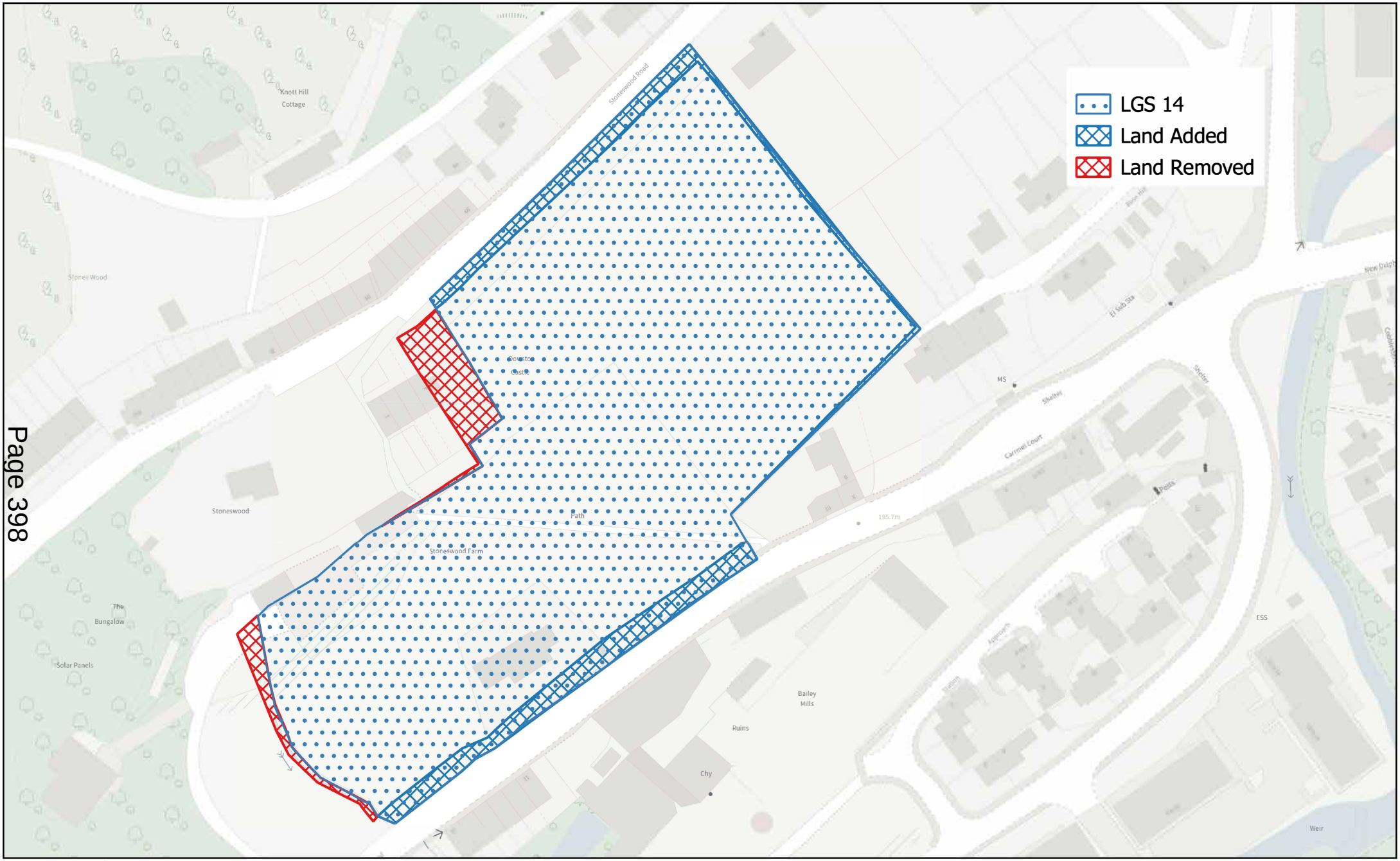

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Boundary Amendment LGS 14

Oldham Council
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West Street
Oldham
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1:1,300

Oldham Council

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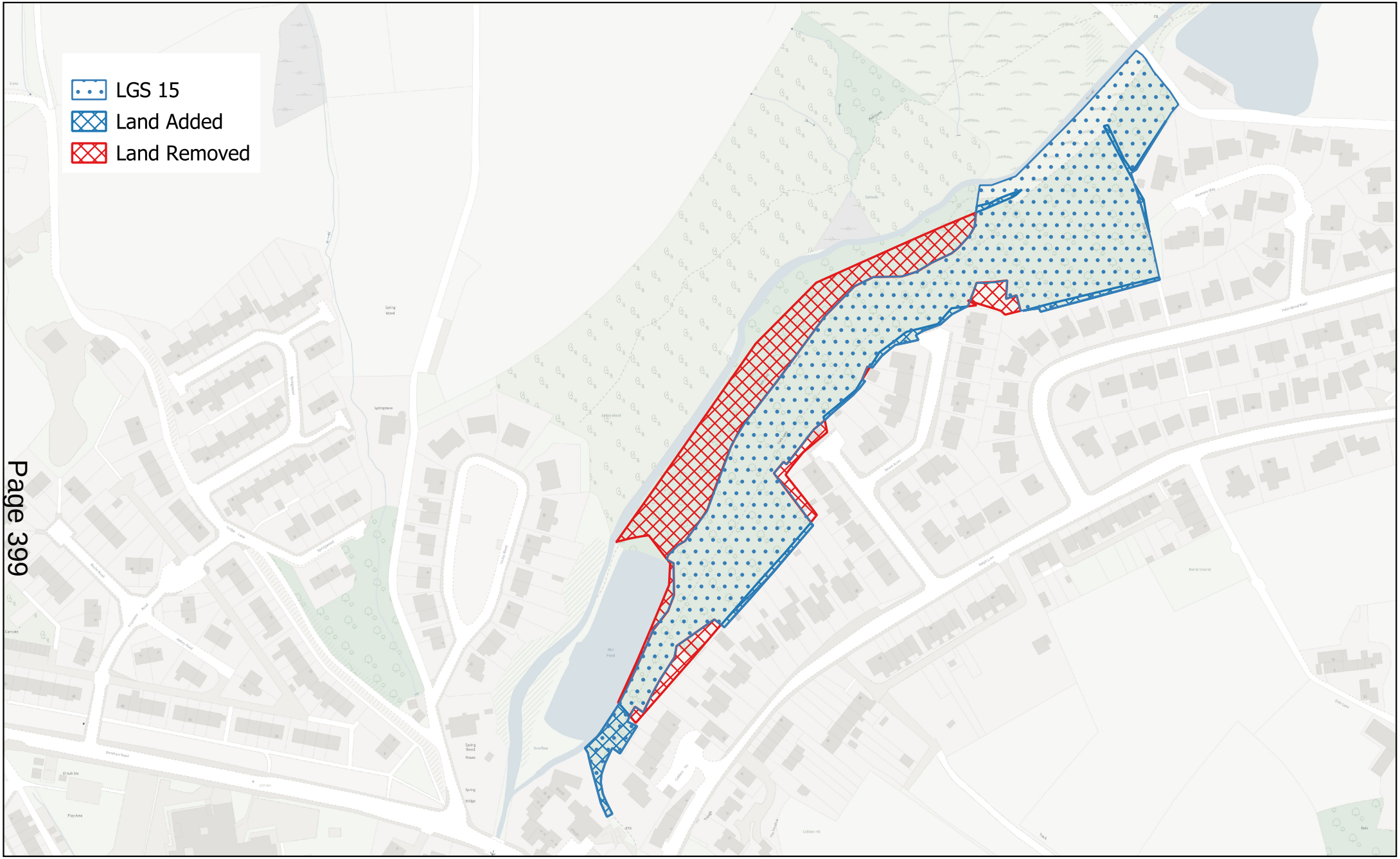

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Boundary Amendment LGS 15

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,500

Oldham Council

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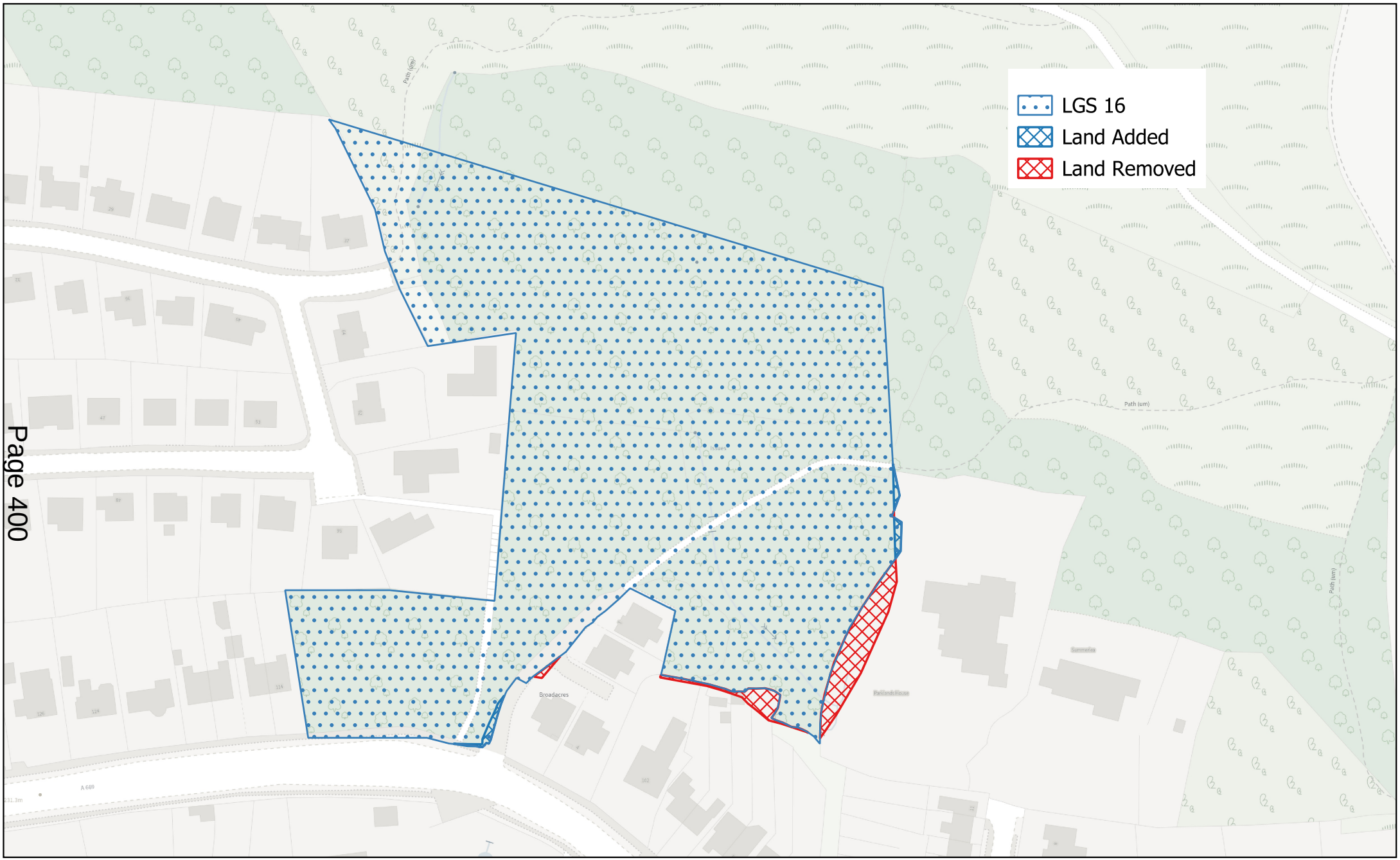

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Boundary Amendment LGS 16

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

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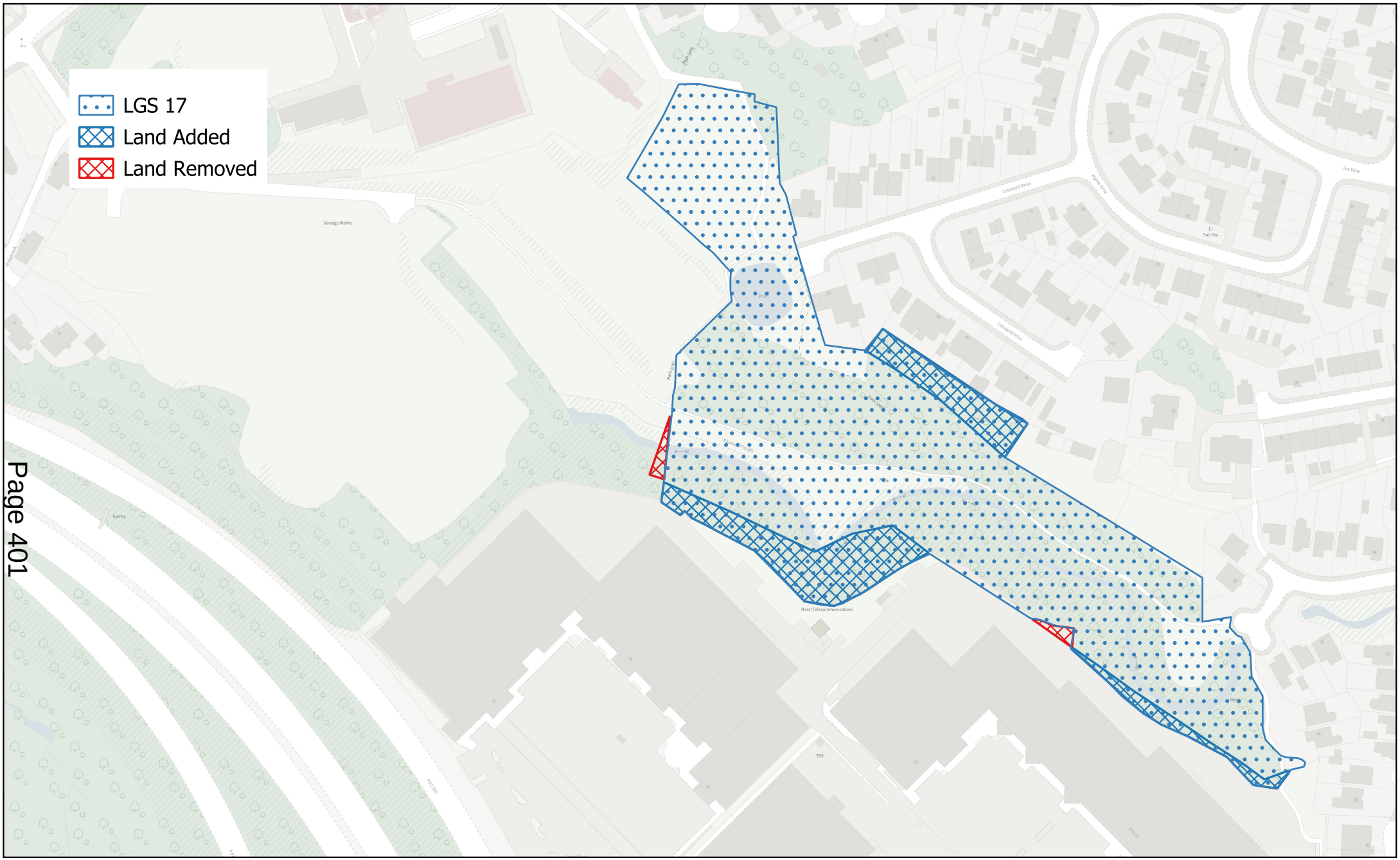

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Boundary Amendment LGS 17

Oldham Council
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Publication Plan : Appendix 10

January 2026

Oldham Council

Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) in Oldham (2022)

Site of Biological Importance name	Grade
Armit Road Lodge	C
Alphin Pike & Buckton Moor (North)	A
Bankfield Clough	B
Boardman's Edge	B
Brookdale Golf Course	C
Brookdale Clough (East)	C
Crime Lake & Fairbottom Branch Canal	B
Crompton Moor (South)	A
Crompton Fold Wood	C
Castleshaw Pasture	B
Dacres	A
Daisy Nook (West)	B
Dick Clough	B
Dark Peak Moors (Peak Park)	A
Fennifield Lily Ponds	C
Fields by White Brook	C
Huddersfield Narrow Canal (North)	B
Grasscroft Pasture	B
Hunt Lane	C
Hull Brook	A
Hey Bank	B
Jericho Clough	C
Ladcastle Heath	B
Meadow North of Moss Gate	C
Medlock Vale & Lumb Clough (North)	C

Moorgate Quarry	B
Medlock Headwater & Strinesdale	B
Oozewood Flushes	A
Ponds at Cowlishaw Farm	B
River Irk Marsh	B
Rochdale Canal, Lock at Scowcroft Farm - Stott's Lane	A
Rocher Vale (North)	C
Rowton Clough	A
Royal George	B
Shaw Side	C
Slackcote Valley	A
South Pennine Moors (South)	A
Sudden Brook (East)	B
Tame Water Woodland	C
Tandle Hill Country Park	B

Oldham Local Plan

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Oldham Council



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De-designation of Ashton Road / Simkin Way Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,600

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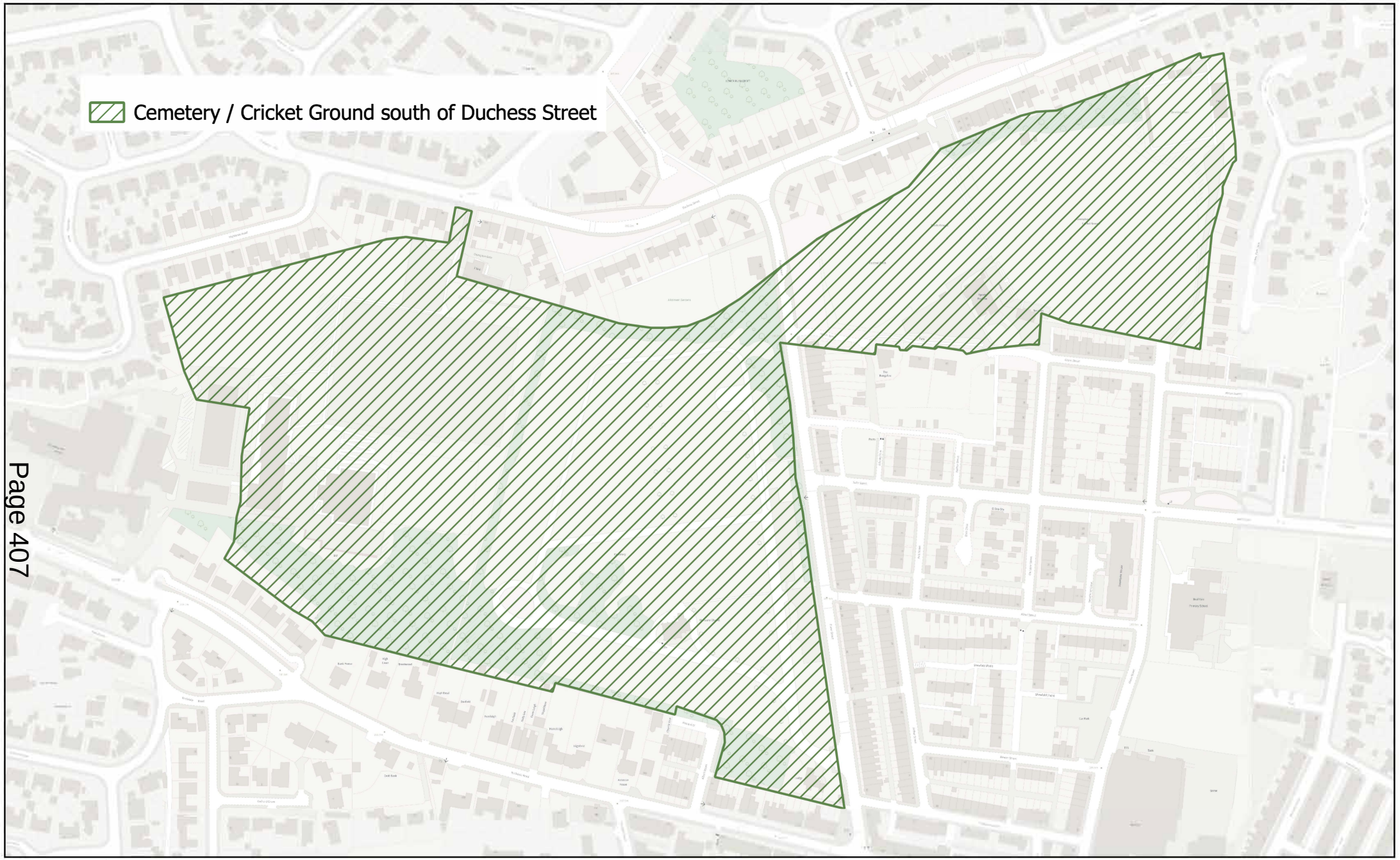

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Date:	As published
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De-designation of Cemetery / Cricket Ground south of Duchess Street Green Corridors and Links

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West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,200

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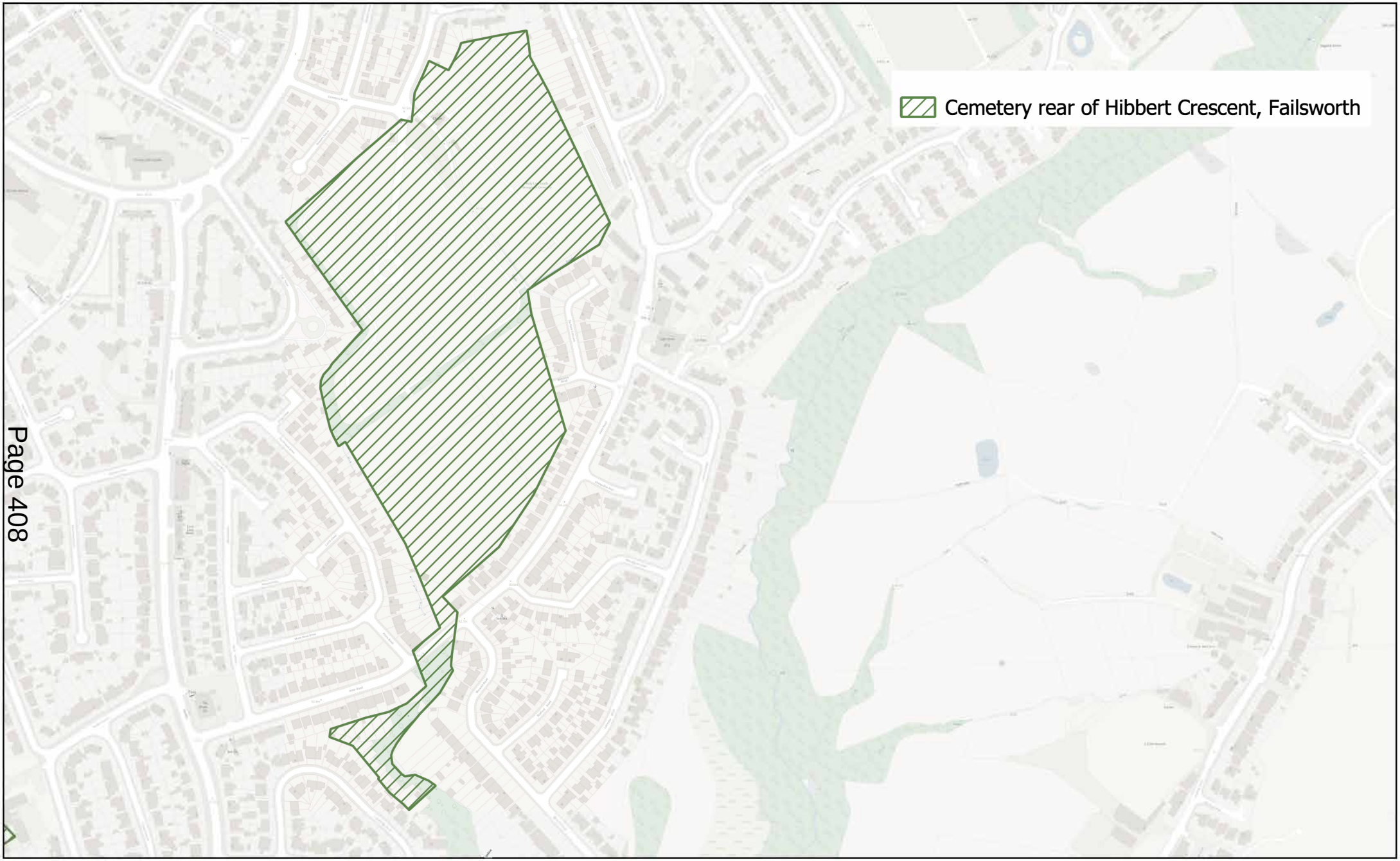

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De-designation of Cemetery rear of Hibbert Crescent, Failsworth Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,500

Oldham Council

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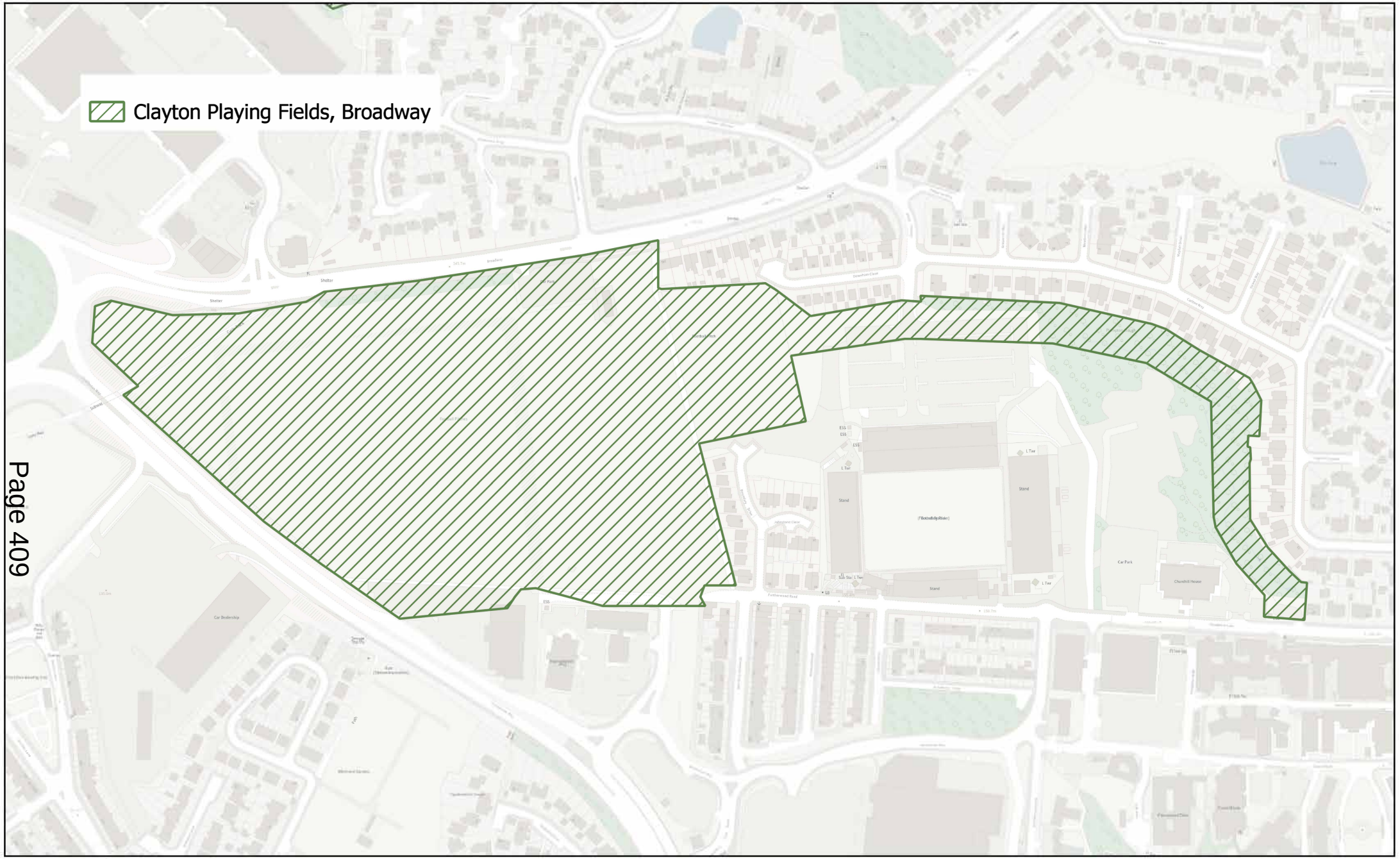

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De-designation of Clayton Playing Fields, Broadway Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:3,700

Oldham Council

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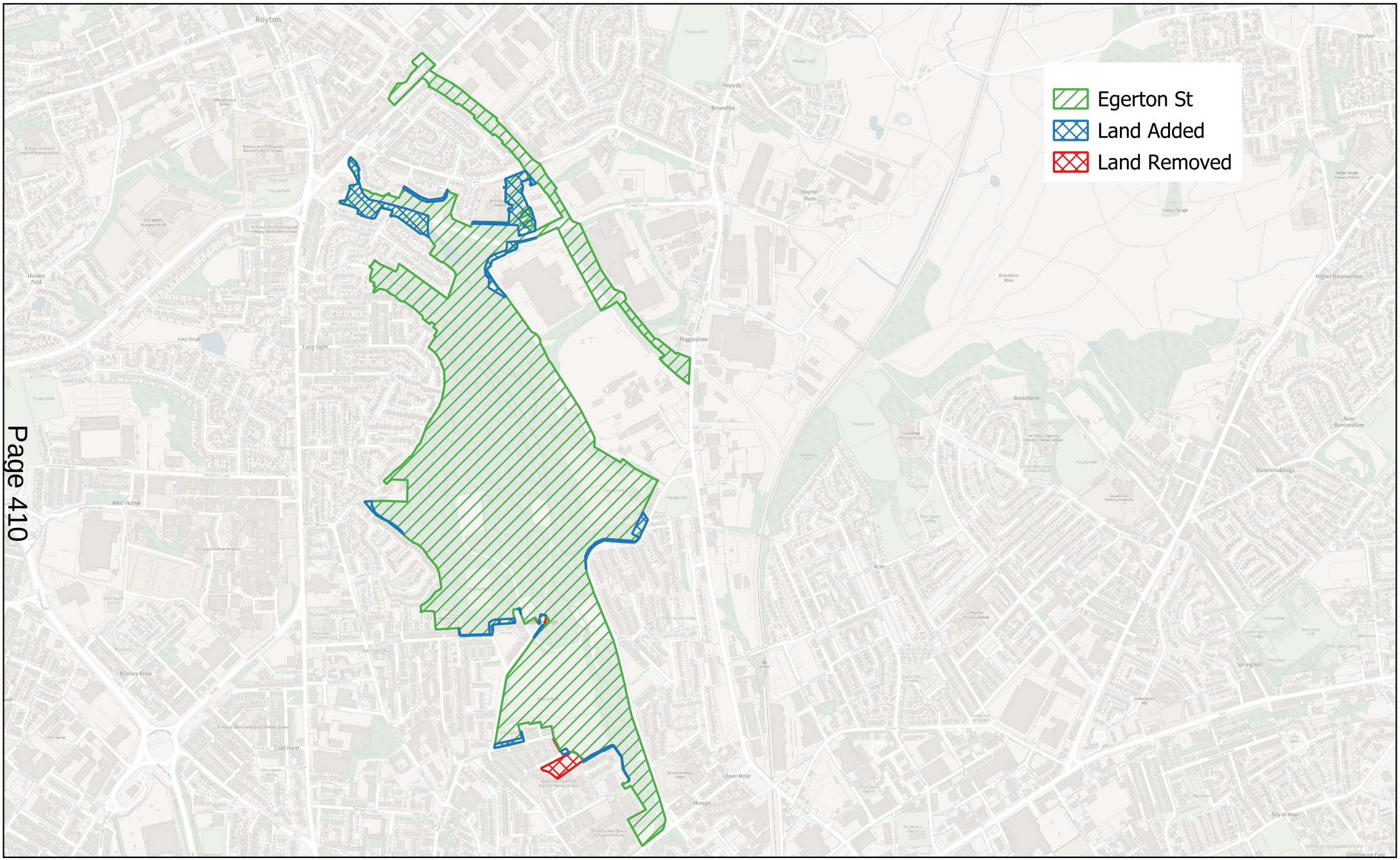

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Egerton Street Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:13,000

Oldham Council

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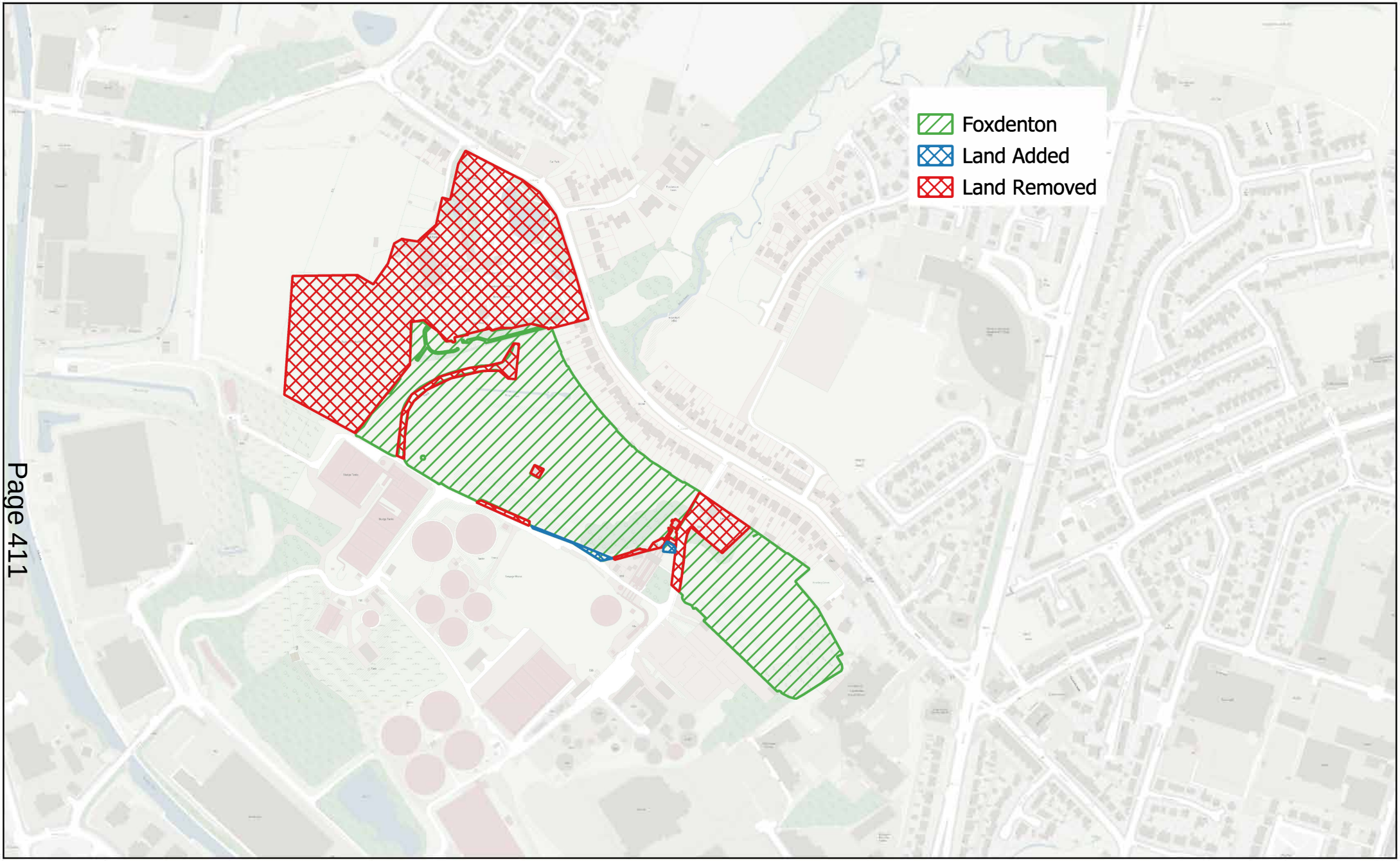

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Date:	As published
Drawing No.	

Foxdenton Hall Park Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:5,500

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De-designation of High Crompton Park, Rushcroft Road Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,800

Oldham Council

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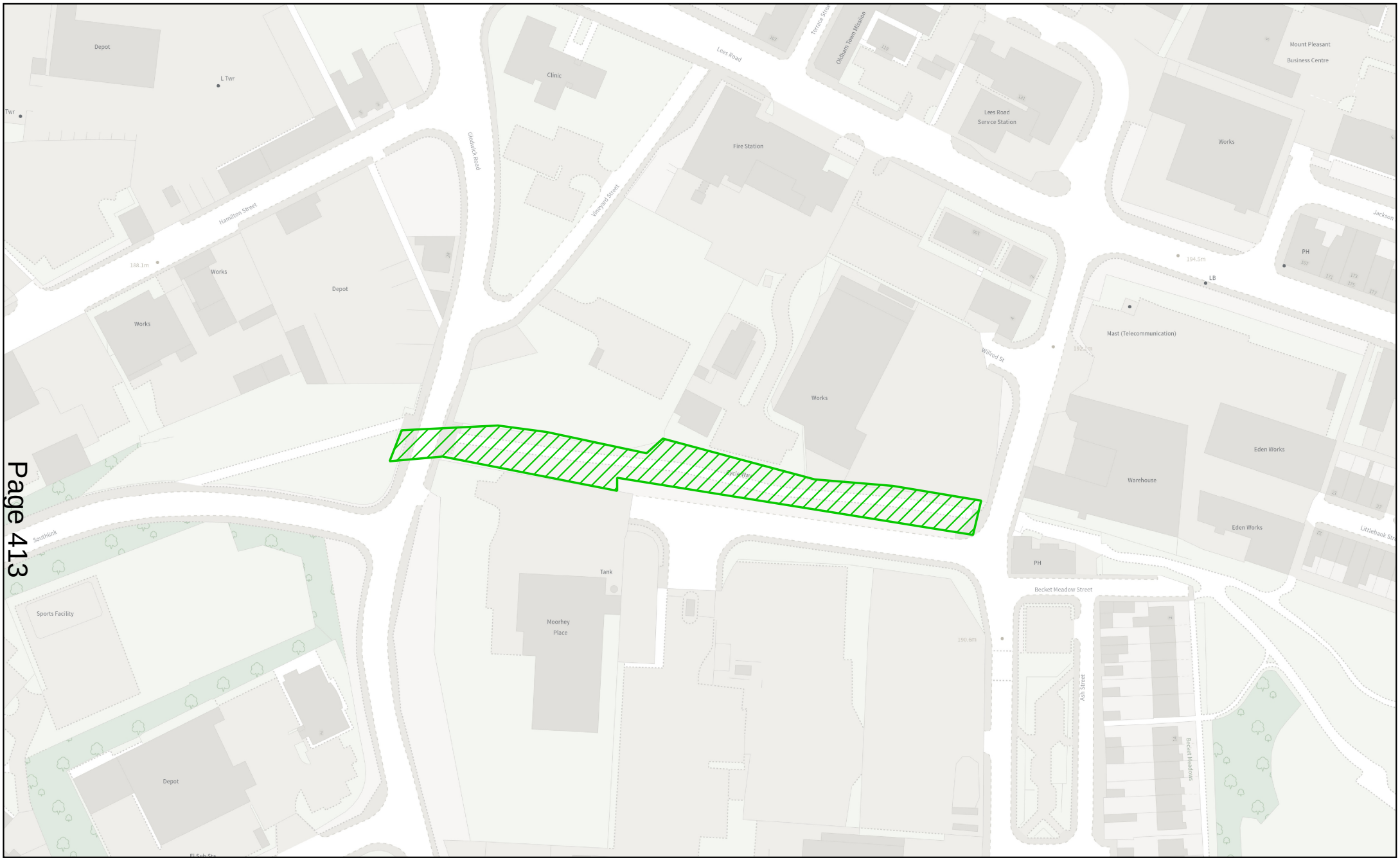

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Drawing No.	

De-designation of Lees New Road to Greenacres Road Green Corridors and Links

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Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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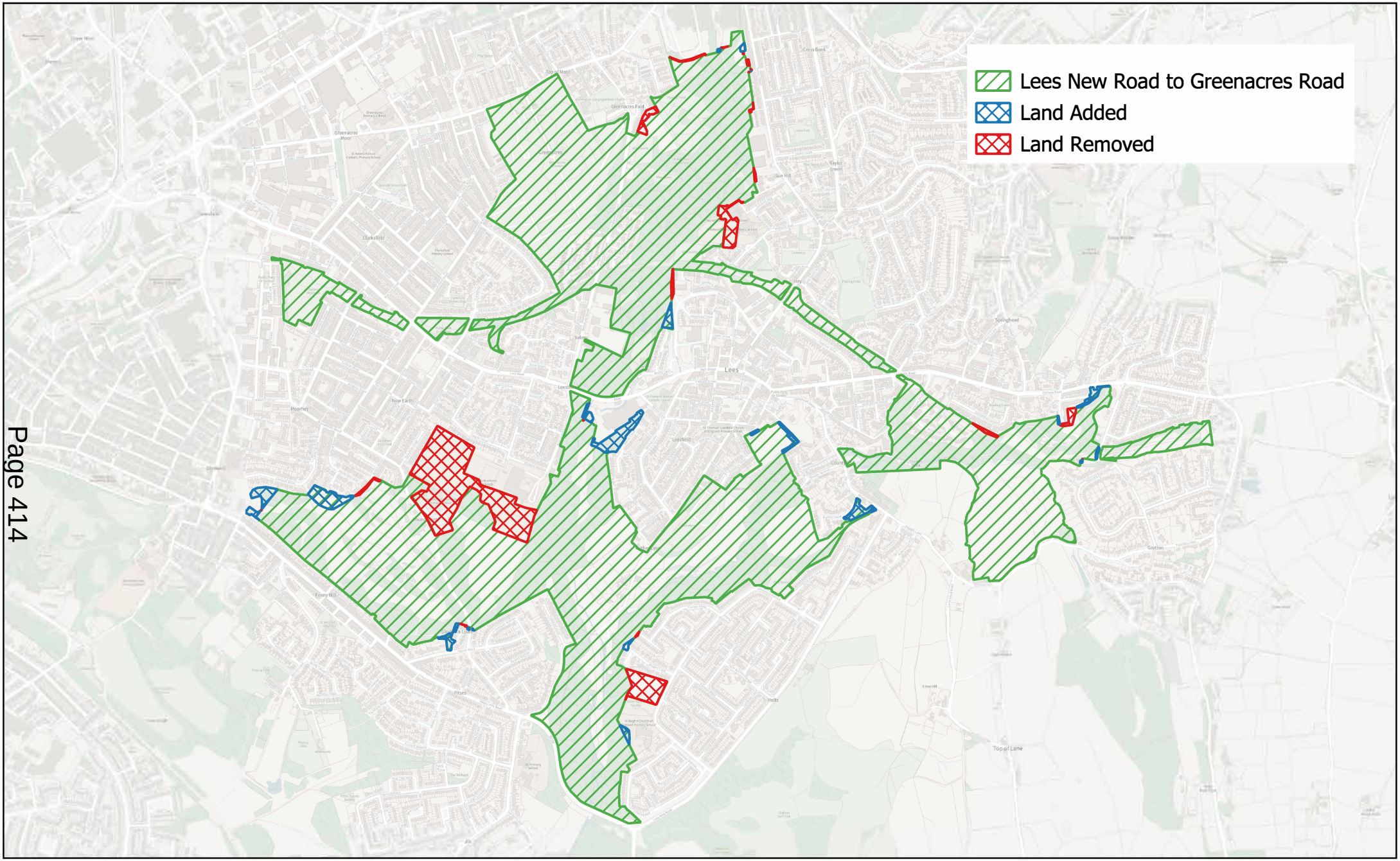

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Lees New Road to Greenacres Road (1) Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:15,000

Oldham Council

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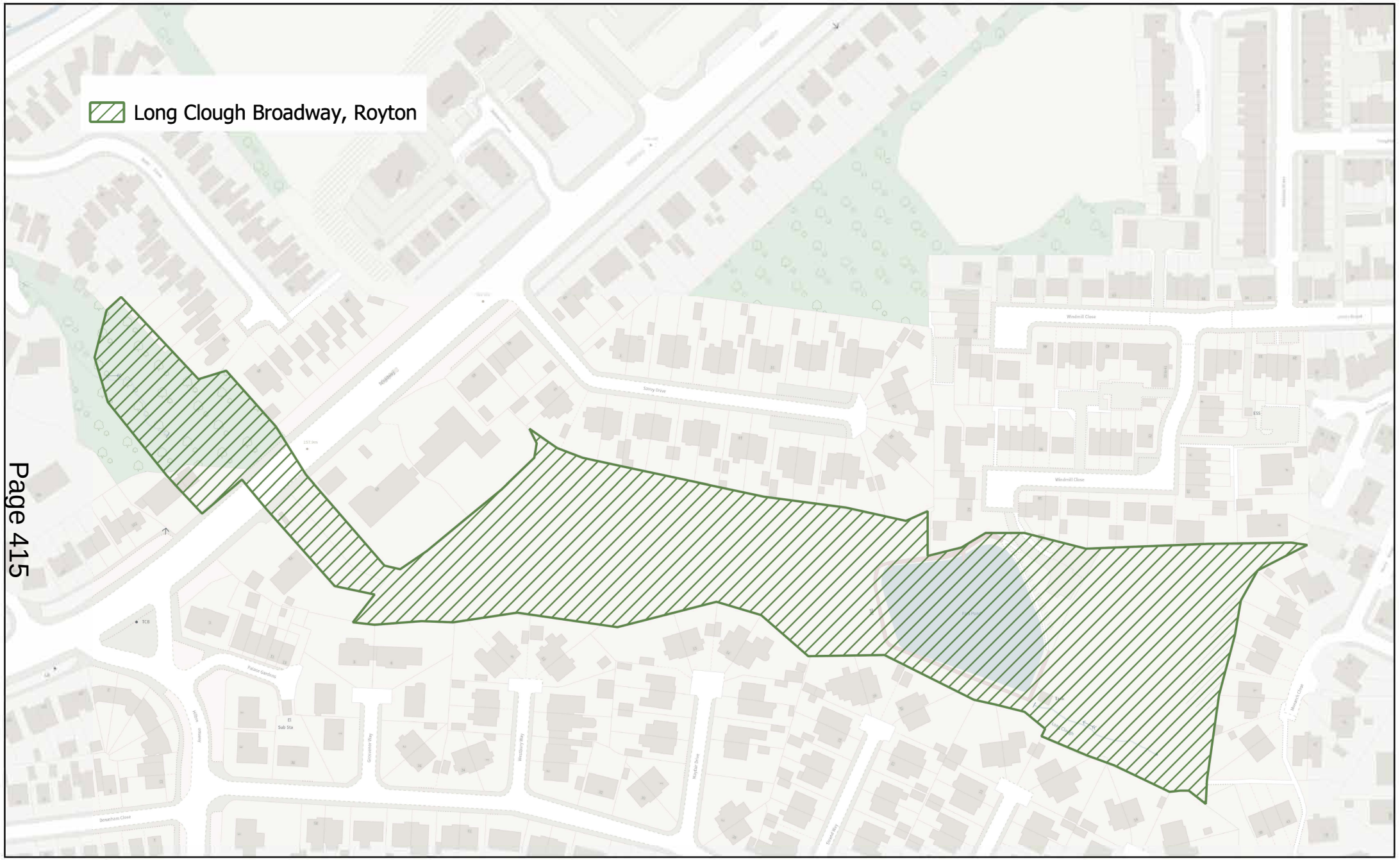

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Drawing No.	

De-designation of Long Clough Broadway, Royton Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:2,000

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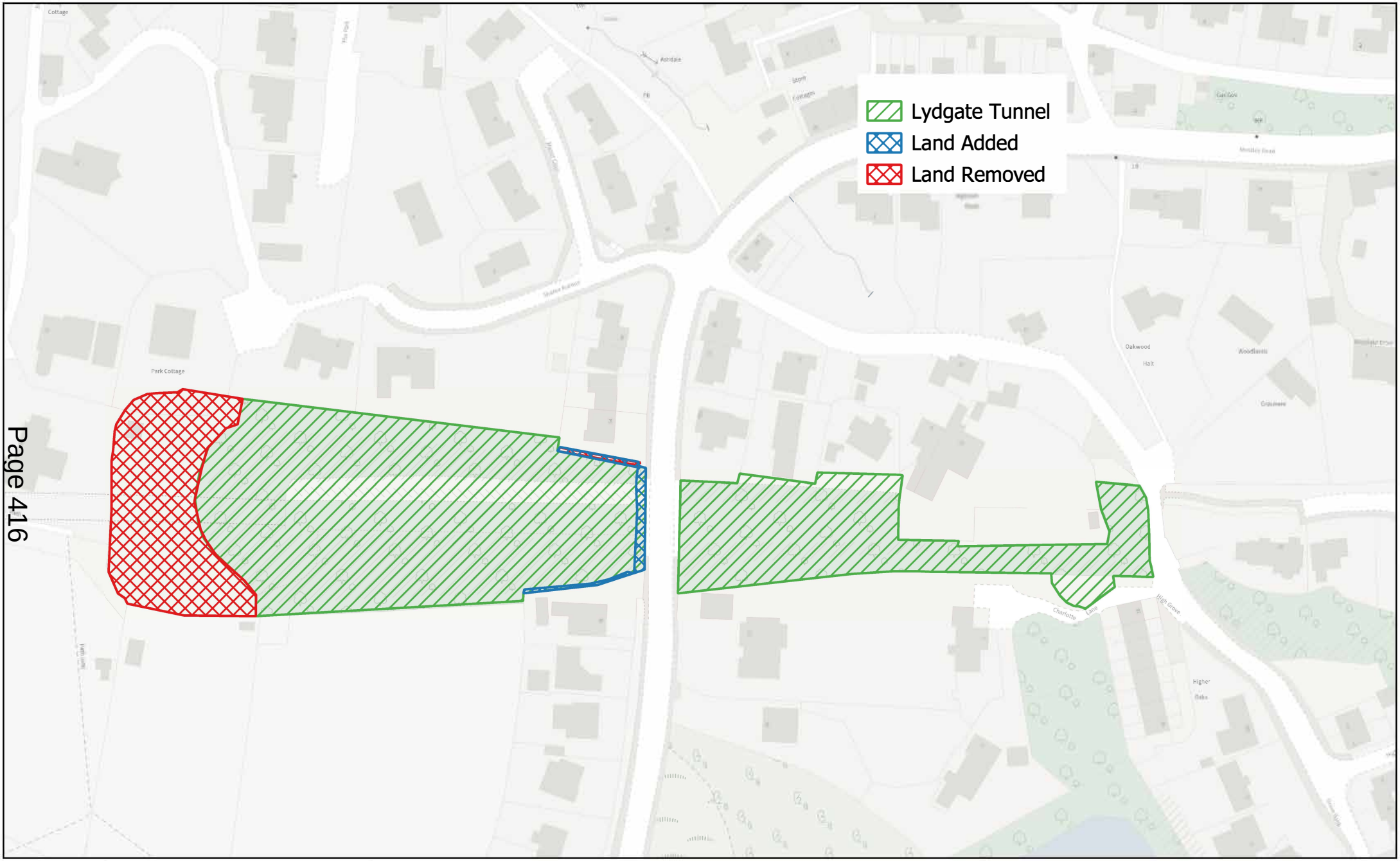

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Date:	As published
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Lydgate Tunnel / Rear Oaklands Park, Grasscroft (1)
Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,500

Oldham Council

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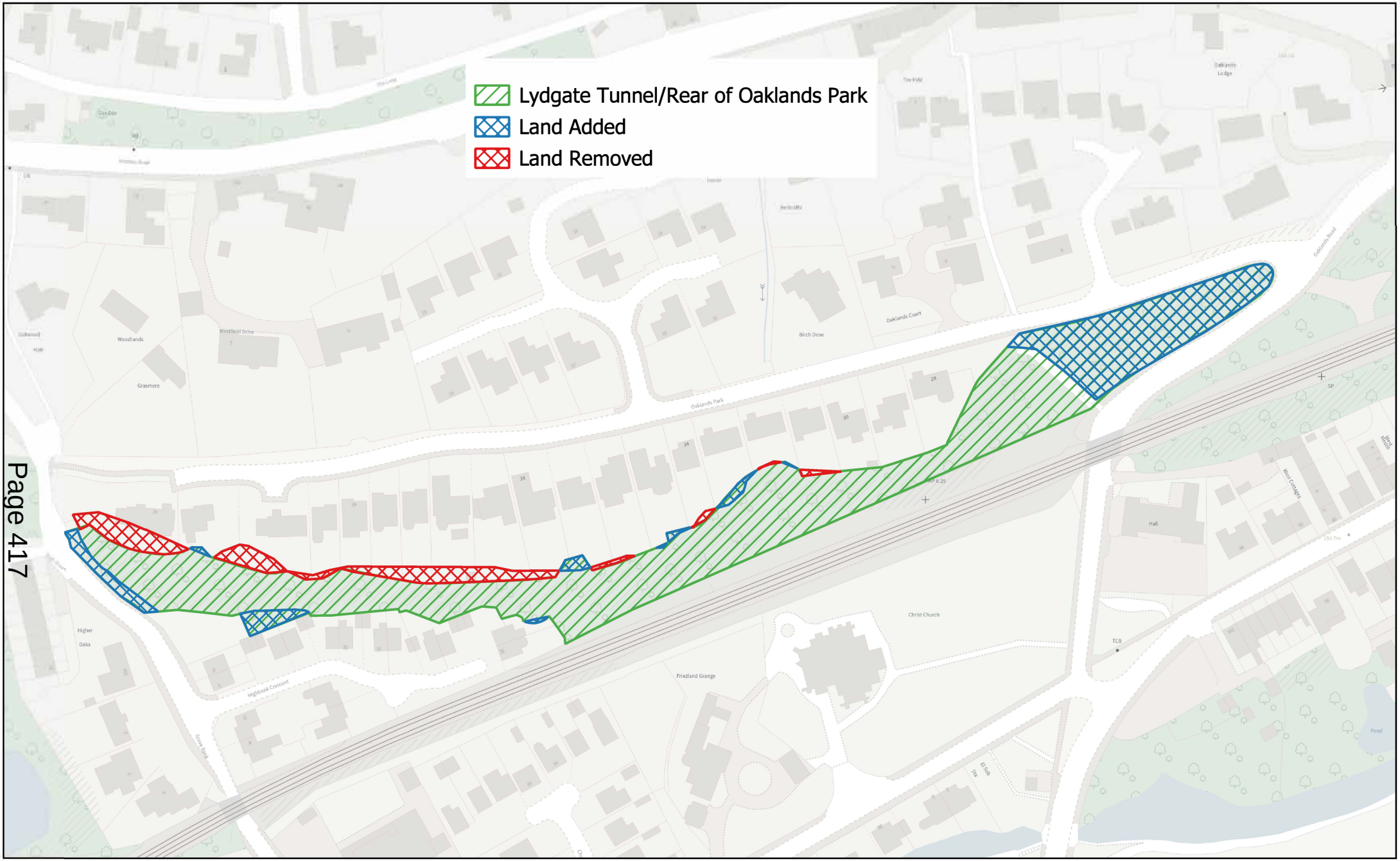

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Lydgate Tunnel / Rear Oaklands Park, Grasscroft (2)
Green Corridors and Links

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Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:1,700

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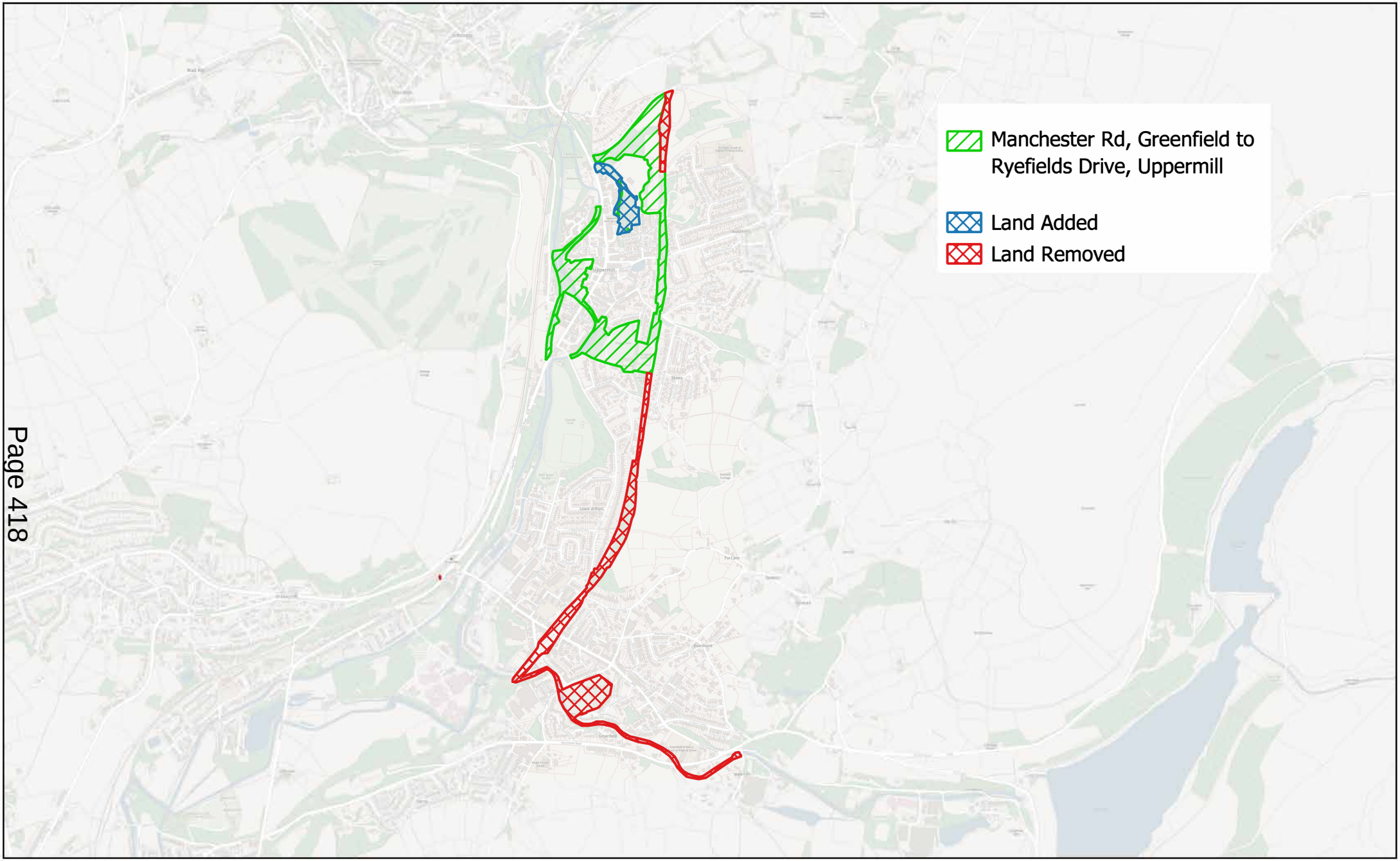

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Manchester Road, Greenfield to Ryefields Drive, Uppermill
Green Corridors and Links

Oldham Council
Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:18,000

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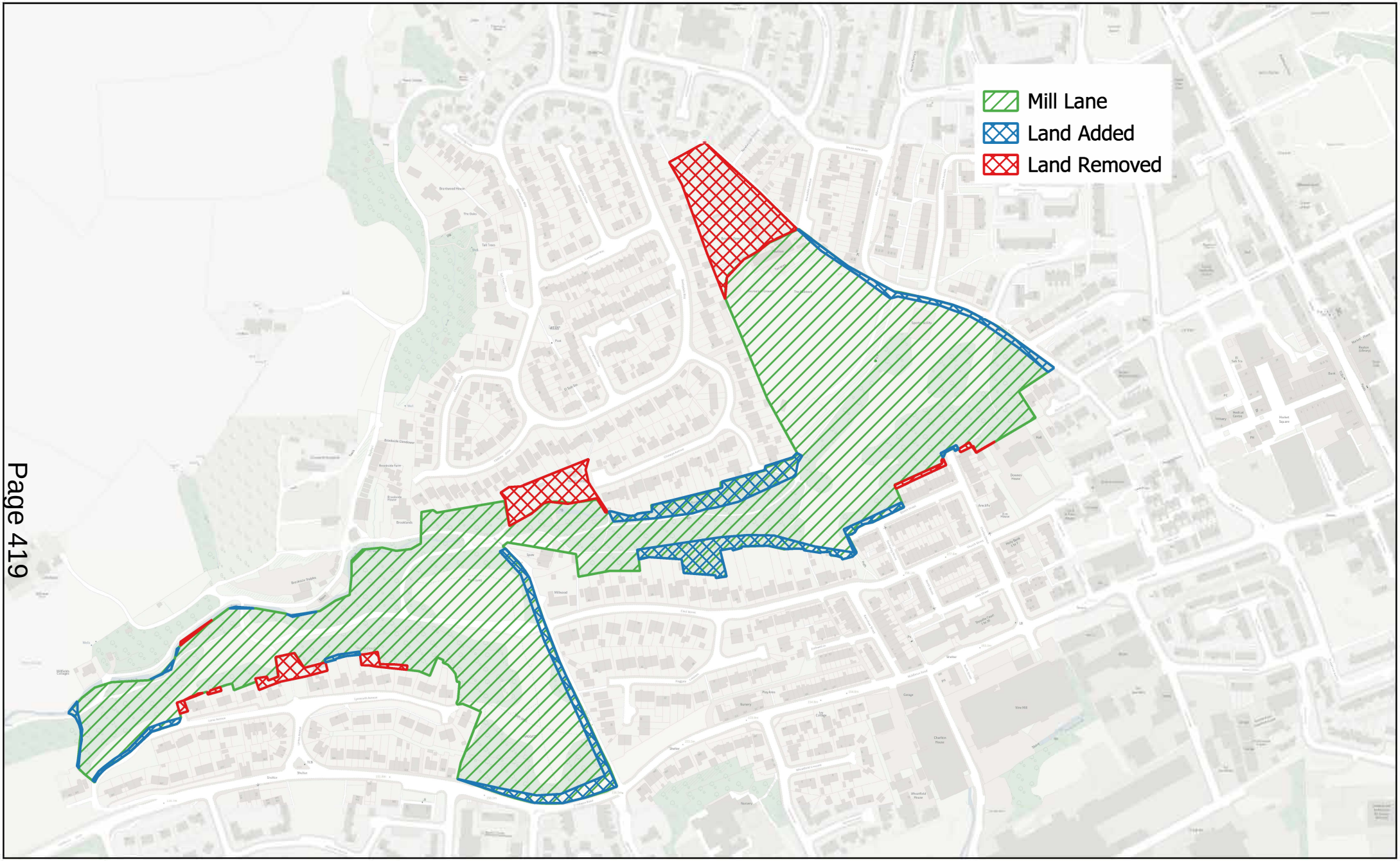

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Mill Lane / Thorp Road, Royton Green Corridors and Links

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Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:4,500

Oldham Council

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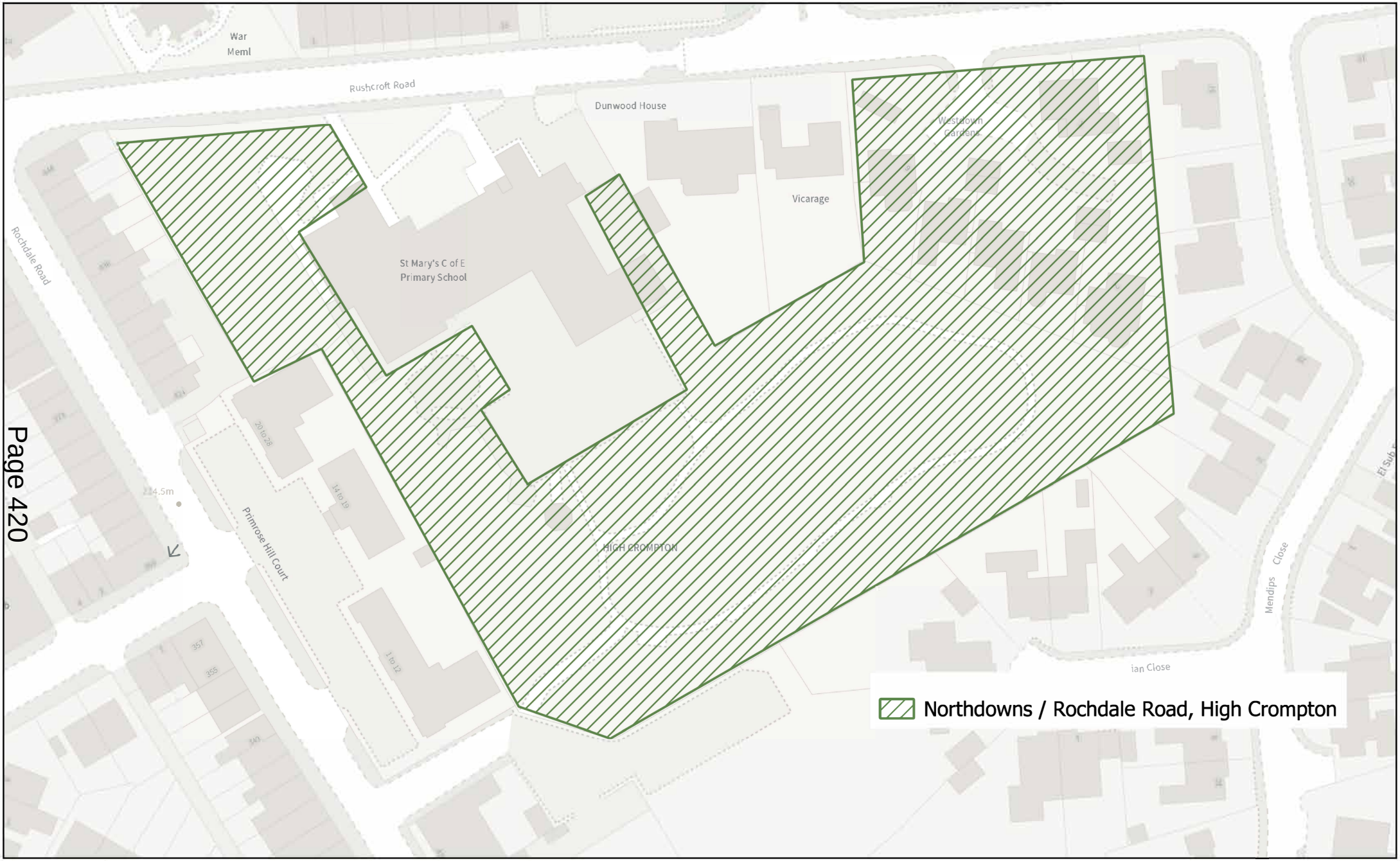

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De-designation of Northdowns / Rochdale Road, High Crompton Green Corridors and Links

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1:900

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Oaklands Road Green Corridors and Links

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OL1 1LF

1:5,500

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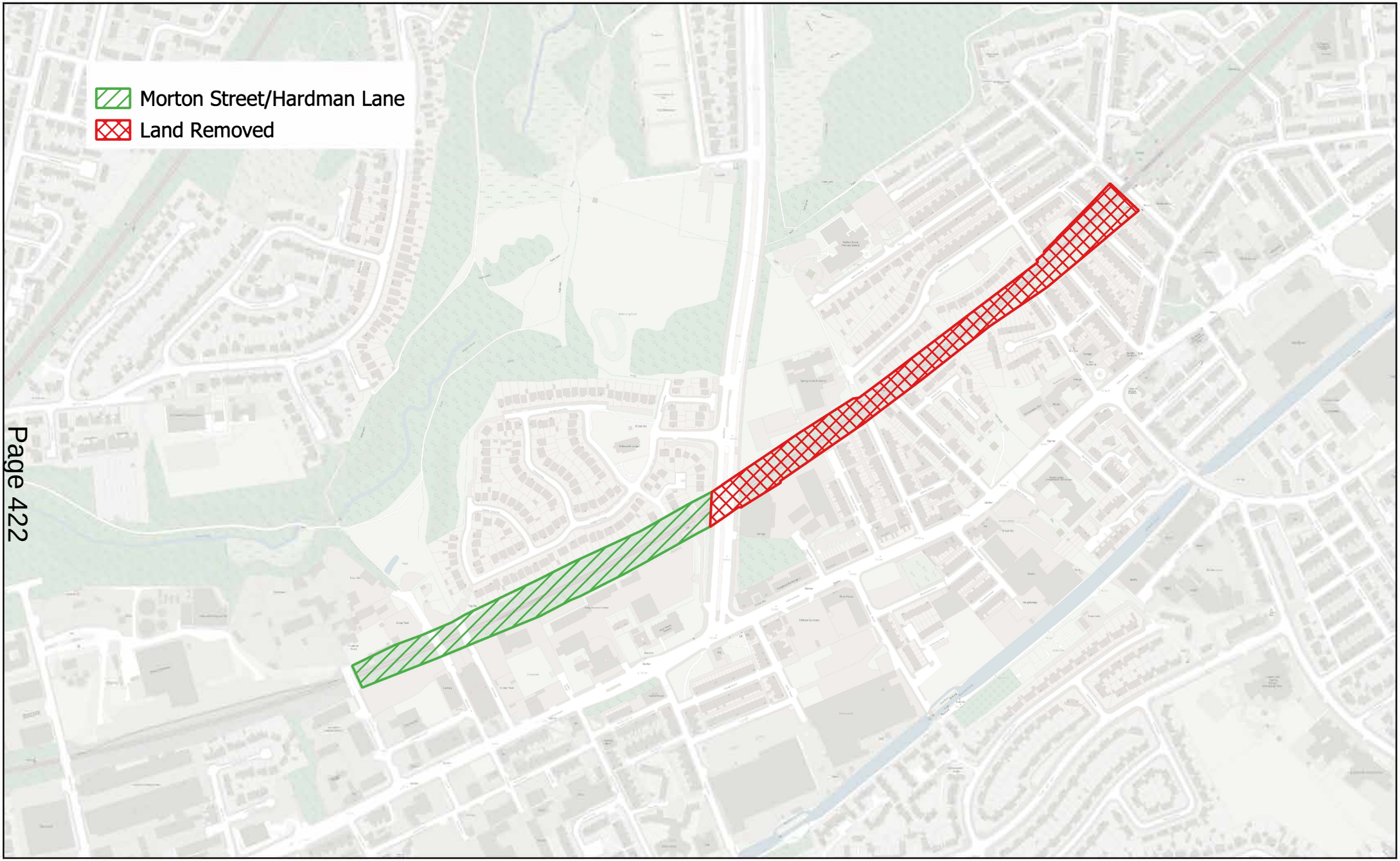

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Railway – Morton Street, Hardman Lane, Failsworth
Green Corridors and Links

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West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:5,500

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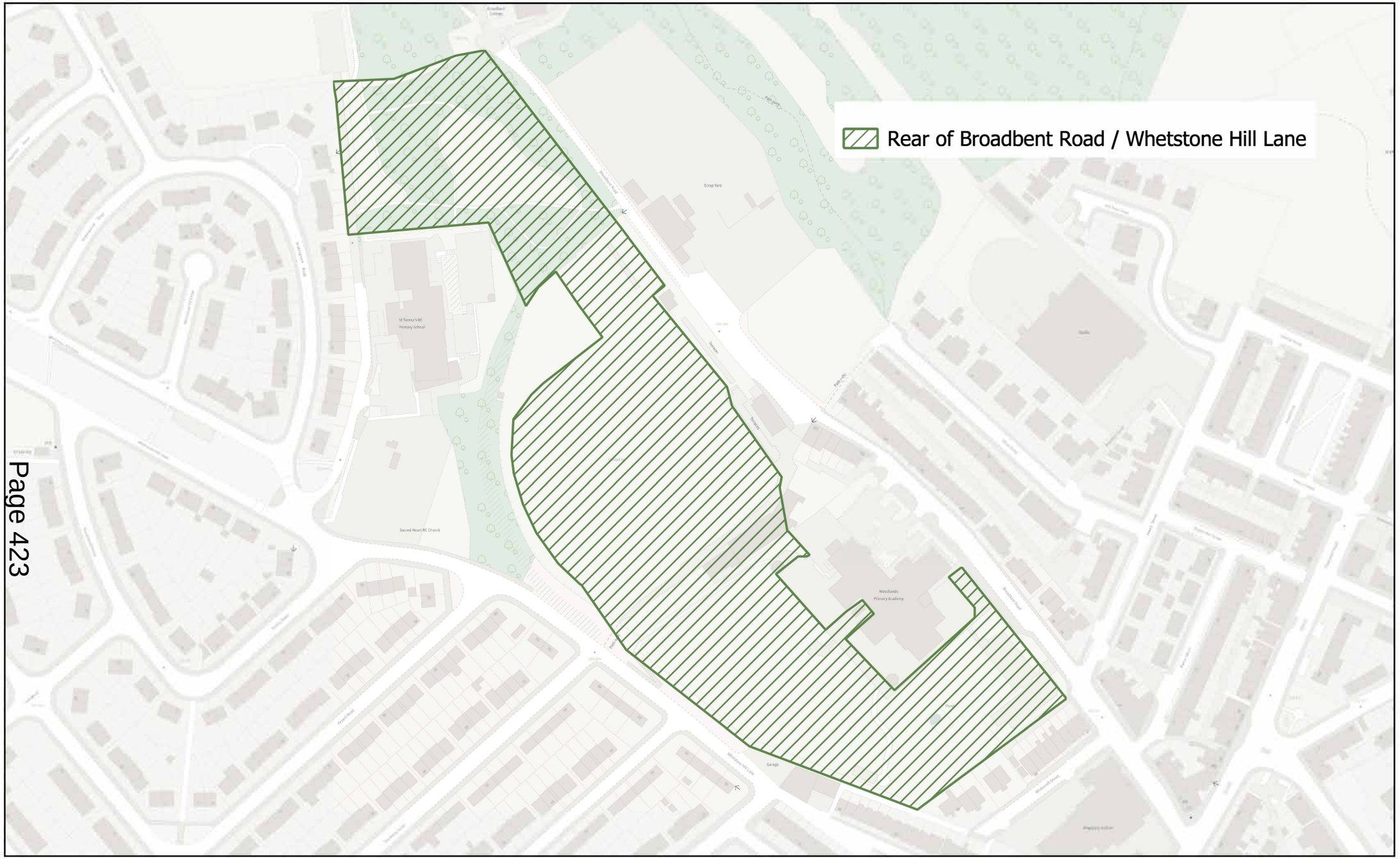

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De-designation of Rear of Broadbent Road / Whetstone Hill Lane Green Corridors and Links

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OL1 1LF

1:2,300

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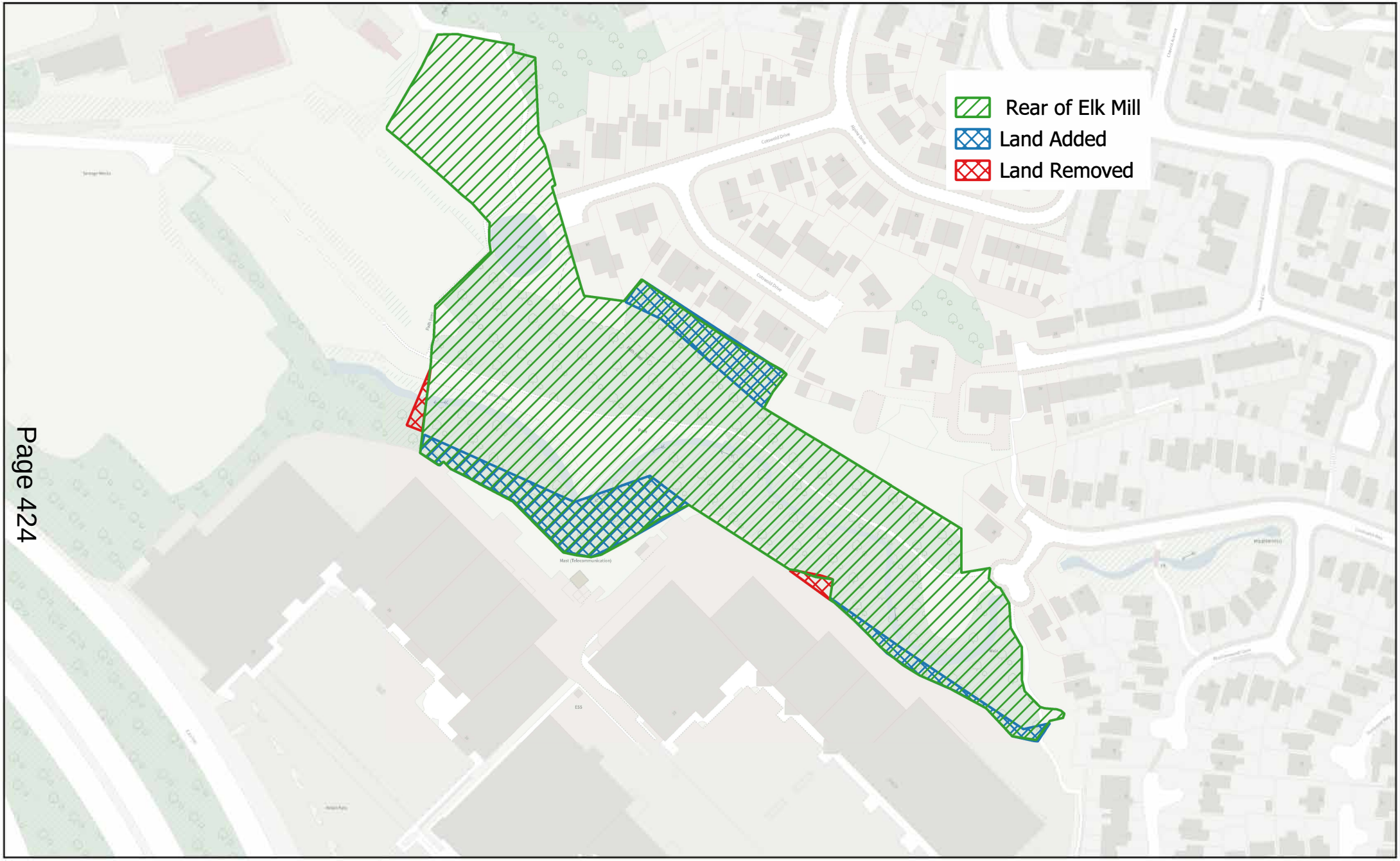

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Rear of Elk Mill Green Corridors and Links

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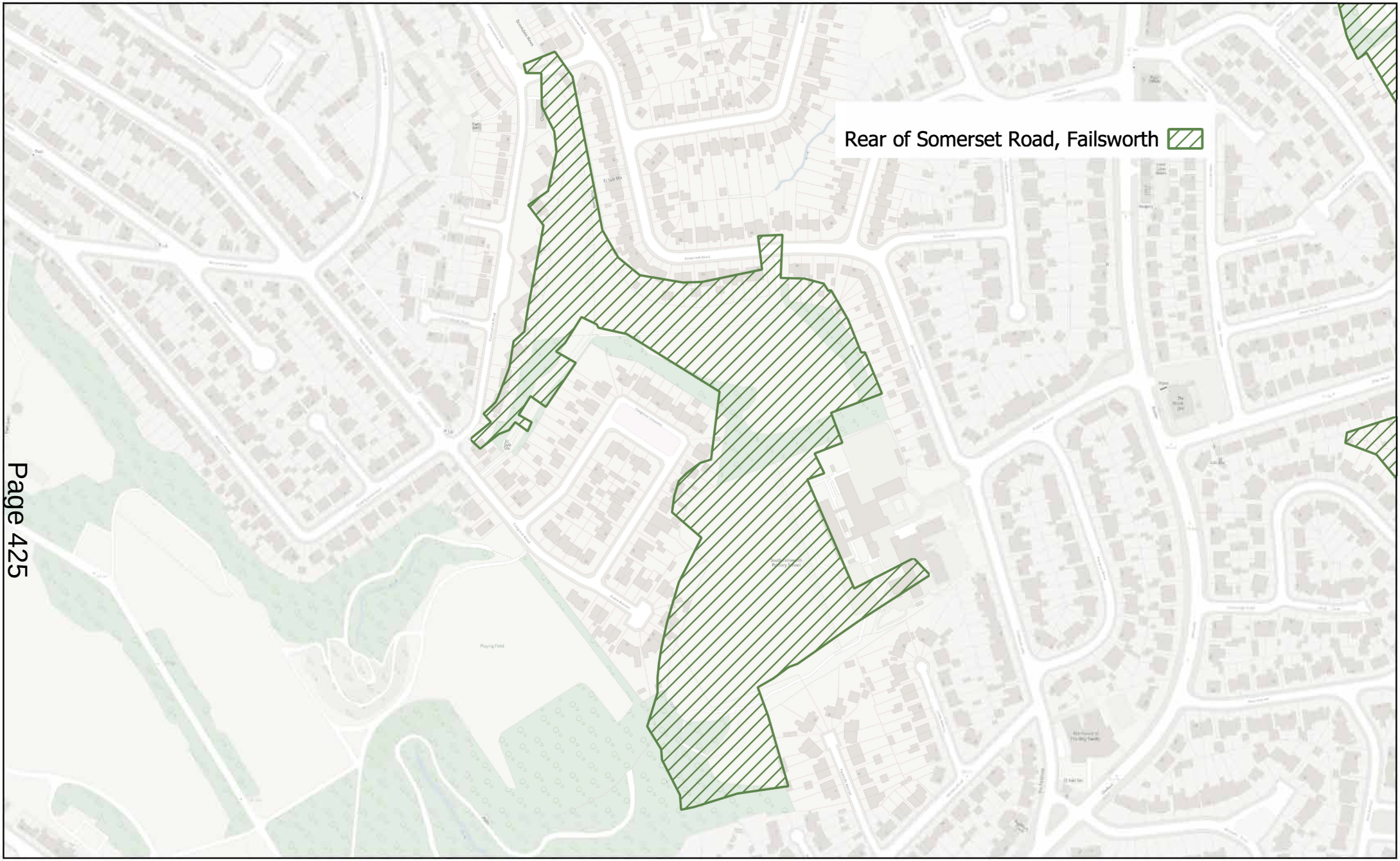

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De-designation of Rear of Somerset Road, Failsworth Green Corridors and Links

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1:3,400

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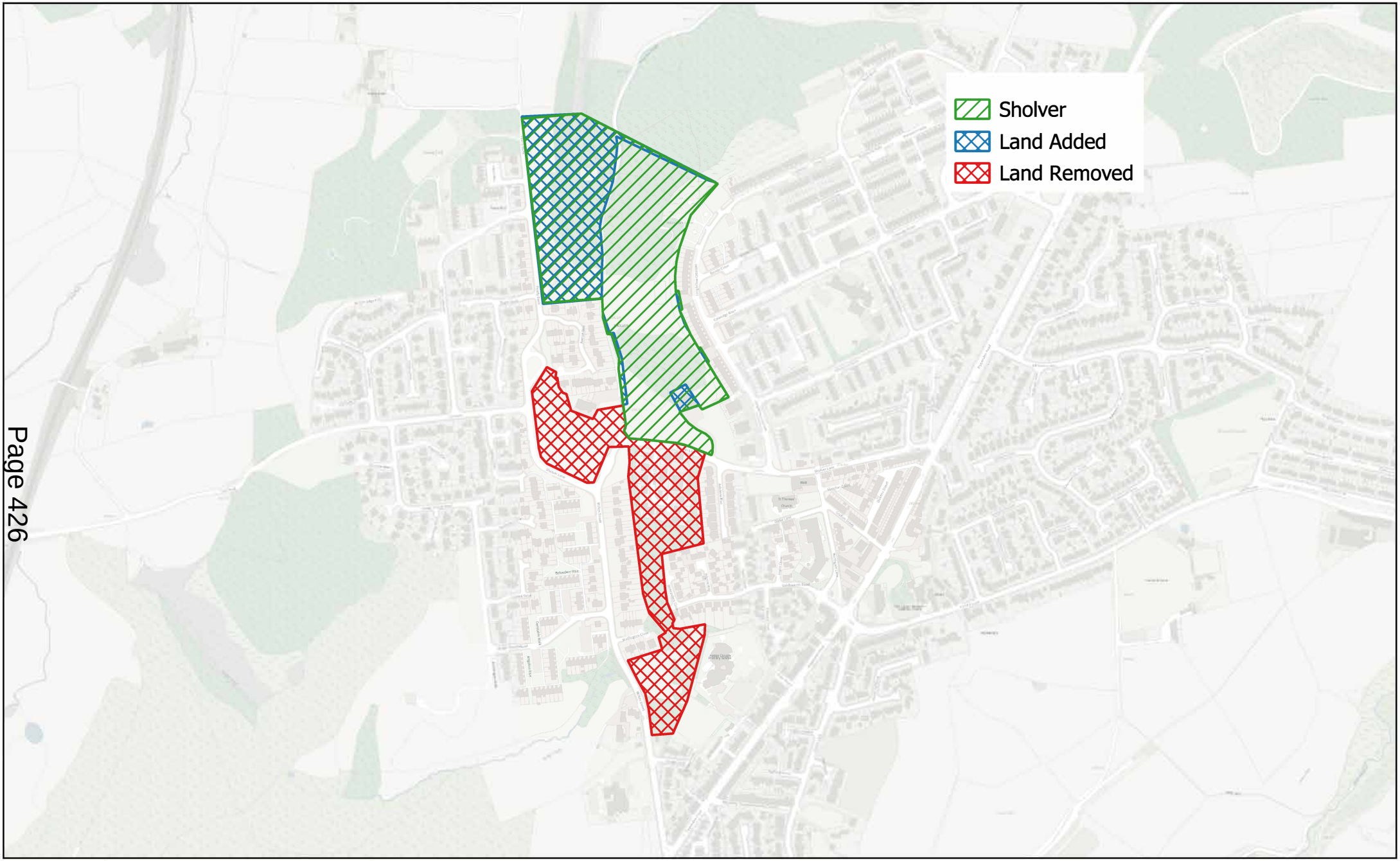

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Sholver Lane Green Corridors and Links

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Spindles Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

1:7,000

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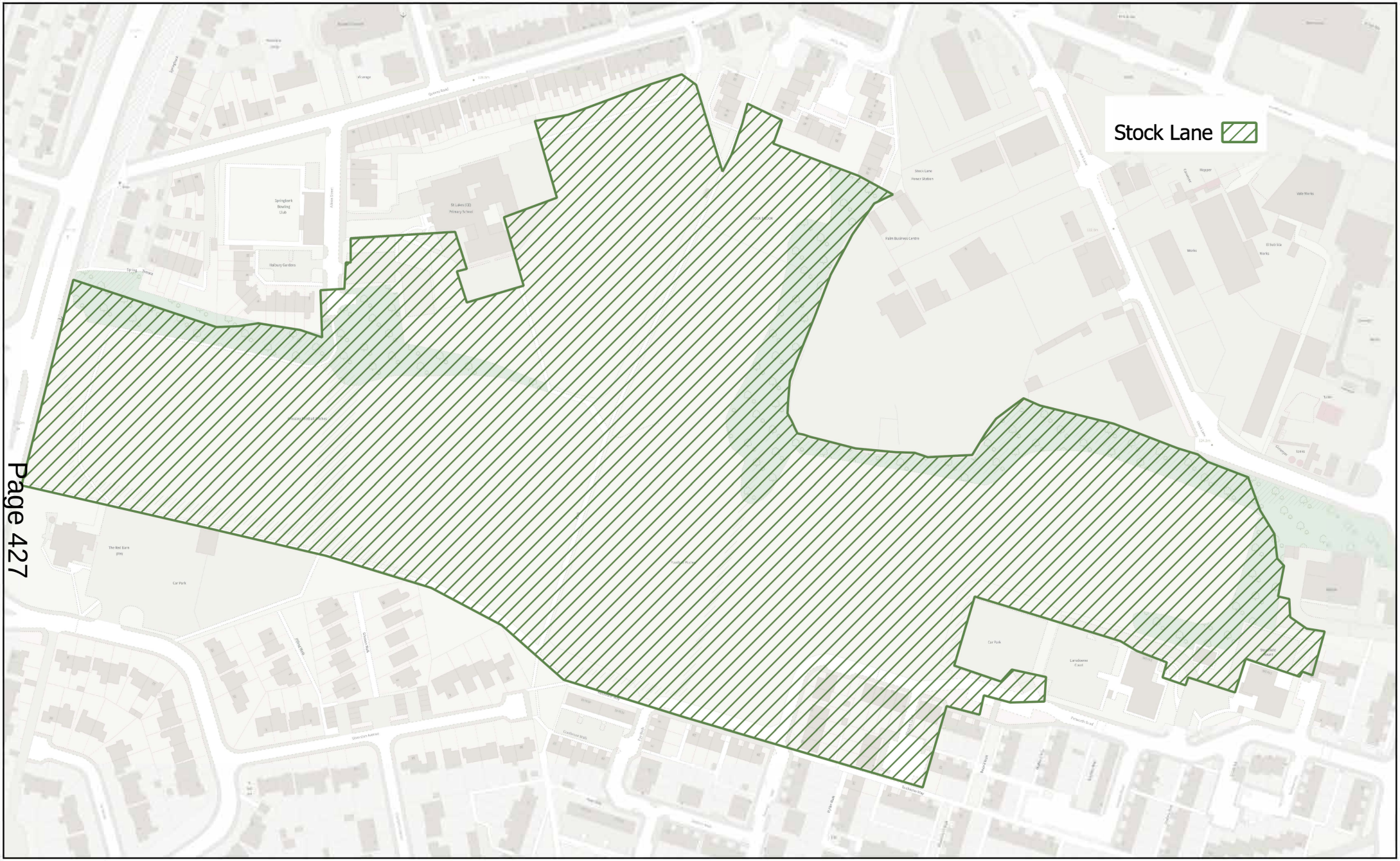

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De-designation of Stock Lane Green Corridors and Links

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1:2,500

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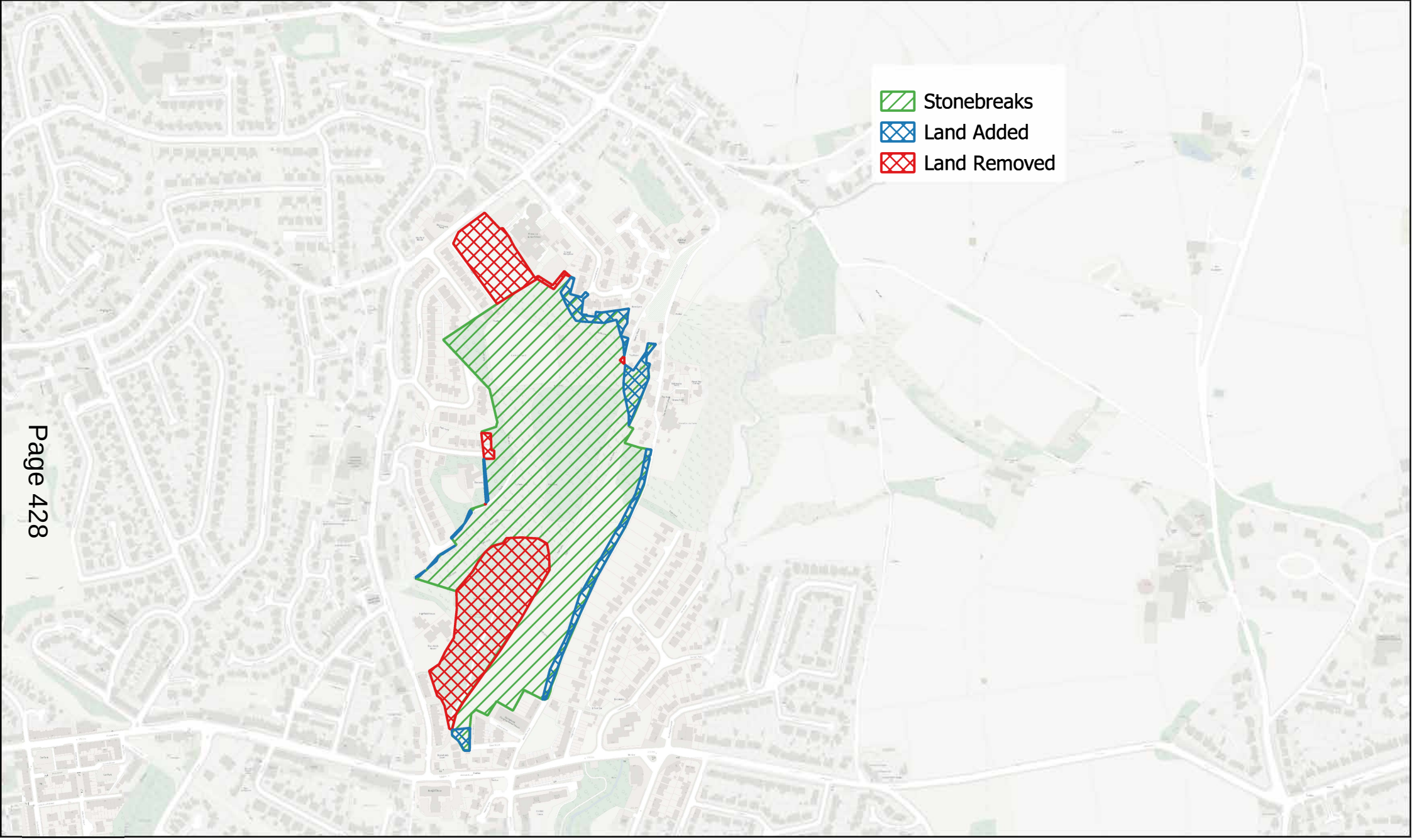

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Stonebreaks Road, Coopper Street Green Corridors and Links

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1:6,284

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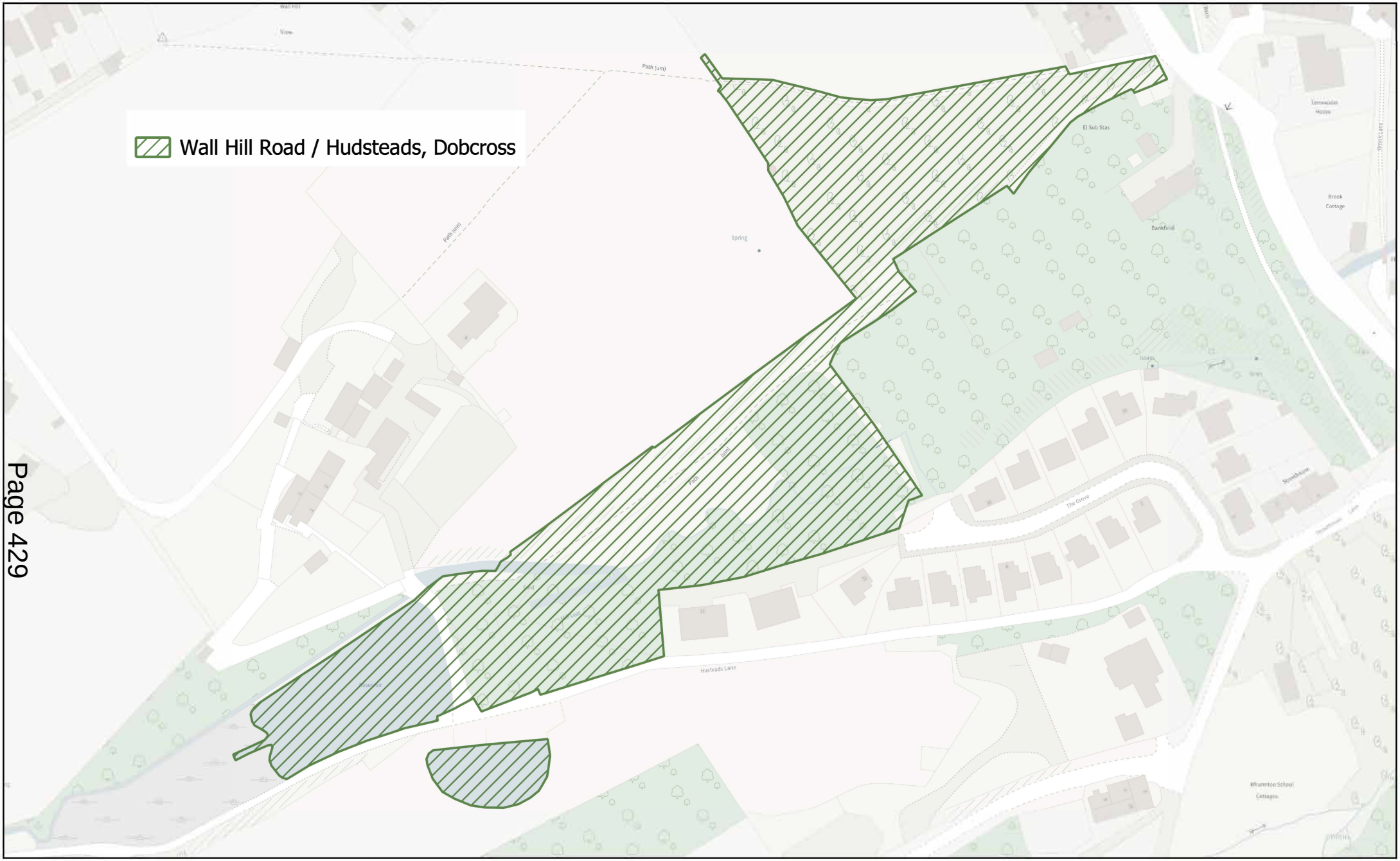

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De-designation of Wall Hill Road / Hudsteads, Dobcross Green Corridors and Links

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1:1,600

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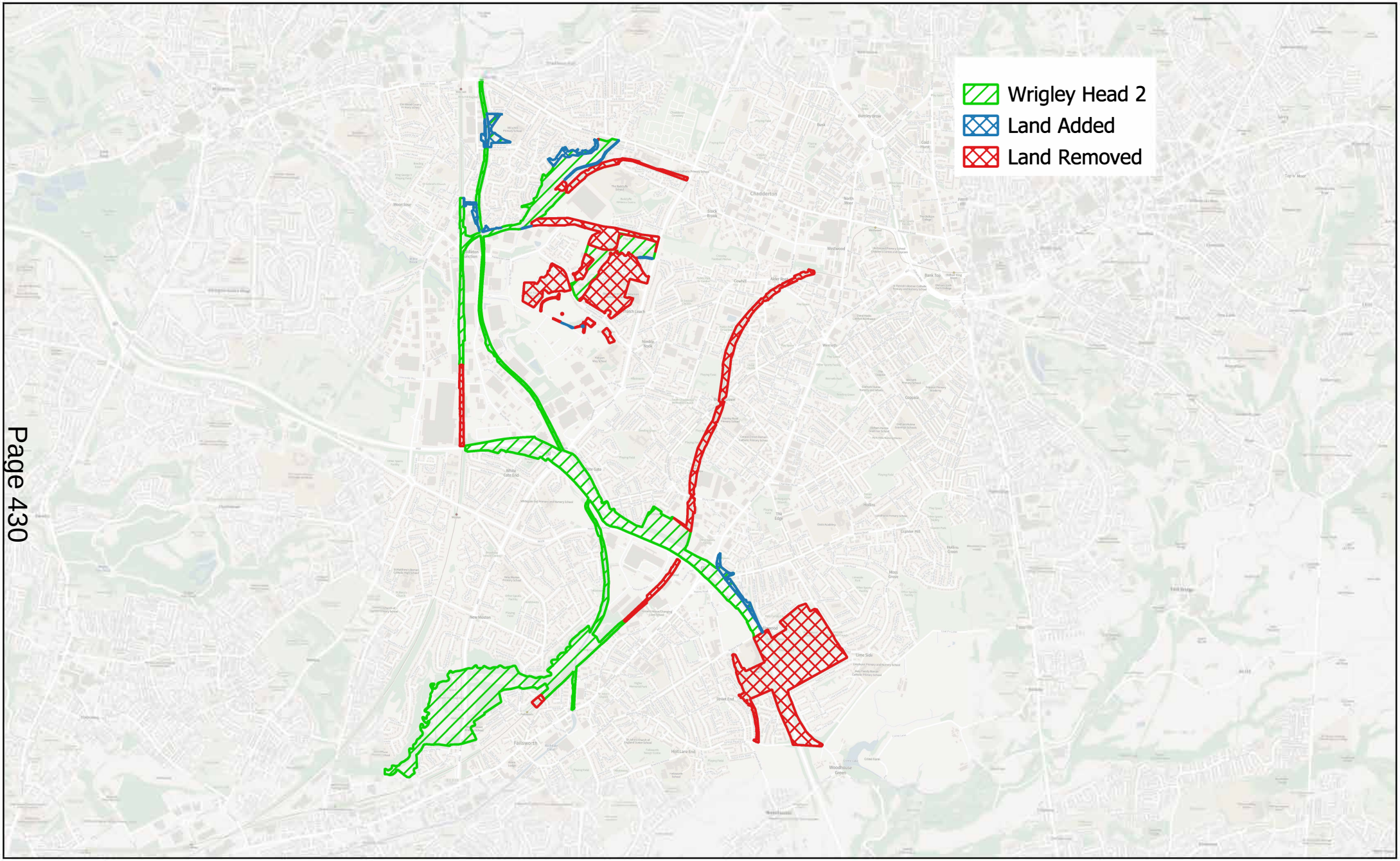

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Wrigley Head 2, Failsworth
Green Corridors and Links

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1:35,000

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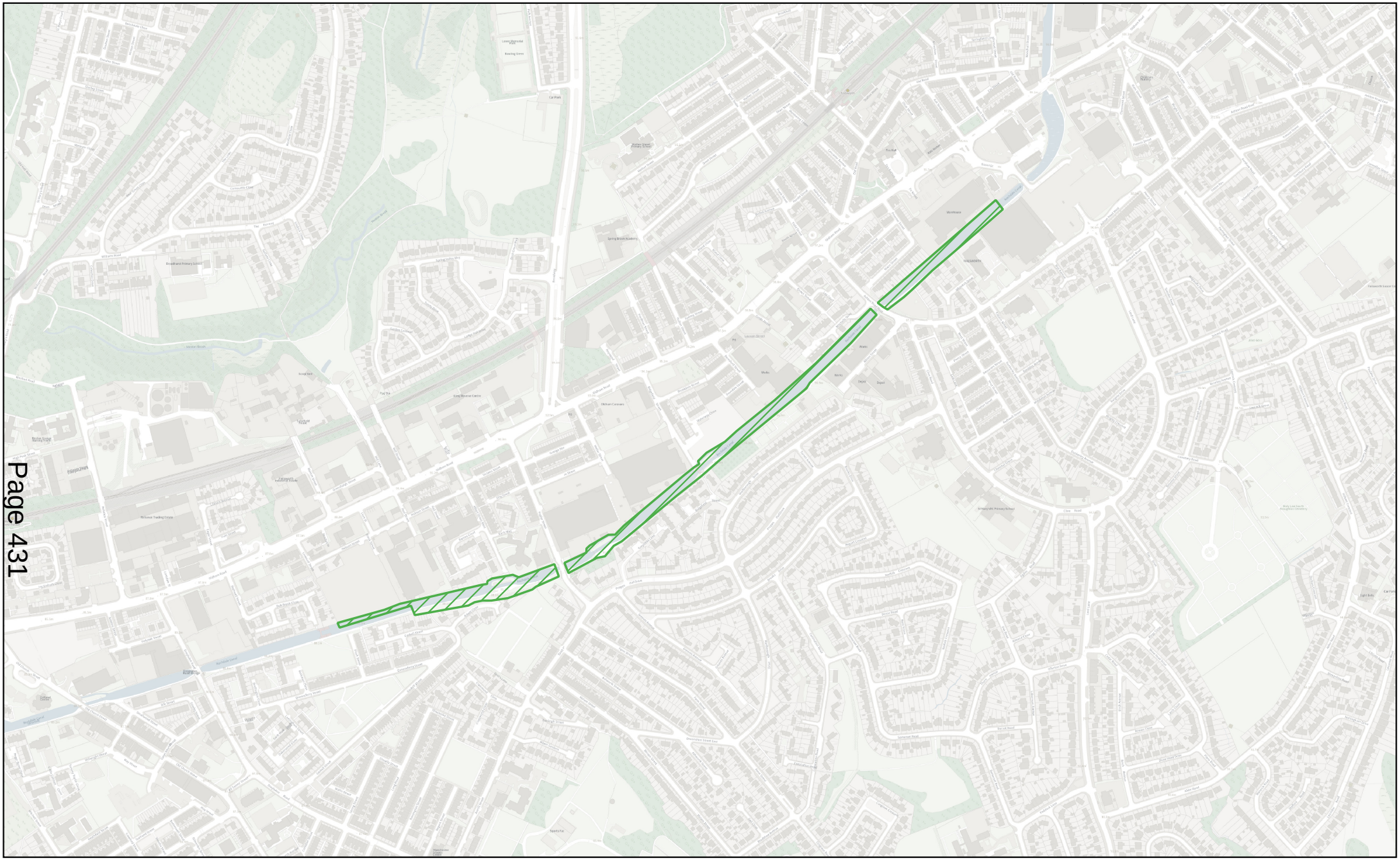

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De-designation of Wrigley Head Green Corridors and Links

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 1

January 2026

Oldham Council

Appendix 1: Core Strategy and Saved UDP Policies and how these have been replaced or deleted

The following tables set out how the policies from Oldham's Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (2011) (Joint DPD) and Oldham's Saved Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policies have been replaced by policies within the new Local Plan. Where policies have been replaced by Places for Everyone (PfE) as per PfE Appendix (Table A4), the Greater Manchester Waste DPD or the Greater Manchester Minerals DPD this has also been mentioned. In some instances, policies have been deleted as they are no longer considered relevant.

Table A1-1 How Oldham's Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document have been replaced

Joint DPD Policy Number	Joint DPD Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
1	Climate Change and Sustainable Development	Replaced by Local Plan policies: H1 'Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer', C1 'Our Centres', C2 'Protecting the vitality of our centres', C3 'Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres, C4 'Local Services and Facilities', OTC1 'Oldham Town Centre', E2 'Business and Employment Areas', T1 'Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities', T5 'Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans', CC1 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy', CC2 'Managing Flood Risk', CC3 'Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water', CC5 'Groundwater Source Protection Zones', D1 'Achieving High Quality Design', LE2 'Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land', LE3 'Air Quality', OL2 'Oldham's Green Belt', OL3 'Extensions and Alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt', OL4 'Local Green Spaces', HE1 'The Historic Environment', N1 'Protecting Nature', N2 'Restoring Nature', and N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development'.
2	Communities	Replaced by Local Plan policies: CO3 'Community Facilities', CO4 'Education and Skills, CO5 'Securing Educational Places through New Residential

Joint DPD Policy Number	Joint DPD Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
		Development' and CO6 'New Development and Health'.
3	An Address of Choice	The following parts of the policy have been replaced by PfE: • Section of policy on Distribution of Housing (including Table 5 - Current distribution of housing within District Partnership areas (based on the 2009 SHLAA)). • Paragraphs 5.41 to 5.45 • Table 6 – Current distribution of housing land types within District Partnership areas (based on the 2009 SHLAA findings) Remainder of the policy replaced by Local Plan policy H1 'Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer'.
4	Promoting Sustainable Regeneration and Prosperity	The following parts of the policy have been replaced by PfE: • Second and third paragraph of policy wording. Paragraphs 5.51 and 5.52 of the reasoned justification. Remainder of the policy deleted.
5	Promoting Accessibility and Sustainable Transport Choices	The following parts of the policy have been replaced by PfE: • Policy requirements b) to j) • Paragraphs 5.59 and 5.60 of the reasoned justification Remainder of the policy replaced by Local Plan policies: H1 'Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer', T1 'Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities', T2 'Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities', T3 'Parking Provision' and T5 'Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Developments'.
6	Green Infrastructure	Replaced by Local Plan policies: N1 'Protecting Nature', N2 'Restoring Nature'

Joint DPD Policy Number	Joint DPD Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
		and N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development'.
7	Sustainable Use or Resources - Waste Management	Replaced by Greater Manchester Waste DPD.
8	Sustainable Use or Resources - Minerals	Replaced by Greater Manchester Minerals DPD.
9	Local Environment	Replaced by Local Plan policies: LE1 'Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development', D1 'Achieving High Quality Design', 'T5 'Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Developments' and LE3 'Air Quality'.
10	Affordable Housing	Replaced by Local Plan policy H5 'Affordable Housing'.
11	Housing	Replaced by Local Plan policies: H2 'Density of New Housing', H3 'Housing Mix', H4 'Providing for Local Housing Needs' and H6 'Houses in Multiple Occupation'.
12	Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	Replaced by Local Plan policy H7 'Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople'.
13	Employment Areas	Replaced by Local Plan policy E2 'Business and Employment Areas'.
14	Supporting Oldham's Economy	Replaced by Local Plan policies: E2 'Business and Employment Areas', E3 'Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas' and E4 'Employment sites outside of Business and Employment Areas'.
15	Centres	Replaced by Local Plan policies: C1 'Our Centres', C2 'Protecting the vitality of our centres', C3 'Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres', and OTC1 'Oldham Town Centre'.
16	Local Services and Facilities	Replaced by Local Plan policy C4 'Local Services and Facilities'

Joint DPD Policy Number	Joint DPD Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
17	Gateways and Corridors	Replaced by Local Plan policies: D1 'Achieving High Quality Design', T1 'Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities', T2 'Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities', T3 'Parking Provision' and T5 'Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Developments'.
18	Energy	The following parts of the policy have been replaced by PfE: • Section of policy on Carbon Dioxide Reduction Targets (including Table 8 – Energy Infrastructure Framework) • Paragraphs 6.93 to 6.105 of the reasoned justification Remainder of the policy replaced by Local Plan policy CC1 'Renewable and Low Carbon Energy'.
19	Water and Flooding	The following parts of the policy have been replaced by PfE: • Policy requirements a), b), c) and e) are superseded and replaced by policy JP-S4 • Policy requirement d) is superseded by Policy JP-G3 • Policy requirement f) is superseded by Policy JP-D1 • Paragraphs 6.113 to 6.116 of the reasoned justification Remainder of the policy replaced by Local Plan policies: CC2 'Managing Flood Risk', CC3 'Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water' and CC5 'Groundwater Source Protection Zones'.
20	Design	Replaced by PfE policy JP-P1 'Sustainable Places'.
21	Protecting Natural Environmental Assets	Replaced by Local Plan policies: N1 'Protecting Nature', N2 'Restoring Nature', N3 'Enhancing Green

Joint DPD Policy Number	Joint DPD Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
		Infrastructure through development' and HE5 'Canals'.

22	Protecting Open Land	The following parts of the policy have been replaced by PfE:
		• Policy wording 'The 2006 UDP Policy OE1.8 'Major Developed Site in Green Belt 'will be saved and will be assessed in the Site Allocations DPD' and paragraph 6.140 from the reasoned justification.
		• The following areas of Other Protected Open Land (OPOL):
		  ○ OPOL 9 – Bullcote Lane, Royton
		  ○ OPOL 10 – Shawside, Shaw (Moss Hey)
		  ○ OPOL 22 – Cowlishaw, Shaw
		• Policy wording 'Development on LRFD will only be granted where it would be acceptable in the Green Belt and which would not prejudice the later development of LRFD beyond the life of the LDF' and paragraph 6.143 from the reasoned justification.
		Remainder of the policy replaced by Local Plan policies: OL2 'Oldham's Green Belt', OL3 'Extensions and Alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt' and OL4 'Local Green Spaces'.

23	Open Spaces and Sports	Replaced by Local Plan policies: CO1 'The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision' and CO2 'New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision.
24	Historic Environment	Replaced by Local Plan policies: HE1 'The Historic Environment', HE2 'Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets', HE3 'Development Proposals

Joint DPD Policy Number	Joint DPD Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
		Affecting Conservation Areas' and HE4 'Oldham's Mills'.
25	Developer Contributions	Replaced by PfE policy JP-D2 'Developer Contributions'.

Table A1-2 How Oldham's Saved Unitary Development Plan have been replaced or deleted

UDP Policy Number	UDP Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
D1.5	Protection of Trees on Development Sites	Replaced by PfE policy JP-G7 'Trees and Woodland' and Local Plan policy N4 'Trees'.
D1.12	Telecommunications	Replaced by Local Plan policy IN1 Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications.
B1	BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL LAND ALLOCATIONS	Deleted.
B1.1	Business and Industrial Allocations	Part of allocation B1.1.24 Royton Moss, Moss Lane, Royton has been superseded and now forms part of JPA 12 Broadbent Moss in PfE. Remaining allocations have been deleted.
B1.2	Business and Office Allocations	Deleted.
B1.3	Mixed Use Allocations	Deleted.
H1.1	Housing Land Release – Phase 1	Deleted.
H1.2	Housing Land Release – Phase 2	Allocation H1.2.17 Danisher Lane has been superseded and now forms part of JPA 15 Coal Pit Lane in PfE. Remaining allocations have been deleted.
TC1.1	Allocated Site	Deleted.
TC1.2	Allocated Site	Deleted.
OE1.8	Major Developed Site in the Green Belt	Replaced by PfE policy JPA13 'Chew Brook Vale (Robert Fletchers)'

UDP Policy Number	UDP Policy Name	Replaced by / Deleted
OE1.11	Farm Diversification	Deleted.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 8

January 2026

Oldham Council



Boundary Amendment at 2 Irk Vale Drive, Chadderton

N

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Boundary Amendment at 32 Tandlewood Park, Royton

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N

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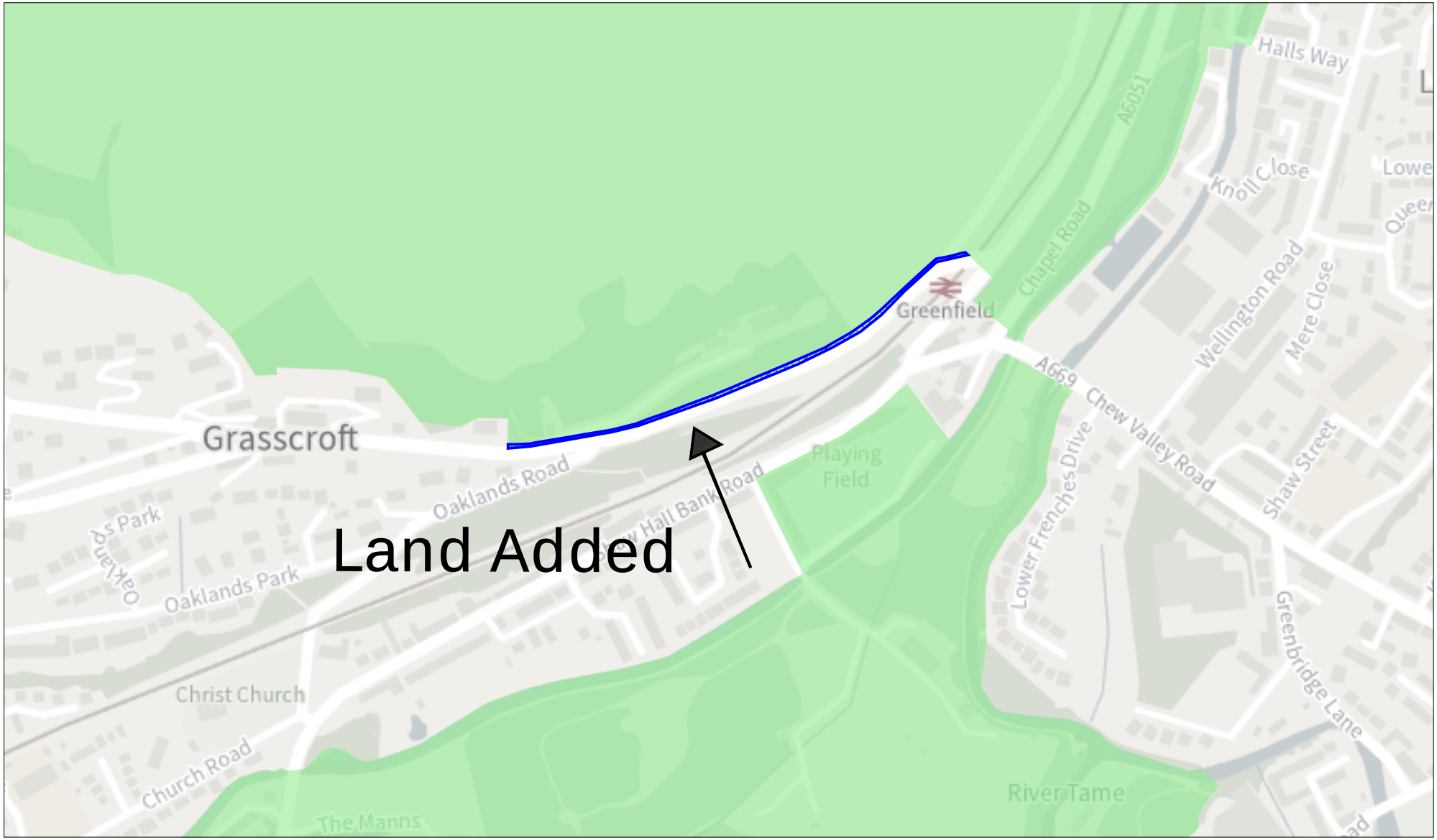

Boundary Amendment at A640/Oldham Road, Greenfield

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N

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Boundary Amendment Alexandra Road, Oldham

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Boundary Amendment Barnmeen, Austerlands

N

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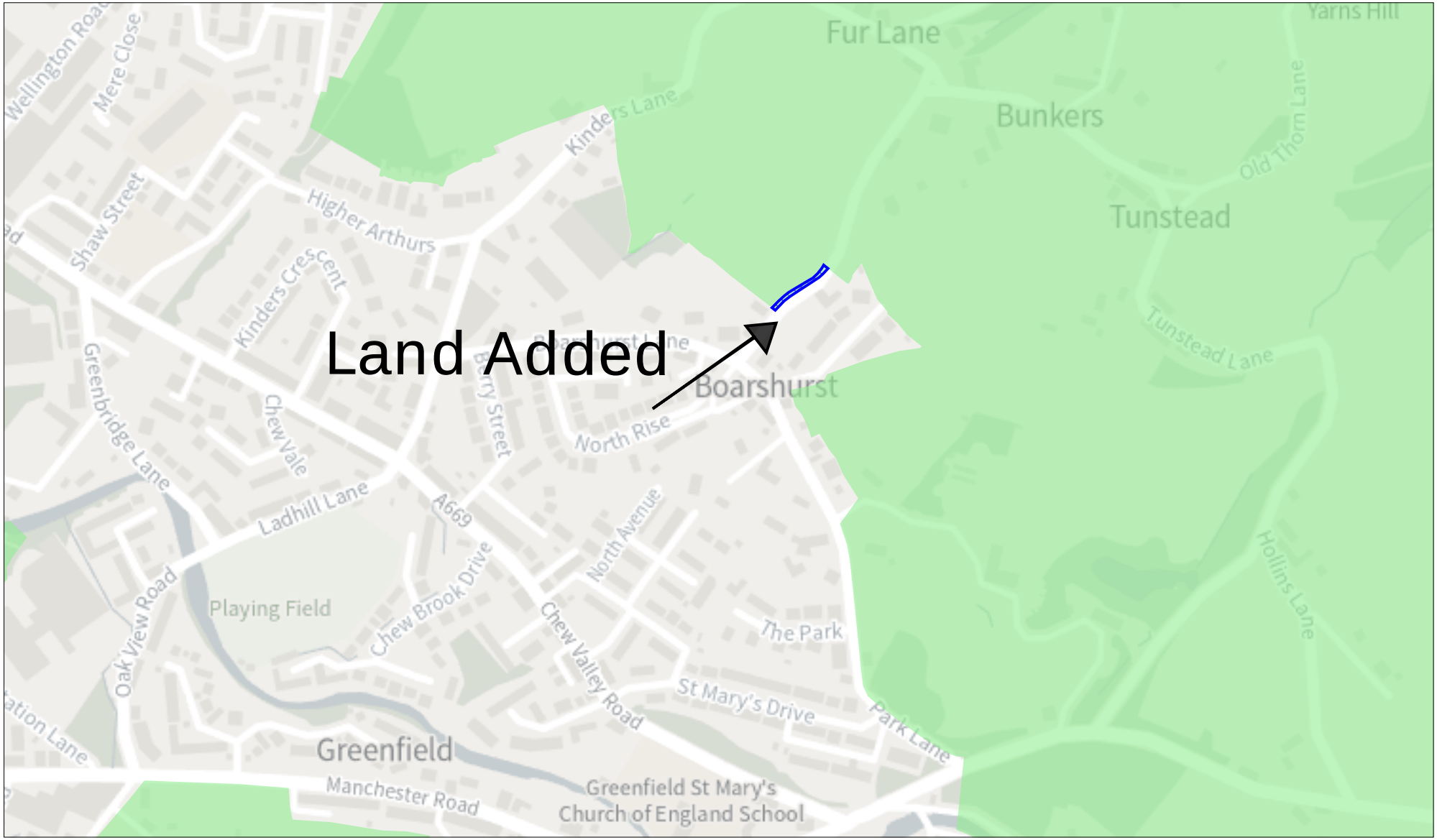

Boundary Amendment at Boarshurst Lane, Greenfield

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N

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Boundary Amendment Brownhill Lane, Uppermill

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Boundary Amendment Buckstones Road, Shaw

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Boundary Amendment at Burnedge Lane, Grasscroft

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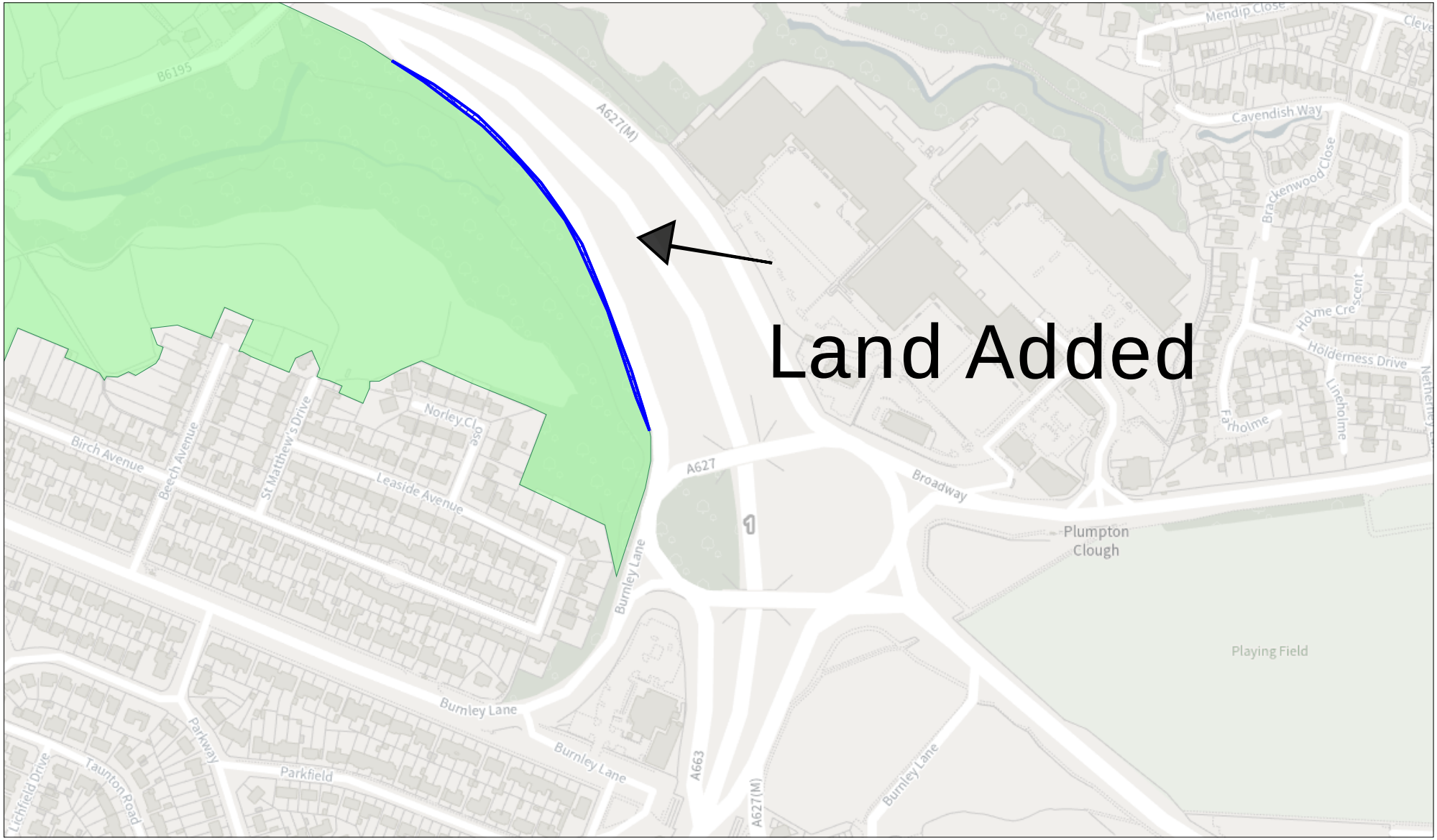

Boundary Amendment Burnley Lane, Chadderton

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N

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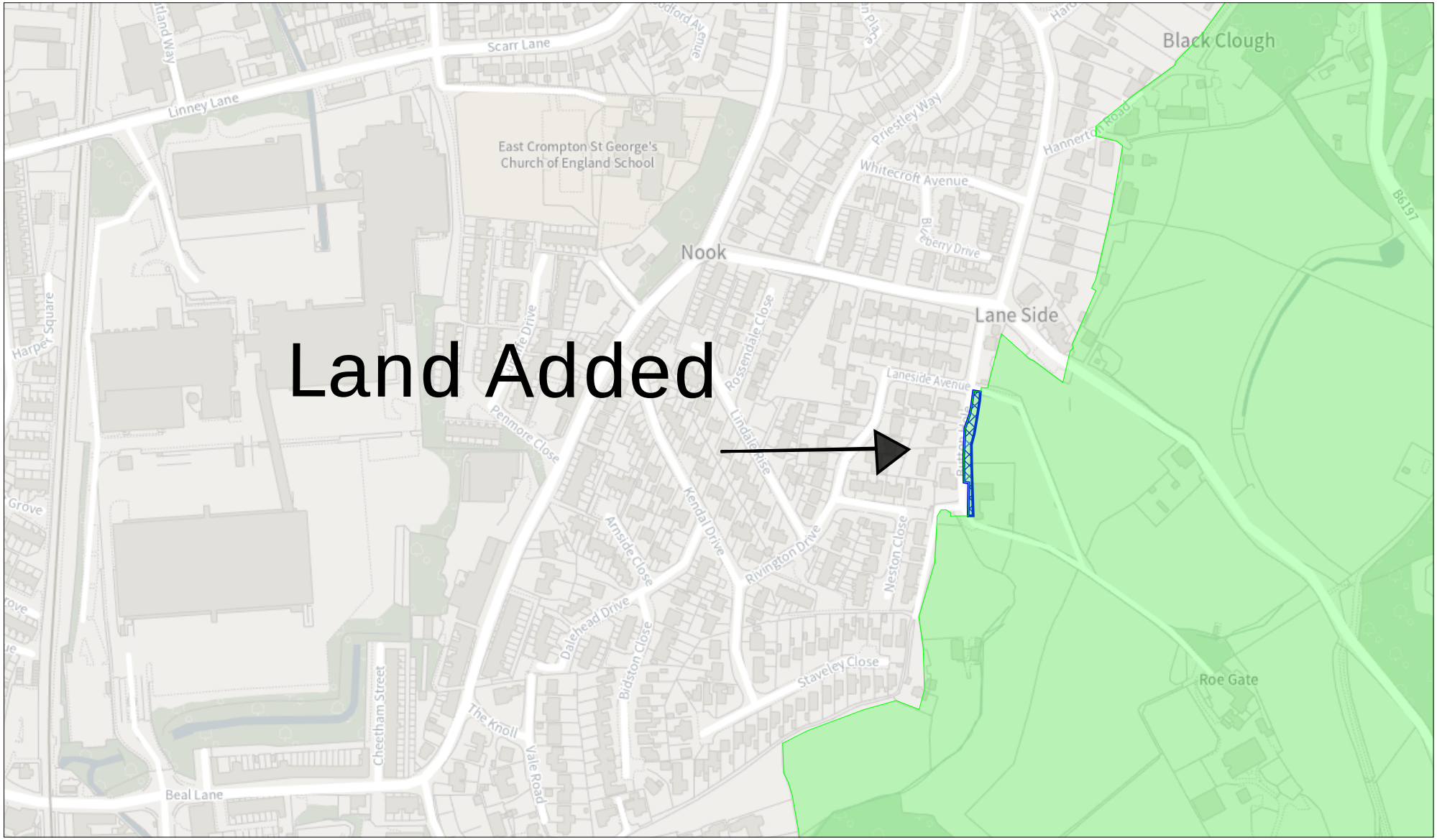

Boundary Amendment Button Hole, Shaw

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Boundary Amendment at Carr Lane, Greenfield

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Boundary Amendment at Church Road, Greenfield

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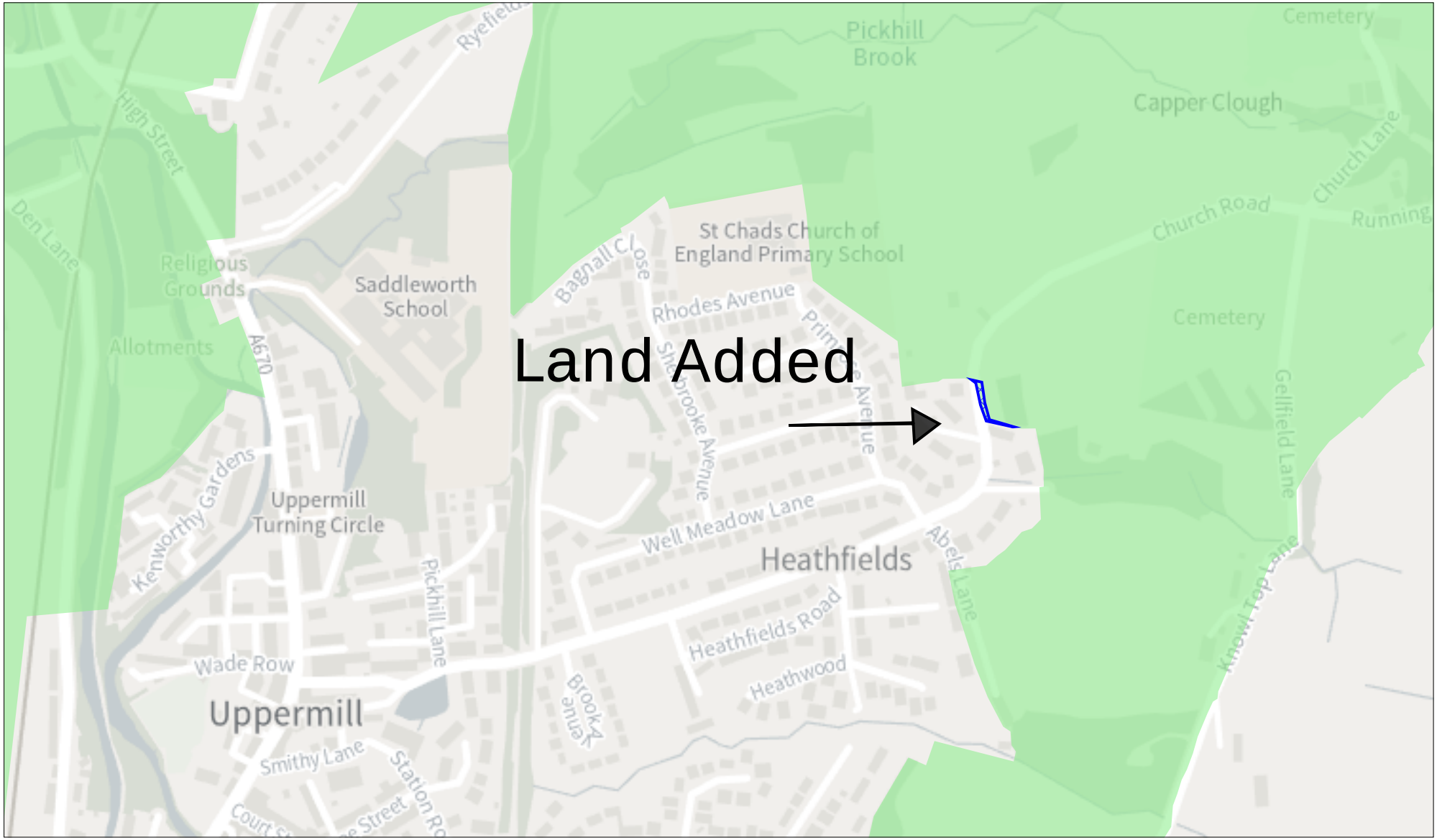

Boundary Amendment at Church Road, Uppermill

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Boundary Amendment at Clifton Homes, Delph

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Boundary Amendment at Clifton Homes, Delph

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Boundary Amendment Coal Pit Lane, Limeside

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Boundary Amendment Counthill Road, Waterhead

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Boundary Amendment Counthill Road, Waterhead

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Boundary Amendment Culvert Street, Waterhead

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Boundary Amendment Cutler Hill Road, Failsworth

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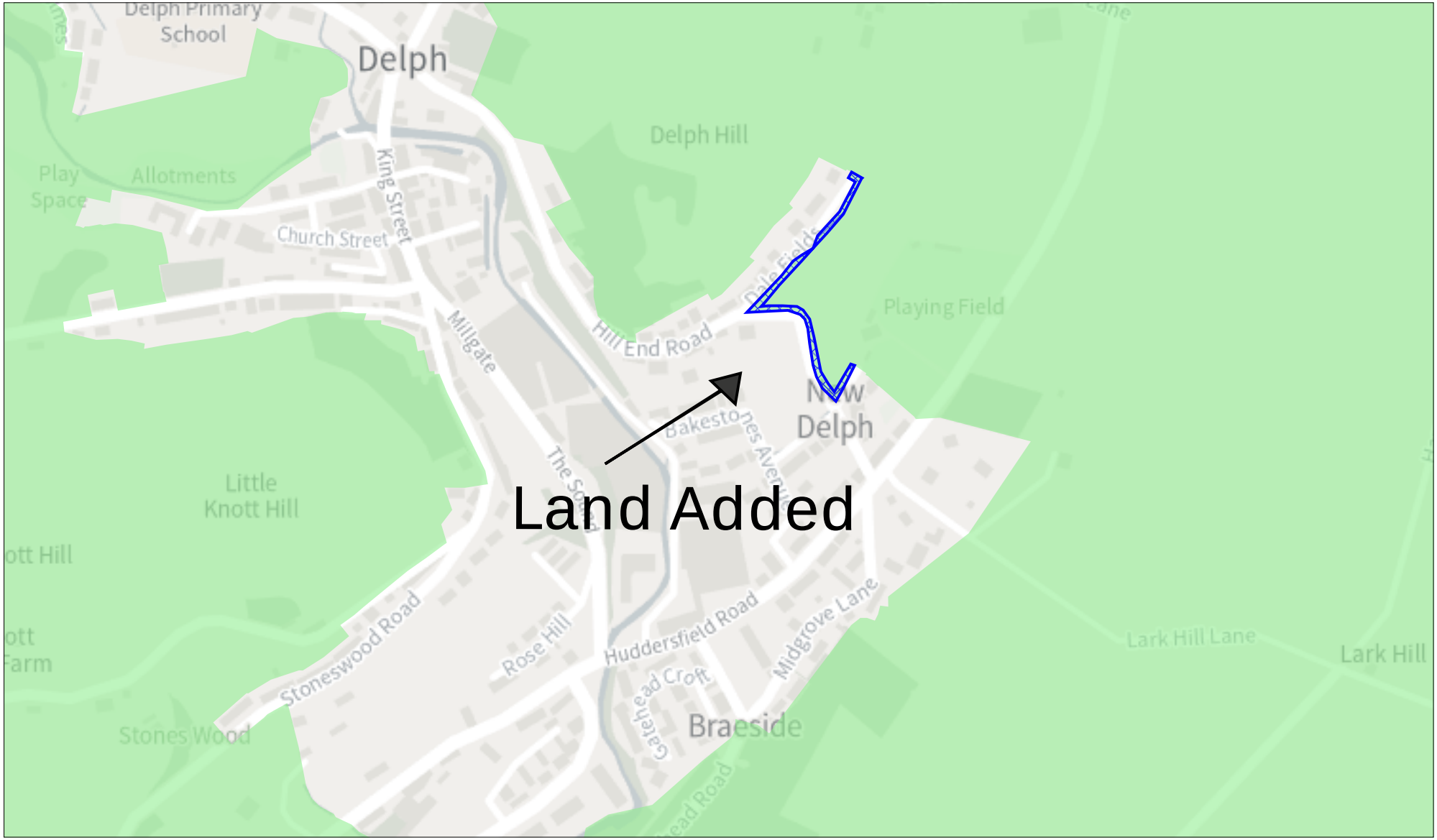

Boundary Amendment at Dale Road, Rumbles Lane and Ainsbrook Avenue, Delph

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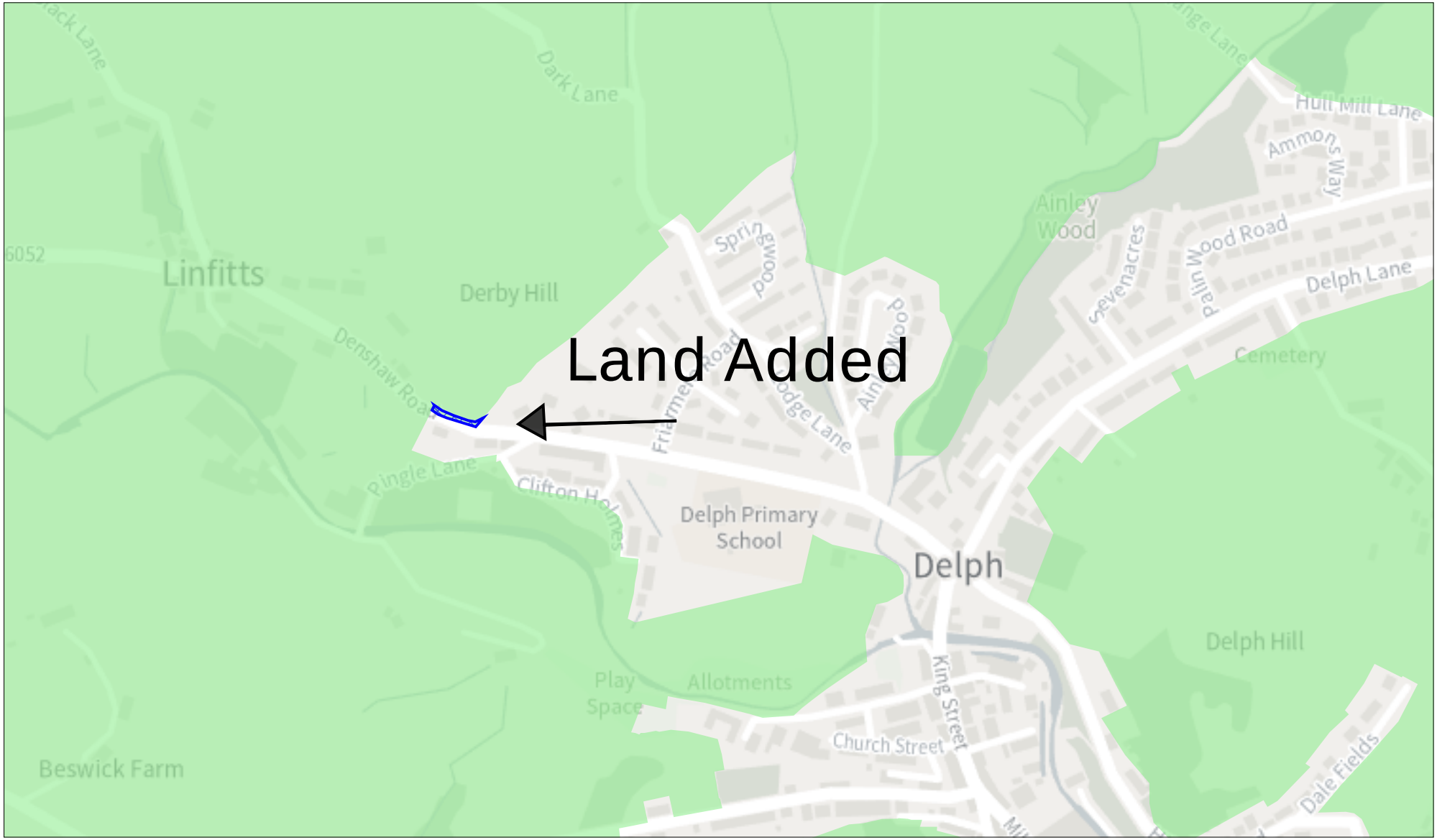

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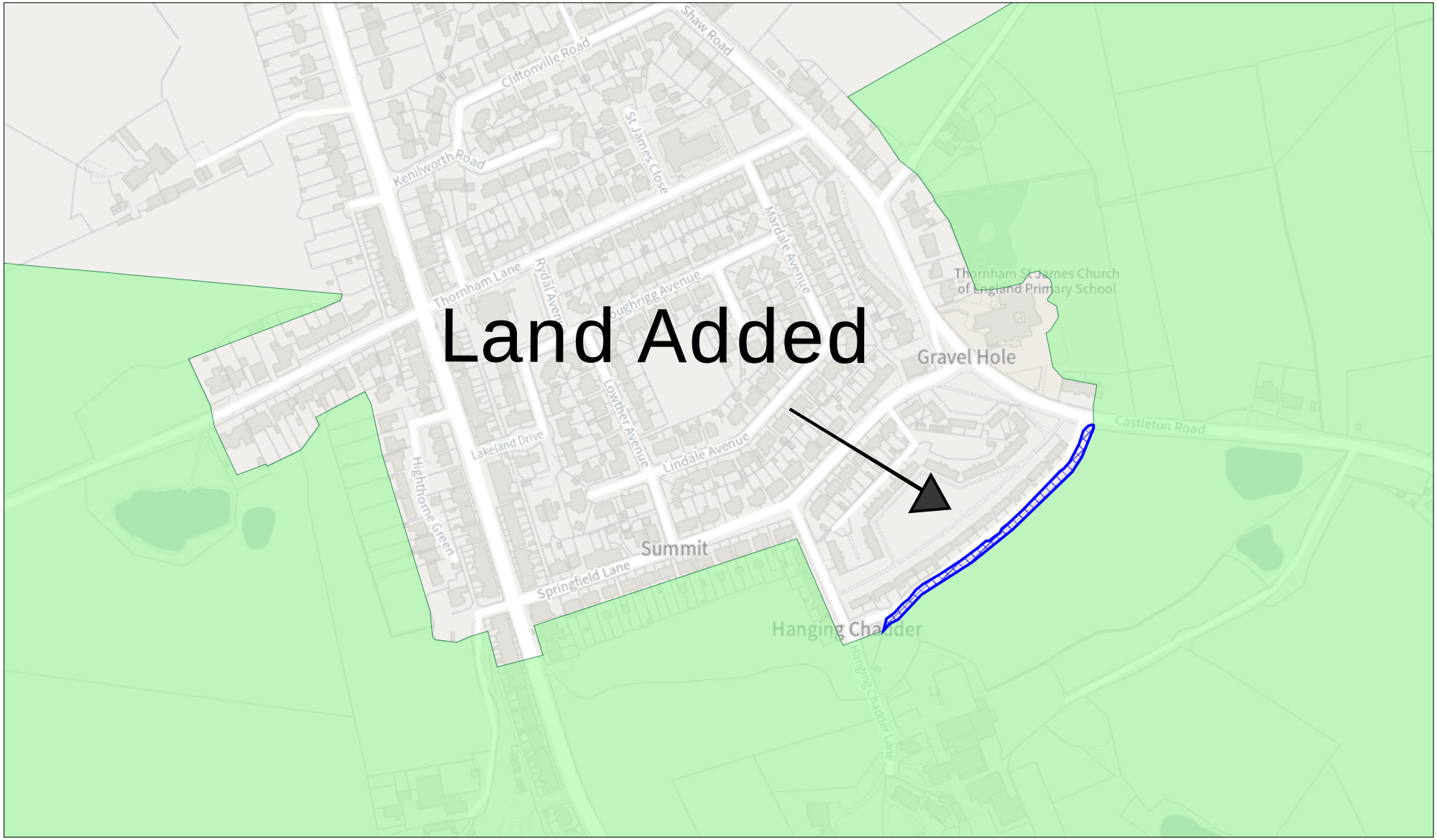

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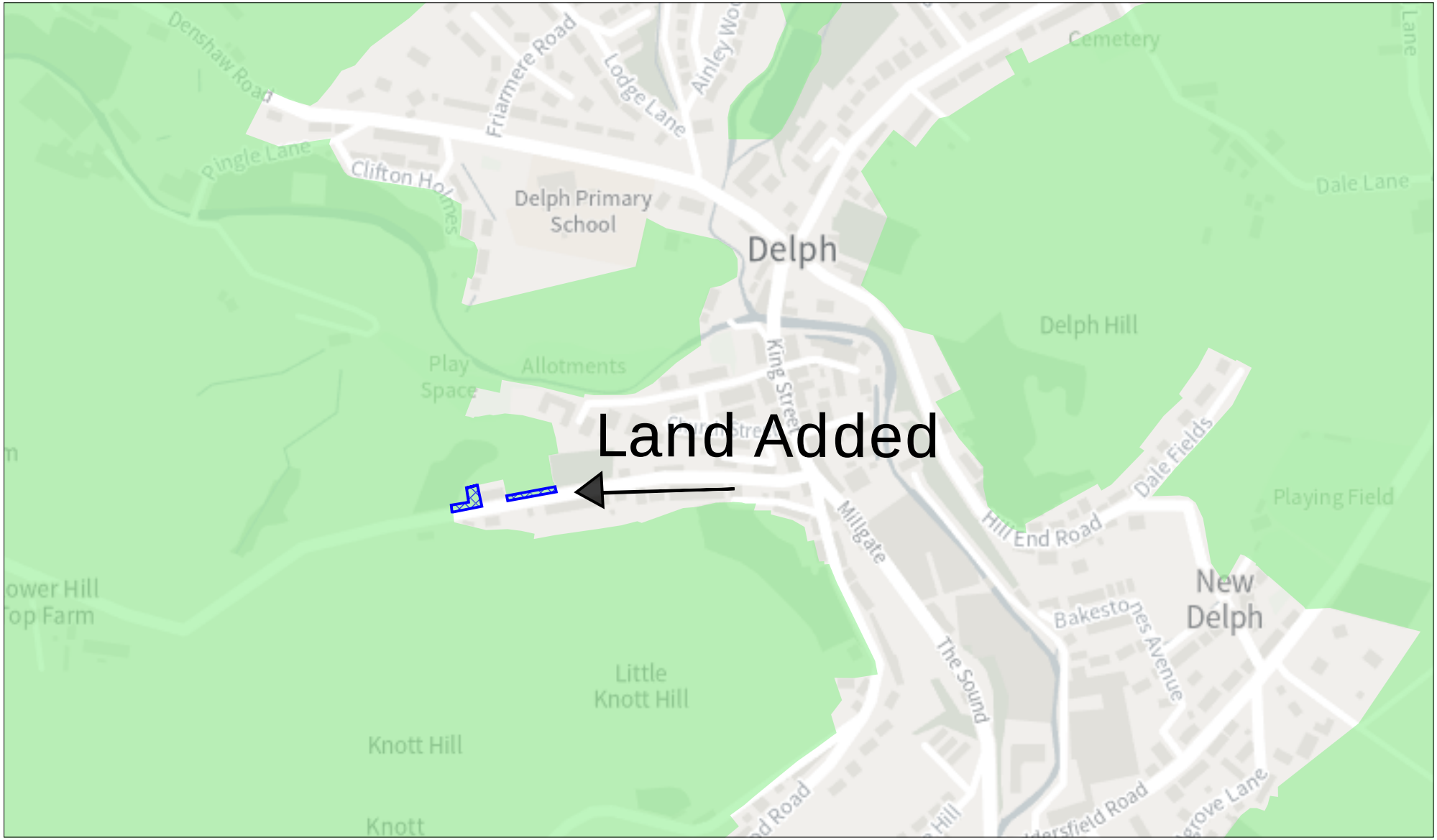

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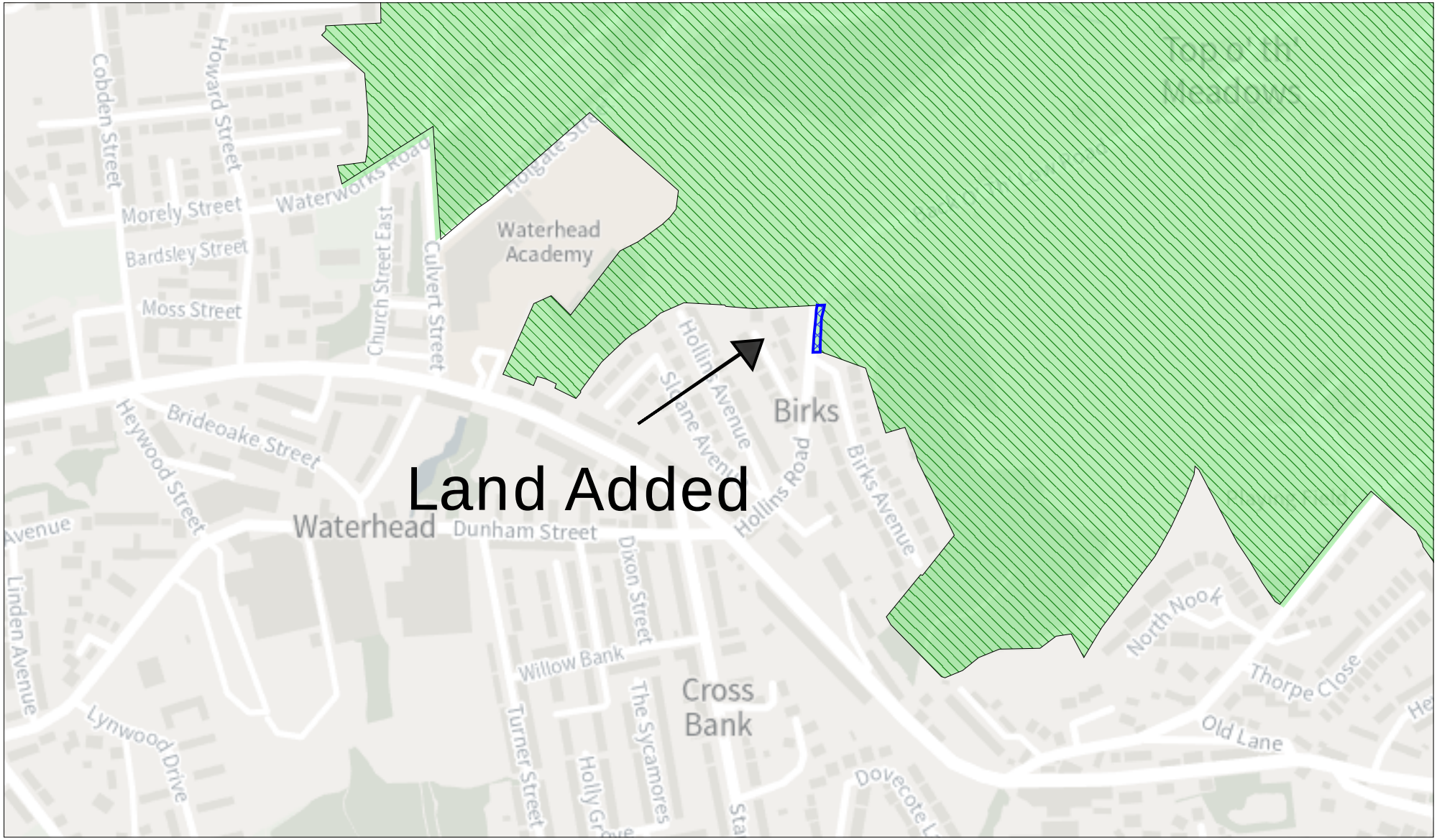

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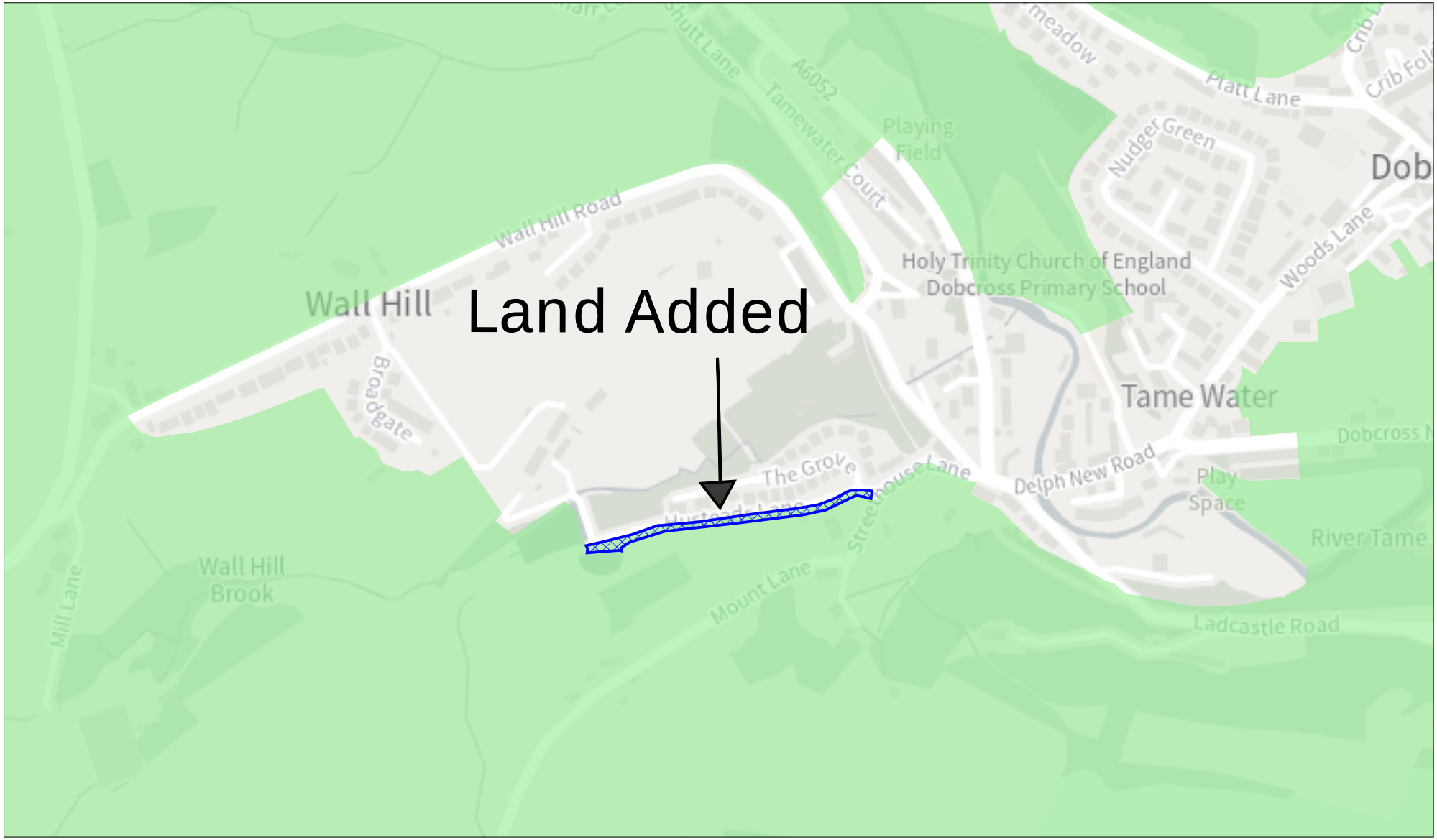

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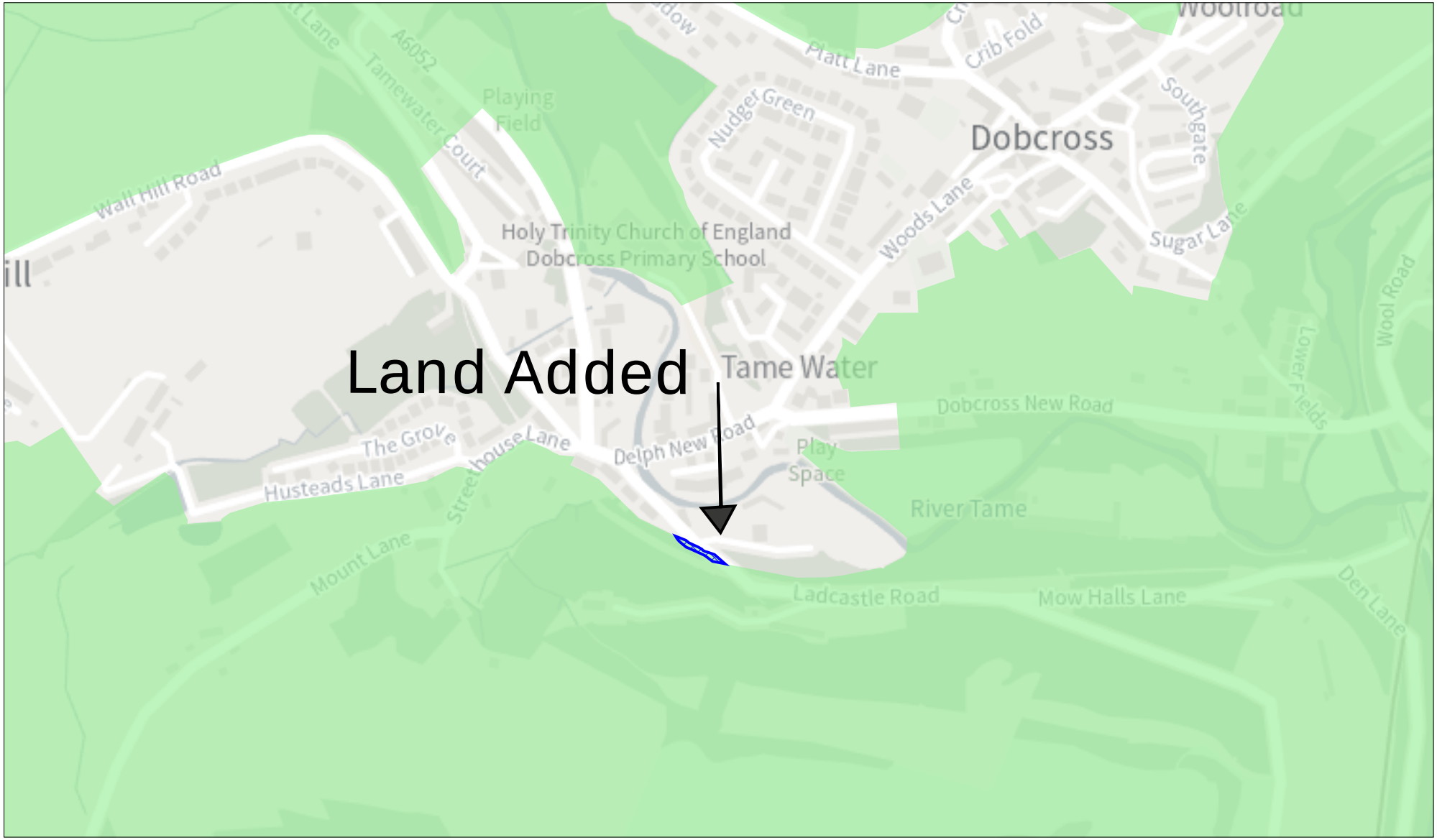

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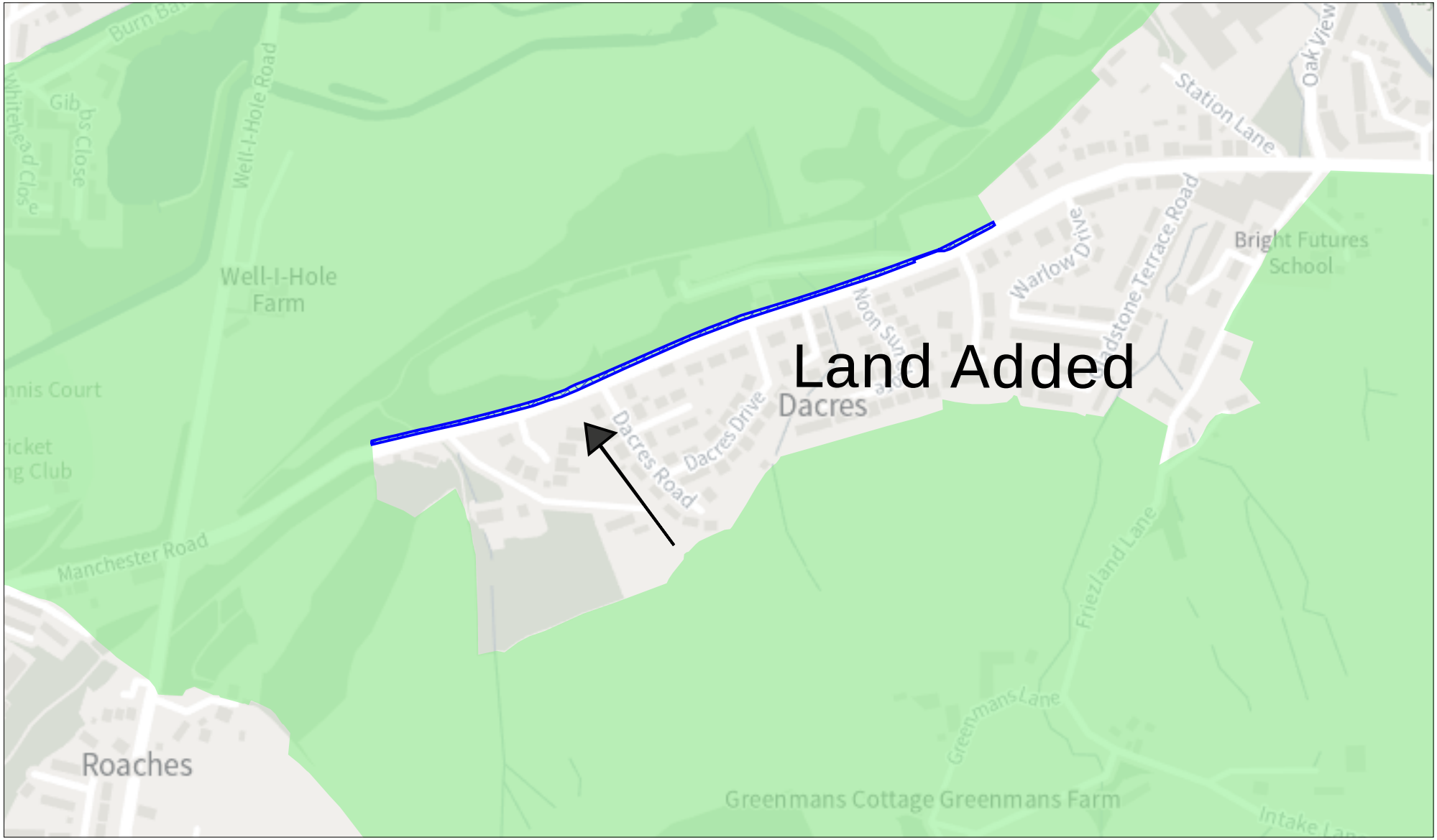

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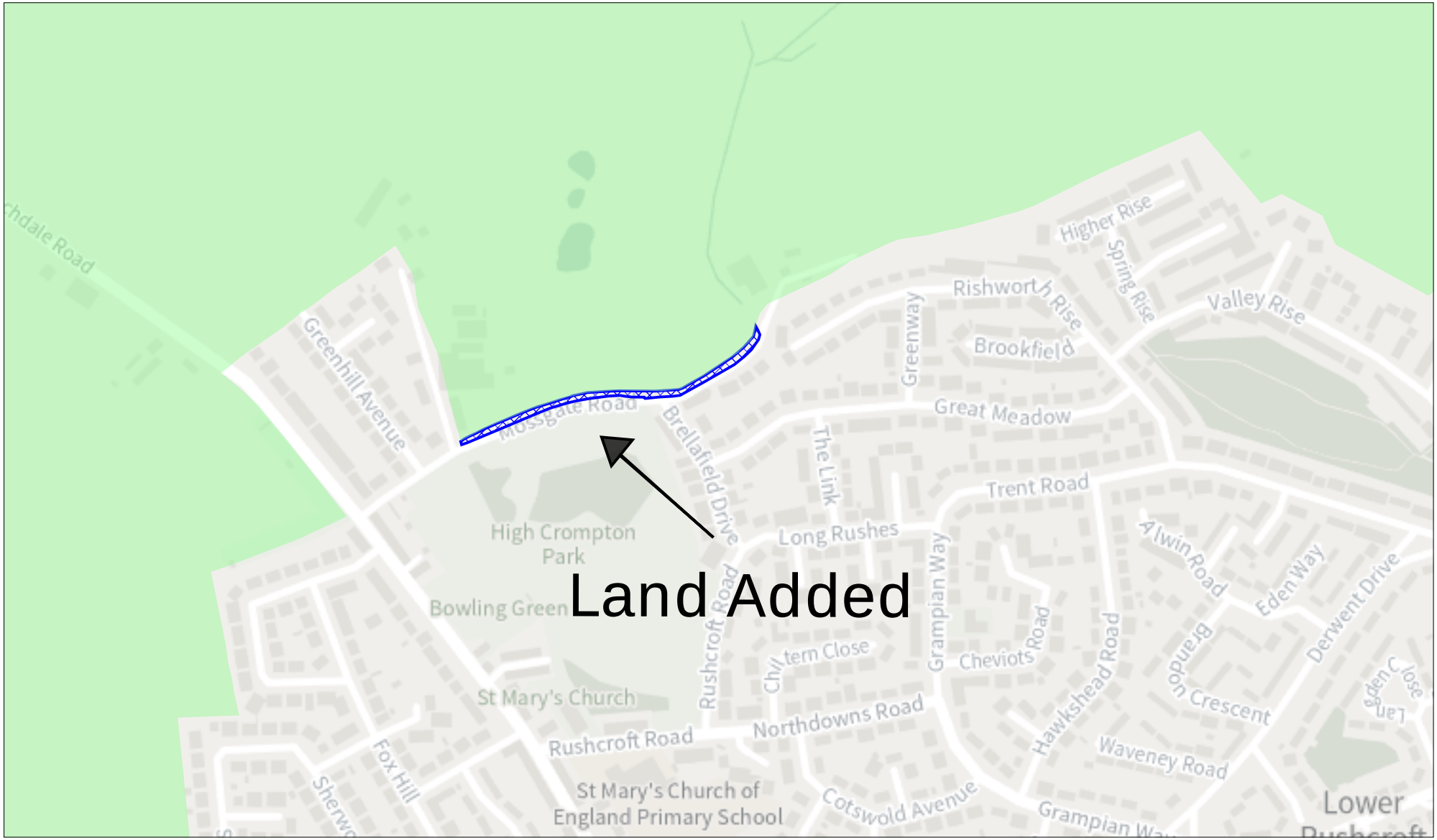

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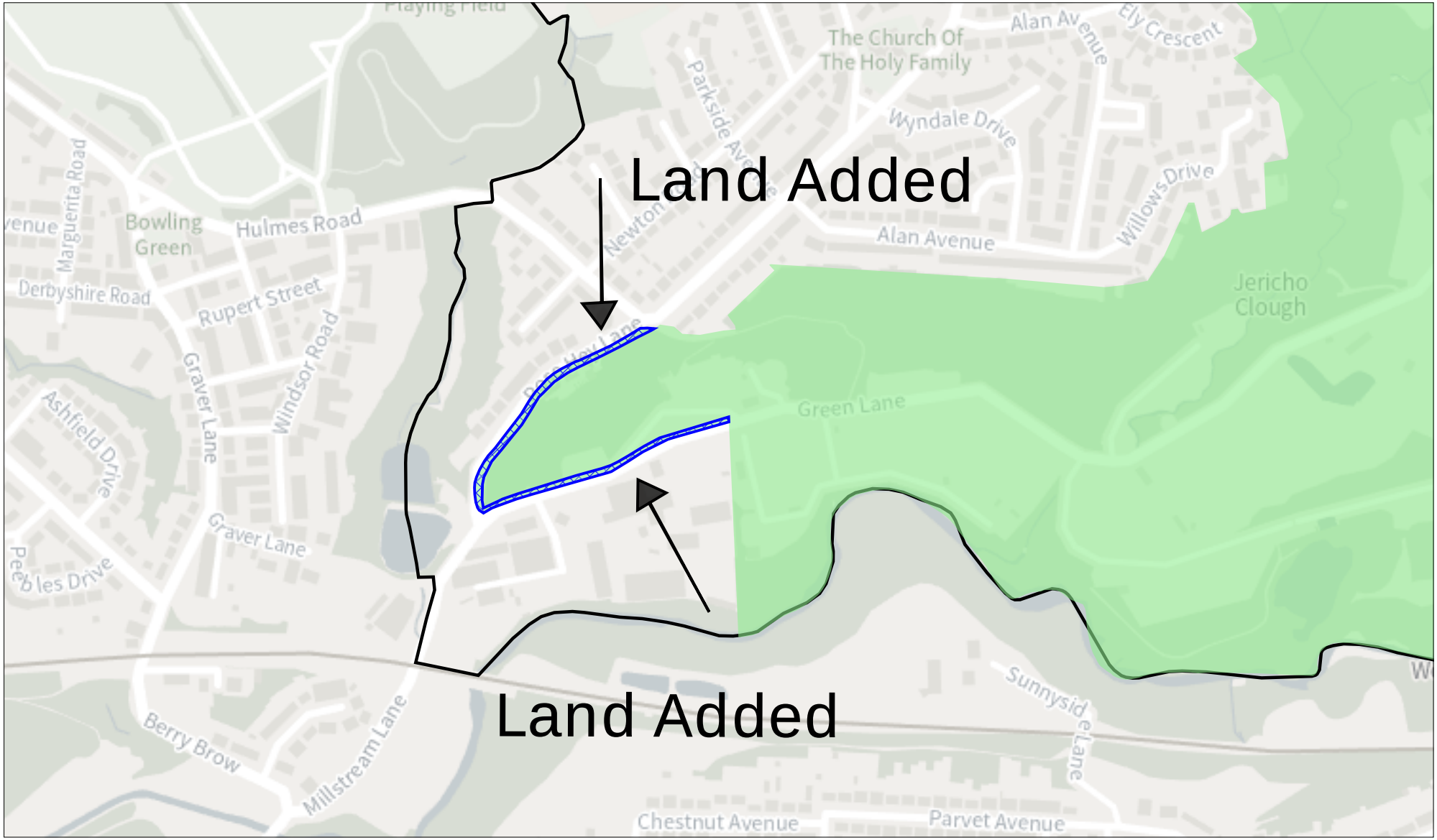

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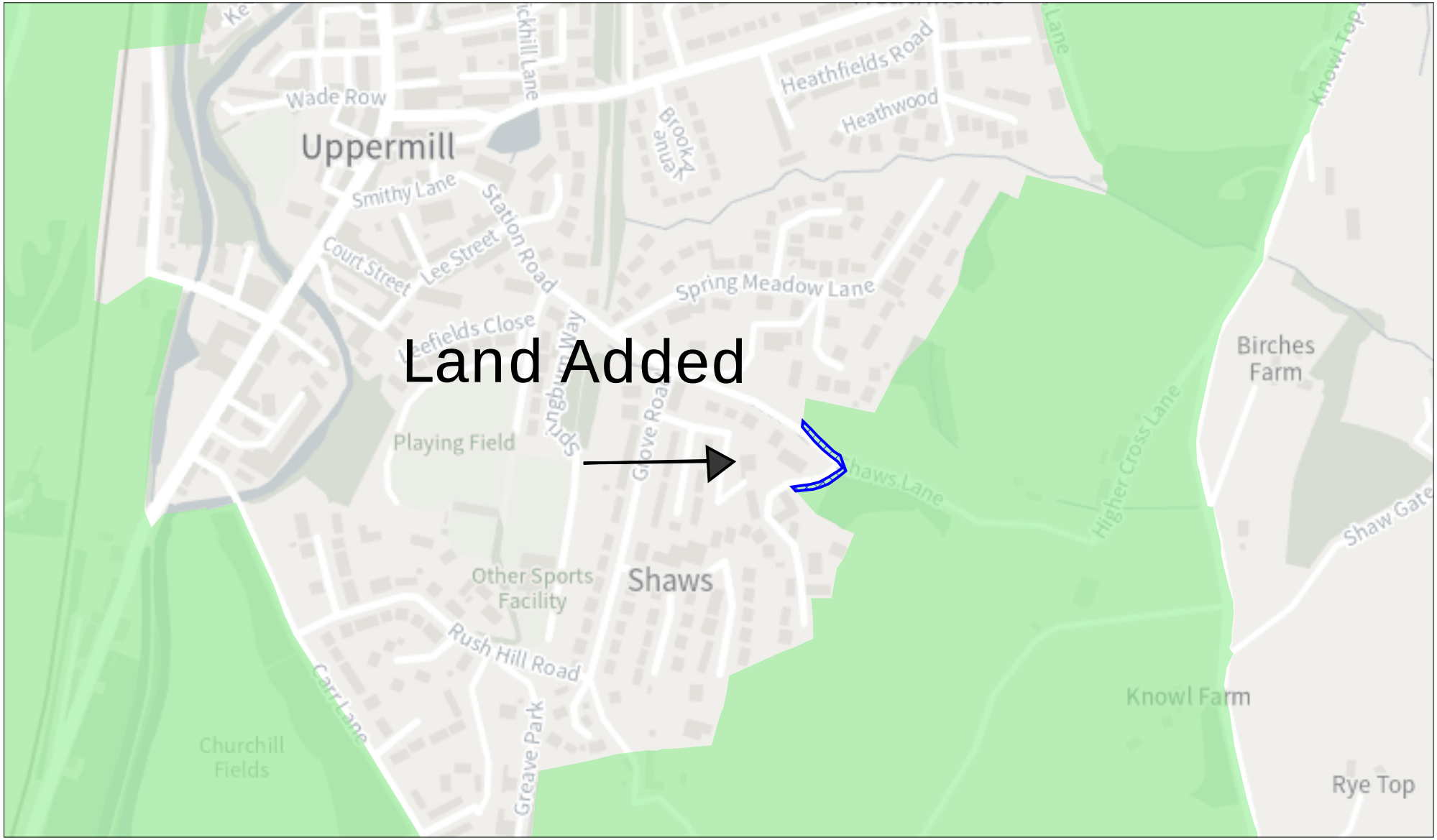

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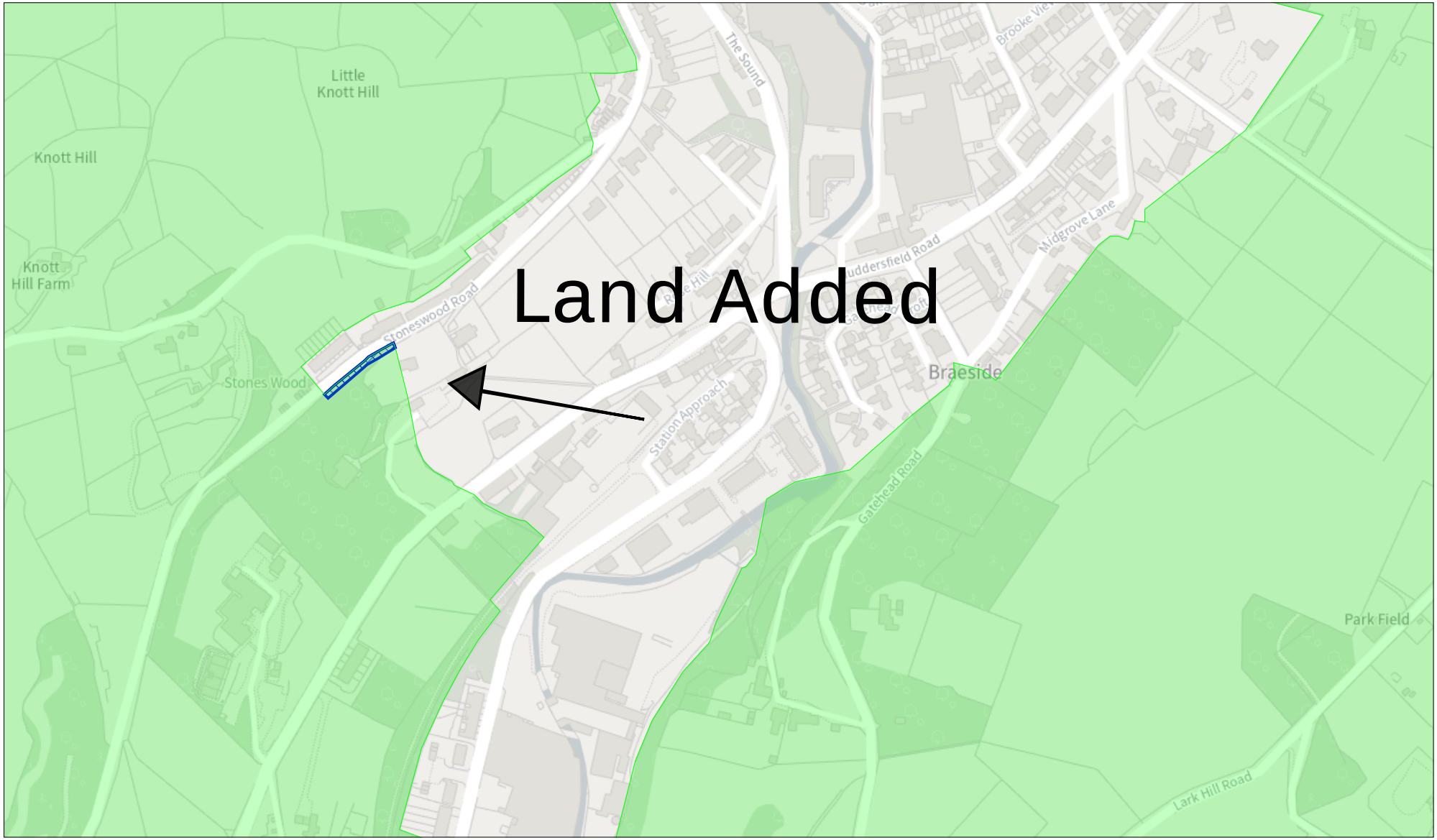

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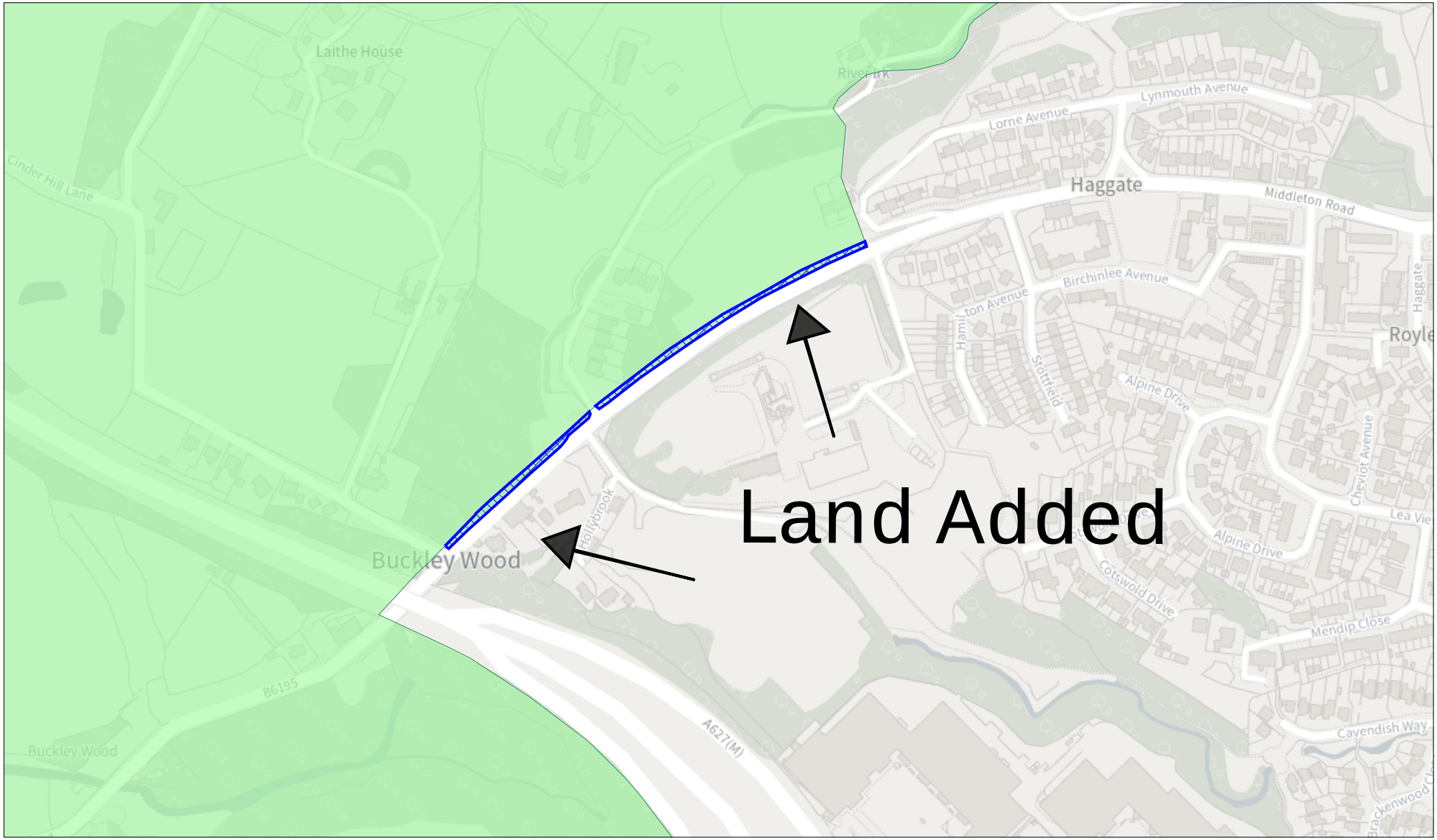

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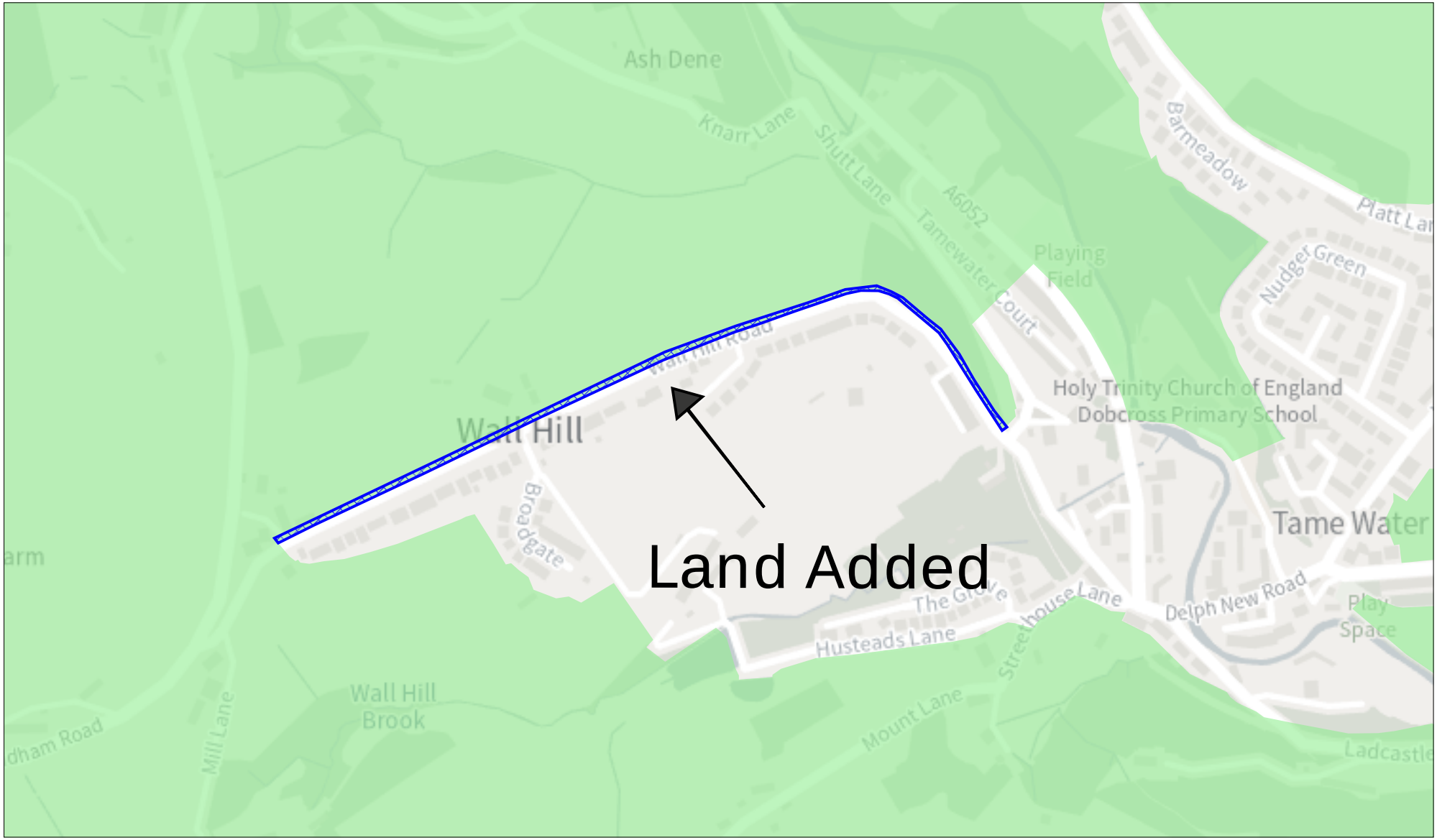

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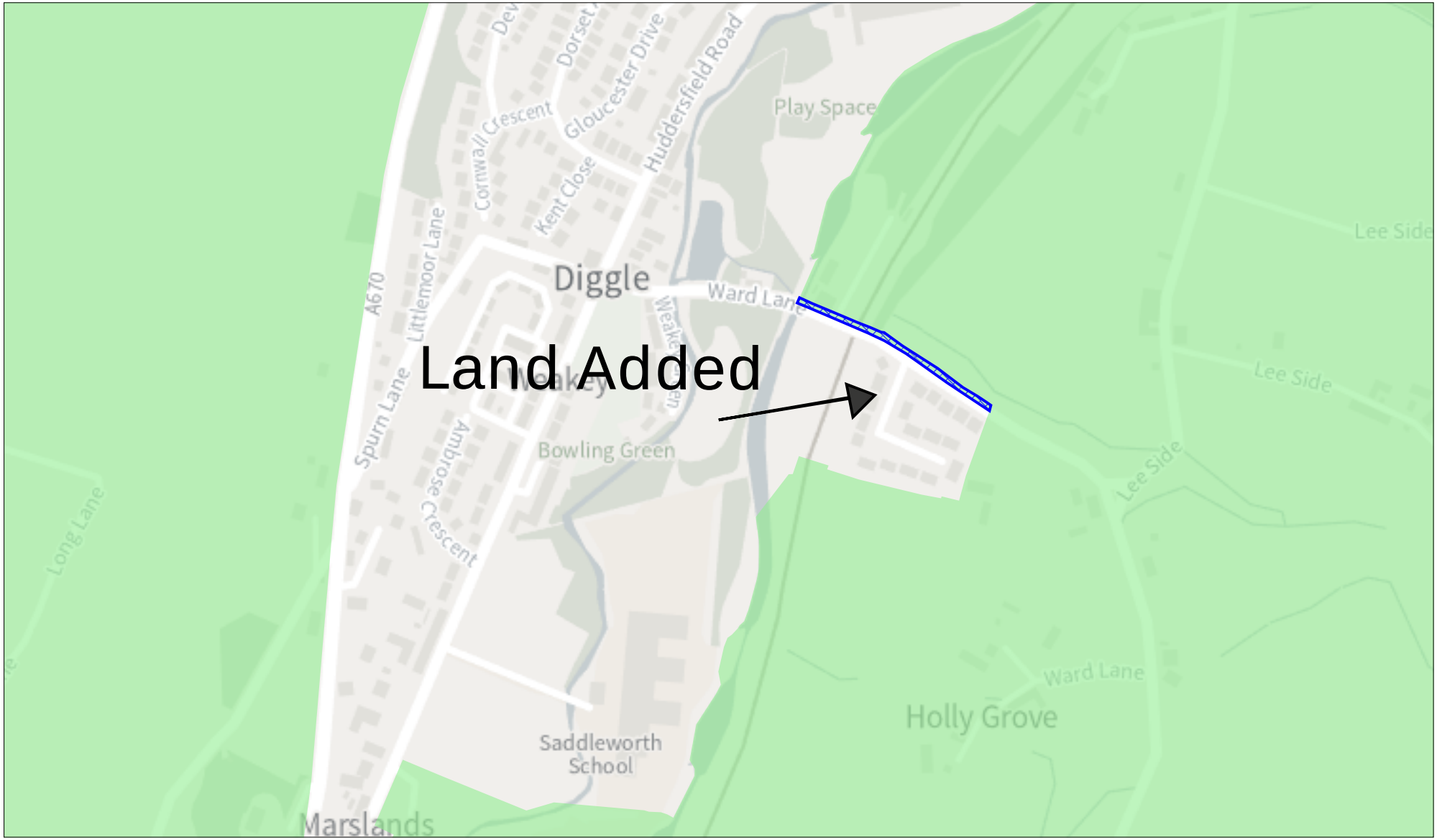

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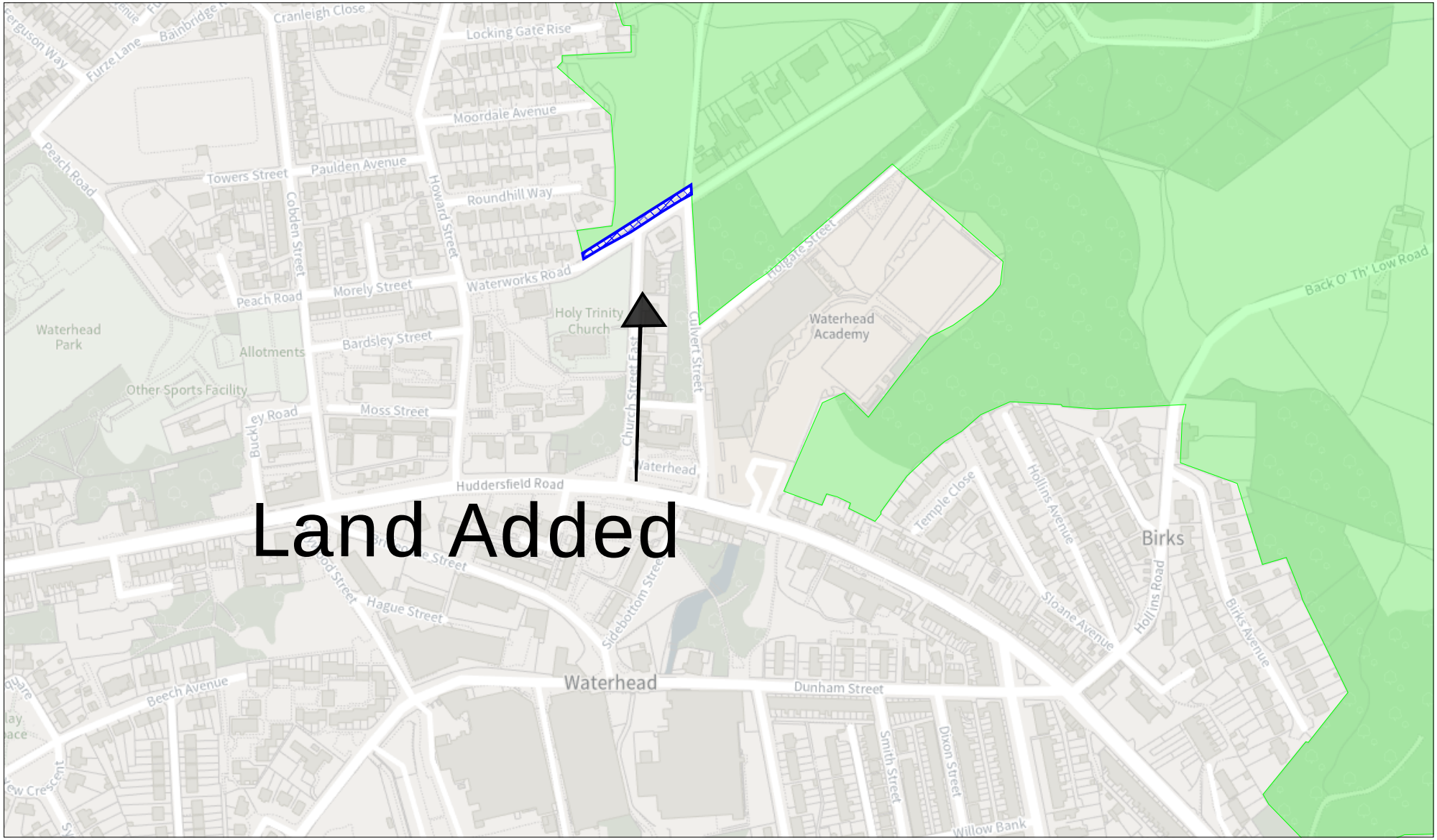

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Boundary Amendment Woodbrook Road, Springhead

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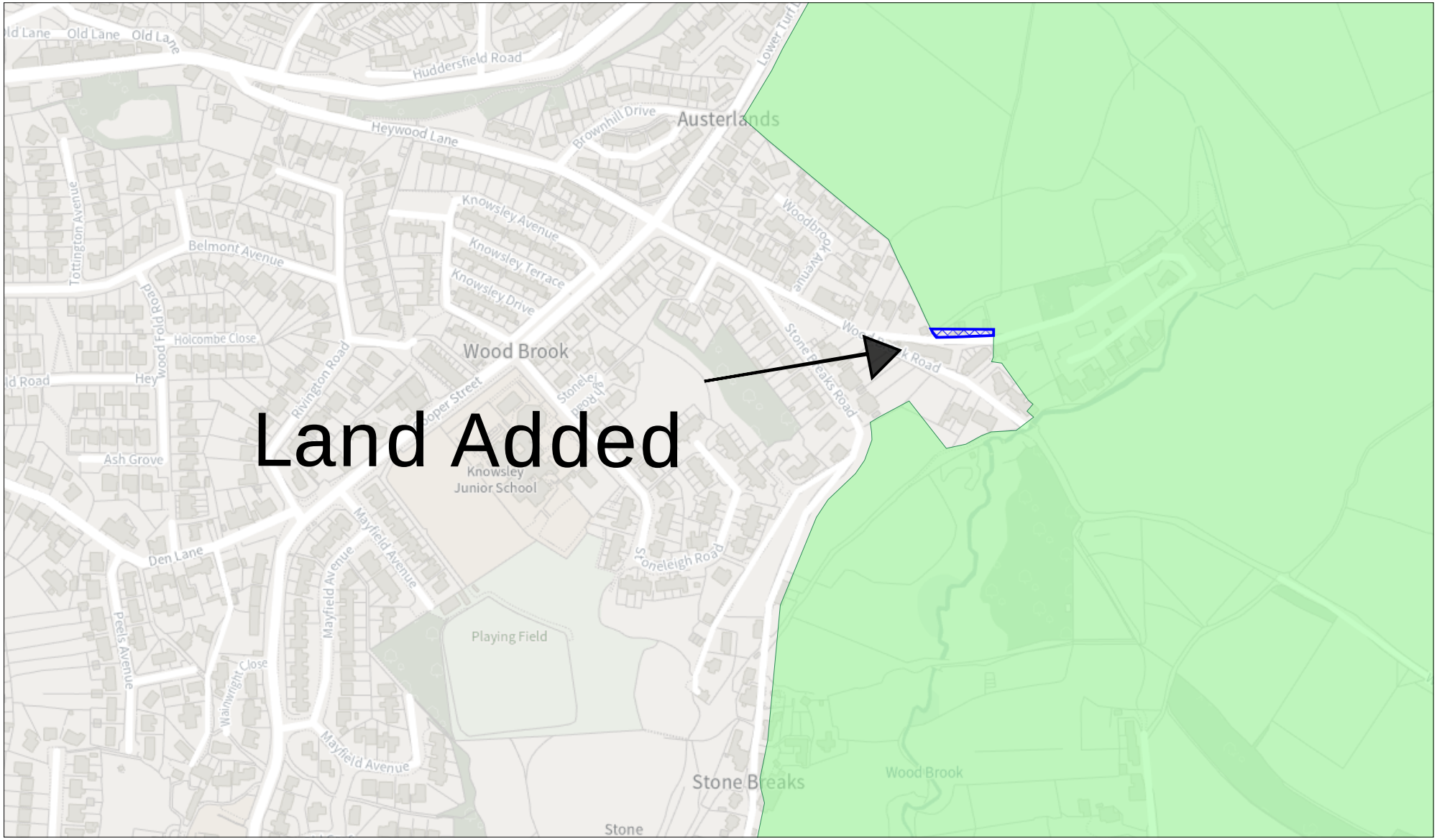

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 12

January 2026

Oldham Council

Appendix 12: Scale of harm to designated heritage assets - indicative examples

The table below further expands on the scale of harm that can be used to assess the degree of harm to a heritage asset's significance:

Appendix 12 Table: Scale of Harm to designated heritage assets - indicative examples

Level of Harm	Indicative examples
Total Loss	Complete removal of the significance of a designated heritage asset.
Substantial Harm	Serious harm that would lose or spoil the significance of a designated heritage asset.
Less than Substantial Harm	High level harm: Serious but not so serious as to lose or spoil the significance of a designated heritage asset. Medium level harm: Not necessarily serious to the significance but enough to be described as material. Low level harm: Does not seriously affect the significance of a designated heritage asset, negligible.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Appendix 13

January 2026

Oldham Council

Table A13-1: Places for Everyone Monitoring Indicators

Policy Outcome	PfE Strategic Objective	Relevant PfE Policy	Indicator (s)	Relevant Local Plan Policy
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Sustainable and Resilient				
Reduce carbon emissions from new development	2,5,7,8,10	JP-S1, 2, 3 and 6, JP-P1	% of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B	CC1
Maximise the use of suitable previously developed (brownfield) land for development	2,3,5,7,8,9	JP-Strat1 to 6, JP-Strat9, JP Strat12, JP-S1, JP-J2, J3, J4 and JP-H1 and H4	% of residential development on brownfield land % of gross employment development on brownfield land	H1, H2, E1
No new homes and employment premises at risk of flooding	2,8	JP-S1 and 4, JP-P1	No. of planning permissions approved against EA advice	CC2
Improve air quality	2,5,7,8,10	JP-S1, S2 and S5	Exceedance of the legal level of NO2 (as an Annual Mean) in local AQMA and Clean Air Plan Monitoring	LE3
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Jobs				
Improve productivity	3,5,10	JP-Strat1 to 12, JP-J1	% increase in GVA per job	E1
Increased number of jobs	3,5,10	JP-Strat1 to 12, JP-J1 and 2	Proportion of our residents (working age) in employment	E1
Improve access to jobs	4,5	JP-Strat1 to 12, JP-J1	Number of local labour agreements	E1
Increase overall office floorspace by 2 million sqm by 2039	3,5	JP-Strat1 to 12, JP-J1 to 3	Increase in office floorspace (gross)	E1
Increase overall industry and warehousing floorspace by 3.5 million sqm by 2039	3,5	JP-Strat1 and 4 to 11, JP-J1, 2 and 4	Increase in industry and warehousing floorspace (gross)	E1
Secure main town centre uses as local economic drivers	1,2,3,5,6,7,9	JP-Strat1, 6, 9 and 12 and JP-P4	No of residential units (net) delivered in main town Centres GVA in and within 800m of the main town centres	C1, C2, OTC1
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Homes				
Deliver net increase in new homes	1,2,3,5,7,10	JP-Strat1 to 3, 5 to 9 and 12, JP-H1	Deliver approx. 9,063 annually by 2025 Deliver approx. 10,305 annually by 2030	H1

Policy Outcome	PfE Strategic Objective	Relevant PfE Policy	Indicator (s)	Relevant Local Plan Policy
			Deliver approx.10,719 annually by 2039	
Maximise delivery of additional affordable homes	1,2,5,10	JP-H1 and H2	No. of new affordable homes completed	H5
Increase the number of homes meeting Nationally Described Space Standard (NDSS)	1,2,5,10	JP-H3	% new homes meeting Nationally Described Space Standard (NDSS)	H4
Increase in the number of new homes meeting Accessible & Adaptable (A&A) standard	1,2,5,10	JP-H3	% new homes meeting Accessible & Adaptable (A&A) standard	H4
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Greener				
Enhance the green infrastructure network	2,5,7,8,9,10	JP-Strat2, 3, 5, 12 and 13, JP-G1 to 6, 8 and 9 JP-P1 JP-G7	Gross area of new habitat created from the application of biodiversity net gain Number, area and condition of sites of biological importance (SBIs)	OTC4, N1, N2, N3
Increase tree planting	2,5,7,8,9,10	JP-G7	Number of trees planted annually (metric to be determined with respect to tree planting programmes and on-site delivery as a result of planning decisions where available)	N4
Increase in access to green infrastructure	2,5,7,8,9,10	JP-Strat 2, 3, 5, 12 and 13 JP-G2 to 6, 8 and 9 JP-P6	Number of hectares of green infrastructure (metric will consider publicly accessible GI where information is available)	OTC4, N2, N3, CO2
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – People				
Conserve, sustain and enhance our historic environment and heritage assets	2,4	JP-Strat1 to 3, 6 and 12, JP-P1, 2 and 3	Increase % of buildings on the "at risk register" with a strategy for their repair and re-use	OTC2, HE1, HE2, HE4
Provision of additional school places to support new development	2,9	JP-Strat1, 2 and 9, JP-P1 and 5	Numbers of school places (Annual School Capacity survey). Consideration of 'headroom' statistics where available.	CO4, CO5

Policy Outcome	PfE Strategic Objective	Relevant PfE Policy	Indicator (s)	Relevant Local Plan Policy
Workforce is ready to benefit from new employment opportunities	3,5	JP-Strat5, 6, 9, 11 and 12, JP-P5	% of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.	CO4, CO5
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Connected				
Increased proportion of daily trips by modes other than the car	2,5,6,7,10	JP-Strat1 to 12 JP-Strat14, JP-C1, 3, 5, 6 and 8	% of daily trips made by active travel, public transport, car and other (monitoring subject to further analysis of data collection methods – TRADS monitor undertaken by TfGM)	T1
Increased proportion of new development in an accessible location	2,5,6,7,10	JP-Strat14, JP-S1, 2 and 5, JP-C1, 3, 5, 6 and 8	% of new housing (net) within 800m of good public transport accessibility and % of new employment floorspace within 800m of good public transport accessibility *definition of good public transport accessibility to be agreed with TfGM	H1, H2, T1
Digital connectivity	2,3,4,5,6	JP-C2	Number of premises with full fibre connectivity	IN1
Increasing EV charging infrastructure	2,6,7	JP-S2 and C8	Number of EV charging points (% change can be monitored year to year or over longer time series)	T4
Places for Everyone Monitoring Framework – Delivering the Plan				
Ensuring the right infrastructure is delivered at the right time (broken down by different types of contribution)	1,2,3,4,5,6,7, 8,9,10	JP-S1, JP-S2, JP-J1, JP-H2, JP-G2-8, JP-P1, JP-P2, JP-P3, JP-P5, JP-P6, JP-P7, JP-C1, JP-C2, JP-C3, JP-C5, JP-C6, JP-C7, JP-C8, Allocations (where mitigation is identified)	Links provided to each Districts Infrastructure Funding Statement / Annual section 106 monitoring report	H5, E3, OTC3, N3, N4, T1, T3, CO1, CO2, CO5, CO6, IN1, IN2, IN3
Secure appropriate S106 contributions for affordable housing	1,2,3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,10	JP-H1 and H2 JP-D2	Developer contributions for the delivery of affordable housing	H5

Table A13-2: Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Monitoring Indicators

Relevant Waste Plan Policy	Indicator
Policy 1	Commercial and Industrial Waste: Energy Recovery Capacity
Policy 2	Non-hazardous Waste: Disposal Capacity
Policy 3	Hazardous Waste: Disposal Capacity
Policy 4	Site Allocations - Planning permission granted for developments identified as appropriate in the Waste Plan
Policy 5	Area Allocations - Planning permission granted for developments identified as appropriate in the Waste Plan
Policy 6	Residual Waste Disposal - Planning permission granted for developments identified as appropriate in the Waste Plan
Policy 7	Non-Hazardous Residual Waste Disposal -Planning permission granted for developments identified as appropriate in the Waste Plan
Policy 8	Requirement for Combined Heat and Power – planning applications for combined heat and power
Policy 9	Restoration and Aftercare compliance - planning applications for the disposal of inert waste
Policy 10	Unallocated Sites - planning decisions made on applications for waste uses on unallocated sites that would result in a change in waste management capacity
Policy 11	Safeguarding of Allocated Sites - planning applications determined on safeguarded sites
Policy 12	Safeguarding Existing Waste Management Capacity - Applications for non-waste uses on sites with a permitted waste use
Policy 13	Achievement of Scenario 2 targets – no longer applicable

Table A13-3: Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Monitoring Indicators

Relevant Minerals Plan Policy	Indicator
Policy 1	% of mineral related development permitted in line with presumption in favour of sustainable development.
Policy 2	% of mineral development planning applications permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy
Policy 3	% of applications for primary extraction of aggregate minerals permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.
Policy 4	% of natural building stone excavation permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.
Policy 5	% of applications for primary extraction of non-aggregate minerals permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy
Policy 6	% of unconventional gas resources developments permitted compliant with requirements of the policy
Policy 7	% of peat extraction developments permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy
Policy 8	% of non-mineral development permitted within the MSA (falling within the policy thresholds) which do not needlessly sterilise mineral resources
Policy 9	% of mineral development permitted utilising most sustainable transport modes in compliance with the policies of the Minerals Plan
Policy 10	% of applications for reworking colliery spoil tips permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy

Policy 11	% of non-mineral related development permitted within a distance that could affect existing mineral sites/infrastructure, in the absence of justification provided by the developer as set out within the policy
Policy 12	% of mineral related development permitted in line with the restoration and aftercare requirements
Policy 13	% of mineral related development permitted in line with the restoration and aftercare requirements.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 1 : IA of Vision

January 2026

Oldham Council

IA Draft Plan Appraisal: Vision

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as this is a vision over the lifetime of the plan that all objectives will be met in the longer term.

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	Vision states that Oldham will have responded to both the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and that Oldham will be a carbon neutral exemplar with a resilient and multifunctional Green Infrastructure network. It also states that our residents will have active and healthier lifestyles gained from access to active travel and green infrastructure.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	Vision states that our residents will have access to active travel and green infrastructure which will include our open spaces.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	Vision states that the key characteristics of Oldham's townscape and landscape types will be conserved and enhanced.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	Vision states that the key characteristics of Oldham's historic environment and rich heritage will be conserved and enhanced.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	Vision states that new development will be brought forward in line with co-design expectations and design codes developed with Oldham's communities. It also states that the key characteristics of Oldham's townscape and landscape types and Oldham's historic environment and rich heritage will be conserved and enhanced.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	The vision states that new homes will be delivered in sustainable and accessible locations; that our centres will continue to provide a vital role in meeting the needs of our communities; and that the natural environment will be protected. All these statements contribute indirectly towards ensuring land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7.To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	Our residents will have access to local community facilities and health and well-being provision and will have active and healthier lifestyles gained from access to active travel and green infrastructure. The vision also states that there will be improved connectivity across the borough, the city-region and beyond - for all. We will have a transport system	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
		that enables the local economy to prosper and our residents to fully contribute to and benefit from job opportunities, and a comprehensive network of on and off-road walking and cycling routes that encourage active travel.	policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	The vision states that Oldham residents will be healthy, safe and well-supported and will obtain health benefits from access to active travel, green Infrastructure and opportunities for sport and recreation. The vision also states residents will gain significant progress in living standards, which will in turn improve their health and well-being.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	The vision refers to how Oldham will have responded to both the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint and that our Green Infrastructure network will bring multiple benefits to the natural and built environment as well as to the health of its residents and visitors. One of the benefits will be mitigating against flood risk.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and	+	The vision refers to how Oldham will have responded to both the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection,	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
availability of water resources		restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint and how our Green Infrastructure network will bring multiple benefits to the natural and built environment as well as to the health of its residents and visitors, one of the benefits will be the protection and improvement in the quality of water bodies and river corridors.	CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	The vision will achieve this as it seeks to respond to the Climate Change emergency and enhance the natural environment and refers to a resilient and multi-functional Green Infrastructure network. The Local Plan provides more detail on this such as through restoring peat.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	++	The vision will achieve this as it seeks to respond to the Climate Change emergency through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint from meeting the council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. The vision states that Oldham will have a strong reputation for clean growth and green innovation. It also states new development will be net zero and in line with co-design expectations and design codes.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	The vision states that we will have responded to both the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
		from meeting the council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.	Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3	
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	In meeting the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint from meeting the council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 this will improve air quality. In addition, the resilient and multi-functional Green Infrastructure will contribute towards this objective as will having sustainable transport choices. The vision also adds that Oldham will be a key contributor to Greater Manchester's economy, with a strong reputation for clean growth and green innovation. This will have a positive cross boundary impact.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	The vision states Oldham residents will be healthy and safe, which links to local environmental quality. However, it was noted that reference to 'clean' has been removed and the vision would continue to benefit with it added in. This addition and all the positive contributing objectives should lead to a borough that has improved local environmental quality.	The vision could be enhanced through mention of clean and green. In addition, PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	The vision has been amended to refer to a "clean, green and healthy environment".

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	The vision states that Oldham will have accessible and sustainable transport choices, providing improved connectivity across the borough, the city-region and beyond - for all. It adds we will have a comprehensive network of on and off-road walking and cycling routes that encourage active travel, making it easier and safer for people to get to key local destinations. This will have a positive cross boundary impact.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	The vision states that Oldham will have accessible and sustainable transport choices, providing improved connectivity across the borough. It also states that our residents will have access to local community facilities and access to active travel and green infrastructure.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	The whole vision is aiming to aid regeneration through a thriving Oldham town centre, homes of different sizes and types delivered, providing economic growth, making progress in living standards, skills and wages, improved connectivity; and a green environment. This should help to tackle levels of deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	The vision states that Oldham will be a key contributor to Greater Manchester's economy, with a strong reputation for clean growth and green innovation. It will be a place of dynamic businesses with better job opportunities, where those	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 'Supporting Long-Term Economic Growth' and JP-J2	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
		businesses local to Oldham are supported to thrive and grow, and those new to Oldham are attracted to invest. Every resident will be enabled to contribute to, and benefit from, economic growth of the city region. Oldham Town Centre will be a place that thrives by combining a retail core with quality homes, opportunities to learn, develop new skills and gain employment.	'Employment Sites and Premises' and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan also addresses economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	The vision states that Oldham Town Centre will be a place that thrives by combining a retail core with quality homes, opportunities to learn, develop new skills and gain employment, and a diverse culture, leisure and night-time offer that supports its local communities and attracts visitors. Our Town Centre will be supported by the borough's other centres – Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Shaw, Royton and Uppermill which will continue to provide a vital role in meeting the needs of the borough's communities, connecting our residents to local services and facilities in a way that fosters a sense of community and local identity.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P4 'New Retail and Leisure Uses in Town Centres', JP-H4 'Density of New Housing', JP-P3 'Cultural Facilities' and JP-P2 'Heritage' and Local Plan Policies C1-C4 on centres as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	The vision states that Oldham Town Centre will be a place that thrives by a diverse culture, leisure and night-time offer that supports its local communities and attracts visitors. In addition, our multi-functional	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P3 'Cultural Facilities' and JP-P4 'New	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
		Green Infrastructure network will also promote sustainable tourism and leisure.	Retail and Leisure Uses in Town Centres' and Local Plan Policies 3 'Retail and Leisure Impact Assessments and Sequential Tests' and TM1 'Tourism' as well as other policies also addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	The vision states that there will be opportunities for excellent education, training and life-long learning will be available to all Oldham residents, raising aspirations and reducing inequalities. Providing residents with a great start and skills for life so that they can make the most of opportunities available to them.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 'Education, Skills and Knowledge' and Local Plan policies C05 and CO6 one education and Skills also addresses this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	The vision states that the plan will deliver new homes of different sizes and types, including affordable housing.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	It is considered that the vision will have a limited impact on this objective, however by focussing development in sustainable and accessible	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Vision	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan as a result of the IA
		locations means that our Minerals Safeguarding Areas are protected.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	It is considered that the vision will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	The vision states that new homes will be delivered in sustainable and accessible locations, will contribute to inclusive communities where everyone can live. In addition, the vision states that new development will be new zero and in line with co-design expectations and design codes developed with Oldham's communities, whilst the key characteristics of Oldham's townscape and landscape types and Oldham's historic environment and rich heritage will be conserved and enhanced. This will contribute towards mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The vision scored a mixture of positives and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage only minor amendments were made to the vision therefore scores did not differ. However, it was considered that wording should be added back to the vision to link to local environmental quality (IA15) to support the score given. The vision has been amended to refer to a "clean, green and healthy environment".

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 2 : IA of Plan Objectives

January 2026

Oldham Council

IA Publication Plan Appraisal: Plan Objectives

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least, 11,560 new homes;
- delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people;
- ensuring the delivery of high-quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes; and
- ensuring appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	PO1 seeks to ensure high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered at appropriate densities. It is assumed therefore that this would take into consideration the appearance of landscapes and townscapes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environ ment, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO1 seeks to ensure high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered at appropriate densities. It is assumed therefore that this would take into consideration the historic environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	PO1 seeks to ensure high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered at appropriate densities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	PO1 seeks to identify a diverse housing offer and to ensure appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.	N/A	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
supporting infrastructure to meet development needs				
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO1 refers to ensuring high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people. This will have indirect health links by improving housing stock and living environments.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although PO1 refers to ensuring high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered. This should include areas of lower flood risk and incorporation of sustainable drainage. Developing at appropriate densities also helps contribute towards meeting this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile	+	PO1 seeks to ensure appropriate densities and make the best and most effective use of brownfield land.	N/A	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land				
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	+	PO1 requires high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered, this should include good energy efficiency.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO1 requires high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered, this should include cooling which will help achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO1 will contribute to this through ensuring appropriate densities, which will include higher densities in sustainable locations, this will reduce reliance on the private car and therefore improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO1 requires high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered which will help improve local environmental quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network				
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO1 will contribute to this through ensuring appropriate densities, which will include higher densities in sustainable locations, meaning more new homes are located with good accessibility to key services which reduces the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO1 seeks to identify a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of our residents and to ensure appropriate densities are used and to make the best and most effective use of brownfield land. All of these will help promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO1 seeks to build new homes to meet the borough's local housing need. Providing homes creates jobs directly and indirectly.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town	+	PO1 will help achieve this as a number of the new homes provided will be in our centres. This will help to protect and enhance our centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill				
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	PO1 specifically seeks to achieve this.	N/A	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	PO1 achieves this by ensuring appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
in line with the waste hierarchy				
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	PO1 refers to ensuring high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people. This will help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements were identified for plan objective 1 as a result of the IA.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by:

- supporting the provision of suitable, modern services and facilities for the education and training of all age groups, including addressing the needs for primary and secondary school places; and
- encouraging employment and skills opportunities for local people as part of new developments.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is noted that playing pitches form part of our green infrastructure network.	N/A Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO2 supports the provision of new sites for education and training. Schools may include the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities which can be made available to the wider community.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place				
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. PO2 was amended at Draft Plan stage following the IA to make it clear that the objective applies to existing facilities and not just the building of new facilities.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO2 is intended to ensure that sites are provided for education and skills which form part of our infrastructure needs.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO2 will help contribute to this as playing pitches and sports facilities within schools can often be accessed by the wider community. This will help	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO2 will help provide a key service (education facility) addressing needs which should therefore promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO2 aims to provide opportunities to learn and gain skills which in turn will reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO2 aims to provide opportunities to learn and gain skills for local people which will help to promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledged that there are a number of education and training facilities within our centres.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	PO2 aims to provide opportunities to learn and gain skills for local people.	N/A.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO2 aims to encourage employment and skills opportunities for local people which will help promote inclusive communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 2 scored many neutrals due to the specific nature of the objective and some positive and significantly positive scores.

Between Draft plan stage and Publication plan stage there were no changes to the scores.

PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 57,481 sqm of office floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace;
- protecting designated sites that are suitable and attractive for existing and new businesses to locate to and expand on;
- encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies;
- supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth; and
- supporting a range of sustainable leisure and tourism activities.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	PO3 has no specific text although the plan objective supports leisure and tourism activities which will include our green infrastructure.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	PO3 has no specific text although the plan objective supports leisure and tourism activities which will include our open spaces.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place				
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO3 helps to meet this objective by providing for and supporting the delivery of employment floorspace and protecting designated employment sites the majority of which are on brownfield land.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO3 helps meet this objective by supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth which will support development needs of our businesses.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO3 seeks to provide access to employment opportunities which indirectly may help to reduce health inequalities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	Maximising opportunities at designated employment areas will help avoid development on new greenfield sites and therefore will help to protect soil and agricultural land and remediate contaminated land.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	+	PO3 encourages clean growth and green technologies which will help promote sectors linked to energy efficiency.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO3 will help achieve this by protecting employment sites that will focus employment development towards already established employment areas and will help ensure that appropriate uses are located together indirectly resulting in protecting air quality. In addition, encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies will also help to protect and improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO3 will help achieve this by protecting employment sites that will focus employment development towards already established employment areas which will help ensure that appropriate uses are located together, and environmental quality is not diminished due to incompatible neighbour uses.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO3 seeks to ensure access to employment opportunities for all, which indicates through transport connections but there is no specific reference, therefore it has been given a neutral score.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO3 seeks to ensure access to employment opportunities for all which should reduce the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO3 seeks to ensure access to employment opportunities for all and to grow local businesses which will reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	N/A	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO3 seeks to achieve this by ensuring access to employment opportunities for all; growing local businesses and encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key growth sectors.	N/A.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	PO3 refers to supporting a range of leisure and tourism activities, these uses will protect and enhance our centres. In addition, new offices may be located within our centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO3 refers to supporting a range of leisure and tourism activities.	N/A.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A

IA Objective		Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
	sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs				
24.	To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	Protecting our designated employment sites will protect further greenfield land being allocated for employment, which indirectly could minimise the need for releasing further greenfield sites, safeguarding minerals.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25.	To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26.	To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO3 achieves this by providing access to employment opportunities, which is inclusive. Designated employment sites are spread throughout the borough to help create mixed and balanced communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 3 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage PO3 has been reworded slightly in a couple of places with the floorspace to be provided now reflected as square metres rather than hectares and green innovation now referred to as green technologies. The purpose of the objective has not changed though. However, on reflection there has been some changes in scoring:

- IA7 has now been amended from positive to a significant positive as it is felt that supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth will significantly benefit the development needs of our businesses.
- IA14 has changed from a neutral to a positive as it is felt the objective will help achieve an improvement in air quality by protecting employment sites that will focus employment development towards already established employment areas and also by encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies.

PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres by:

- supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres; and
- promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres to ensure their long-term sustainability.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

Plan Objective 4 states that it will supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. Oldham Town Centre Development Framework covers a number of elements relevant to this IA. The key proposals are:

- The introduction of up to 2,000 new homes located within safe, inclusive and attractive neighbourhoods.
- The redevelopment of Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre to redefine the retail core.
- The Green Shoots Business and Innovation Centre, and Minewater District Heat Network Energy Centre, which form part of the council's Greener Oldham commitment.
- The re-use and refurbishment of several prominent heritage assets, specifically the Prudential Building, the Old Library and Gallery, and the Lyceum Building.
- Enhancing accessibility, connectivity and movement, providing sustainable infrastructure connections through the Accessible Oldham programme.
- The enhancement of the town centre's Green Infrastructure with the creation of Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens.
- Upgrading the night-time and creative economy, to make the town centre a destination of choice

All elements from the strategy have been fed into this assessment and any assumptions made.

Other appropriate plans that have been considered during this IA are the Green Infrastructure Strategy, Oldham's Green New Deal, the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plan (CAAMP), Oldham's Transport Strategy and Accessible Oldham.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include quality multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include promoting quality and accessible open spaces such Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	Plan objective helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include strengthening a sense of place.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environ ment, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include a number of projects around the historic core of Oldham Town Centre and through the re-use and refurbishment of several prominent heritage assets, specifically the Prudential Building, the Old Library and Gallery, and the Lyceum Building.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	PO4 will achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and other plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. This will include the Oldham Town Centre CAAMP.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	PO4 seeks to support the regeneration of our centres and therefore maximises the use of brownfield land.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO4 will help support this objective as it supports appropriate plans or projects within our centres that will facilitate the borough's regeneration. This will include plans and strategies such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy, the Green New Deal and Accessible	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 8 and 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		Oldham, all of which will help meet development needs.		
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include quality multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre which will help improve health and well-being. There will be other plans and projects the objective supports which will also help improve health and well-being.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include quality multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre which will help mitigate against flood risk. The objective also supports other plans such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy, which will also help to mitigate against flood risk.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and	--	PO4 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
availability of water resources				
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	PO4 supports the regeneration of the borough's centres which in some cases will result in the remediation of contaminated land.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. Part of the Oldham Town Centre Framework and Oldham's Green New Deal is to deliver a Town Centre Minewater District Heat Network Energy Centre which will promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. New multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre will provide cooling which will help achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO4 will create thriving centres which will encourage people to live, work and visit within	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		them. This will reduce the need to travel and help protect and improve air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. Regenerating the centres will improve local their environmental quality. In supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre CAAMP the objective will also support the improvement of shop fronts which will help create a more pleasant environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	The objective supports other appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's centres. This includes Oldham's Transport Strategy, Accessible Oldham and the Green Infrastructure Strategy.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the creating thriving centres. Our centres are well served by public transport connections and have a mix of uses, including key services, reducing the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres, this will promote sustainable economic growth and job creation in our centres. The Green Infrastructure Strategy highlights Oldham Town Centre as an area for the Green Economy.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	The plan objective seeks to promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres.	N/A.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres, including by upgrading the night-time and creative economy, to make the town centre a destination of choice. This will promote sustainable tourism and leisure uses in our centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO4 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although there are education facilities within Oldham Town Centre.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. These plans include the provision of new homes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	PO4 will indirectly achieve this by supporting thriving centres and focussing development within them helps to reduce the pressure on open land and therefore minerals.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO4 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	The plan objective seeks to promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres which will promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 4 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage there were no changes to scores.

PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes by:

- protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park;
- promoting the positive use of the Green Belt;
- identifying Local Green Spaces and supporting their enhancement; and
- ensuring high quality new development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	Plan Objective 5 seeks to achieve this through furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park, promoting positive use of the Green Belt and identifying Local Green Spaces and supporting their enhancement.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO5 will contribute to this through identifying Local Green Spaces which can include open spaces and encouraging their enhancement. Green Belt may also include open space.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the	++	PO5 seeks to do this by furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park, promoting positive use of	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place		Green Belt, identifying Local Green Spaces and by ensuring high quality new development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	PO5 achieves this as the Green Belt includes historic assets and Local Green Spaces can also include places that are important due to their historic significance and landscapes. The objective also seeks to protect and further the purposes of the Peak District National Park which includes cultural heritage.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	PO5 seeks to do this by protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park, which will help conserve and enhance its natural beauty; promoting positive use of Green Belt, identifying Local Green Spaces and through ensuring high quality development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	PO5 helps to achieve this by protecting the purposes of the Peak District National Park, promoting the positive use of the Green Belt and identifying Local Green Spaces. This will all help direct development to the urban area.	N/A	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO5 will help achieve this furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park can include furthering the enjoyment of the special qualities. In addition, Local Green Spaces provide green infrastructure in close proximity to communities. The positive use of the Green Belt can include improving access and recreation opportunities within it which will help ensure improved infrastructure to contribute towards wider development needs.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO5 will help achieve this furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park can include furthering the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities which relates to wellbeing. PO5 also promotes the positive use of Green Belt which can include recreation improvements important for well-being.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	Indirectly PO5 will help achieve this as by protecting the Green Belt and Local Green Spaces this will allow them to be used for working with natural processes including the slow of water.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	PO5 protects and enhances landscapes which helps manage water sustainably on a catchment scale.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land,	++	PO5 will achieve this by furthering the purposes of the Peak District which includes wildlife; designating Local Green Spaces and promoting the positive use of the Green Belt, which will help focus development on	N/A	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
and remediate contaminated land		previously developed land and can enhance ecological value of the Green Belt.		
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	PO5 will largely have a limited impact on this objective, however it is acknowledged that in some areas of the borough it may constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the PDNP.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	PO5 will help achieve this through protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District in relation to wildlife, the positive use of Green Belt and enhancing Local Green Spaces providing enhanced wildlife, cooling, drainage and carbon sequestration etc.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO5 will indirectly help achieve this through the positive use of the Green Belt and Local Green Spaces providing cooling and carbon sequestration etc. which will help improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO5 will help achieve this through providing spaces that can offer tranquillity and landscaping, which can also help mitigate amenity issues such as noise and air pollution. It will also help further the purposes of the Peak District National Park which includes its enjoyment and beauty.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that	+	PO5 can help achieve this as potential Green Belt uses can include improved active travel routes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network		In addition, some Local Green Spaces can also provide recreation routes and linkages for sustainable / active travel.		
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	PO5 helps to achieve this by promoting the positive use of the Green Belt and protecting Local Green Spaces. This will help direct development to the urban area which helps enable regeneration.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill				
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO5 helps achieve this by promoting the positive use of the Green Belt which can include improvements that compliment tourism and leisure and by respecting the Peak District National Park which also can support tourism and leisure.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	++	PO5 protects the Green Belt which will ensure the minerals safeguarding area and area of search is protected.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25.To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26.To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive	+	PO5 will contribute to this by identifying Local Green Spaces which help provide spaces for communities to	N/A. This objective is thread that runs	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
sustainable communities		join together for recreation and wellbeing and through positive use of the Green Belt.	throughout all the plan objectives.	

Plan Objective 5 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment by:

- protecting and restoring core areas of wildlife;
- promoting nature recovery networks and improving connectivity in areas of lower biodiversity;
- using nature-based solutions to mitigate against, and be resilient to, climate change;
- delivering on the priorities for nature recovery within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; and
- implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting projects such as Northern Roots.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
22. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	PO6 seeks to protect, restore and enhance the natural environment by protecting and restoring core areas of wildlife; promoting nature recovery networks and improving connectivity in areas of lower biodiversity; using nature based solutions; delivering priorities within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; and implementing the Green Infrastructure strategy.	N/A.	N/A
23. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO6 will achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces and helping deliver priorities within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which includes better parks and open spaces.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
24. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local	++	PO6 will achieve this by protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment which will enhance our landscapes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
distinctiveness and sense of place				
25. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO6 will help achieve this as it aims to protect and enhance the natural environment which includes historic landscapes and parks and gardens.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
26. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	Through promoting nature networks, implementing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and using nature-based solutions PO6 will help achieve high quality design.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9	N/A
27. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO6 will help use open land more effectively by increasing biodiversity within it and using nature-based solutions.	N/A.	N/A
28. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO6 will support this by using nature-based solutions such as SUDs and providing green infrastructure.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
29. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO6 will achieve this by implementing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which recognises improving health as a wider benefit and Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces which will have positive health and well-being benefits. Also, projects such as Northern Roots will help improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities by with initiatives such as community growing projects.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
30. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	PO6 will help achieve this by using nature-based solutions such as above ground SUDs which will help mitigate against flood risk and implementing the Local	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		Nature Recovery Strategy which recognises flood risk management as a wider benefit.		
31. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	++	Nature based solutions will help protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources. Implementing priorities within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which recognises water quality as a wider benefit.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
32. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	PO6 helps achieve this as protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment through initiatives such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy will help restore and improve soil quality.	N/A	N/A
33. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	PO6 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although projects such as Northern Roots may include energy efficiency and low carbon energy.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
34. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO6 will help achieve this through using nature-based solutions which will help mitigate flood risk and provide cooling helping achieve being resilient to the effects of climate change.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
35. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO6 will help achieve this objective by using nature-based solutions and implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The Green Infrastructure Strategy encourages tree planning and other solutions which will contribute towards improved air quality. The Local Nature Recovery	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		Strategy recognises improved air quality as a wider benefit.		
36. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO6 will help achieve this by protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environmental which will help achieve wider benefits such as reduced noise pollution and a more pleasant environment. The Green Infrastructure Strategy includes schemes such as using tree planting to screen from the motorway which will also contribute towards this objective. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy notes that its wider benefits include noise regulation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
37. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	PO6 will help achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting projects such as Northern Roots. The Green Infrastructure Strategy includes active travel as a priority and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy notes it can help create attractive active travel routes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
38. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO6 will implement Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces, reducing the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
39. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO6 will help achieve this as projects such as Northern Roots will have significant benefits to surrounding communities in terms of jobs, education and health benefits. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy aims to deliver more green spaces to help tackle inequalities, particularly health inequalities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
40. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO6 will help achieve this as the Green Infrastructure Strategy has a theme called 'Sustainable Growth and Green Jobs' and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy notes green jobs and careers as a wider benefit. In addition, is recognised that projects such as Northern Roots will create some jobs.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
41. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	PO6 would help achieve this through embedding Green Infrastructure in centres, creating attractive places.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
42. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO6 will achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces which are a source of leisure and tourism. In addition, Northern Roots will create a wide range of tourism activities including mountain biking, outdoor events, and arts and culture for local people and visitors.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	PO6 will help achieve this as projects such as Northern Roots seek to provide educational, voluntary and employment opportunities. Further skills can be fostered through food growing and other Green Infrastructure community schemes. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy aims to raise awareness and education of nature.	N/A. Als covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes,	--	PO6 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
types and tenures to meet local housing needs				
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	PO6 will avoid the sterilisation of minerals in the long term by protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses this objective.	N/A
23. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO6 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
24. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO6 will achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces and help create mixed and balanced communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 6 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication stage the IA objective was amended to reflect the Local Nature Recovery Strategy more and as such IA15 and IA18 have increased from + to ++ as the LNRS recognises the amenity benefits an enhanced nature network can bring such as noise regulation and its contribution towards reducing inequalities and tackling deprivation.

PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change by:

- achieving high standards of sustainable design and construction;
- adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities;
- reducing the risk of flooding to people and property taking into account climate change;
- managing flood risk using integrated water management and the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure;
- promoting the efficient use of water resources and water quality; and
- protecting and reinstating restorable peat, allowing it to act as an important carbon sink.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	PO7 achieves this through managing flood risk through the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure; promoting water quality and protecting and reinstating restorable peat.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO7 will help achieve this as multi-functional Green Infrastructure can include open spaces which can help manage flood risk through integrated water management.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	PO7 will help achieve this through reinstating restorable peat and manging flood risk using integrated water management.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 5 and 9.	N/A
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective. Although canals are a heritage asset the objective is about using water efficiently and promoting better quality water.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	PO7 achieves this by promoting high standards of sustainable design and construction and managing flood risk using multi-functional green infrastructure which will ensure that high quality developments are delivered.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO7 achieves this through the use of integrated water management and the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure. This will ensure that land will be used to deliver multi-functional benefits using land efficiently.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of	++	PO7 achieves this through the use of integrated water management, adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes, and the provision of multi-functional	N/A. Also covered by plan	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
supporting infrastructure to meet development needs		green infrastructure which will support development needs.	objectives 8 and 10.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO7 will help achieve this indirectly as promoting sustainable energy will lead to improved air quality and will help tackle fuel poverty. The plan objective will also reduce flood risk which will help reduce stress and risk to life. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure will provide wider health benefits.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this.	N/A.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this.	N/A.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	PO7 seeks to protect and reinstate restorable peat and promotes the efficient use of water resources and quality. This includes ensuring that development within source protection zones is controlled to ensure pollutants are minimised within soil and water supply.	N/A	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this.	N/A.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.				
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this. Reinstating restorable peat will allow it to act as a carbon sink.	N/A.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO7 will achieve this through adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities which will protect and improve air quality. The objective also includes reinstating restorable peat which will allow it to act as a carbon sink helping improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO7 will achieve this by adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities as greener energy is more widely used as an alternative to fossil fuels. This will help protect and improve local environmental quality. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure can also help with noise pollution and for example above ground SUDS offer more environmental benefits than underground solutions.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO7 will have a limited impact on this objective although it is acknowledged that multi-functional green infrastructure can include active travel routes for walking and cycling.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	PO7 will help achieve this indirectly as promoting sustainable energy will help tackle fuel poverty.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO7 will help achieve this indirectly as adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities should help generate jobs related to the green sector.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of	+	The plan objective is applicable borough wide, including in centres, helping to create more attractive, vibrant and resilient centres. In addition, energy schemes such as	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill		the proposed district heating scheme will enhance Oldham Town Centre's offer.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	PO7 will have a limited impact on this objective although it is acknowledged that multi-functional green infrastructure can include transport routes for walking and cycling which are important for leisure and tourism.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses this objective.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO7 will help achieve this as promoting sustainable energy will help tackle fuel poverty which will help achieve inclusive sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 7 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the objective was amended to make reference to peat. As such:

- IA3 regarding landscapes has increased from – to + as the plan objective has been amended to include reinstating restorable peat and also it seeks to manage flood risk using integrated water management; and
- IA11 regarding soil quality has increased from + to ++ as the plan objective now refers to protecting and reinstating restorable peat.

PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by:

- facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision;
- protecting and enhancing access to, and providing for / or improved open spaces, sports and recreation facilities, to meet the needs of new development and communities;
- supporting sport and recreation projects such as Oldham's SportsTown;
- providing spaces to grow food in new and existing communities, such as allotments and community gardens and connecting people to nature;
- supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities;
- reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment;
- improving air quality for the benefit of everyone; and
- providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	PO8 will help achieve this by protecting and enhancing access to open space and providing spaces to grow food. Health and well-being provision can also include community food growing spaces.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO8 will help achieve this by protecting and enhancing access to open space, sport and recreation provision.	N/A.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and	+	PO8 will help achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety,	N/A. Also covered by	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place		through good design of the built environment and providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality which will protect and enhance our landscapes and townscapes.	plan objective 5 and 9.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO8 will help contribute to this through good design of the built environment and providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality which will help protect the settings of heritage assets and the wider historic environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	PO8 helps achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment and standards of amenity and local environmental quality which will help promote high quality beautiful design.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO8 will contribute towards this IA objective through facilitating and encouraging health and wellbeing provision, community food gardens and new or improved open space, sport and recreation provision.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7 and 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO8 helps achieve this through encouraging health and well-being provision, community food gardens and new or improved open space, sport and recreation provision. Also, the plan objective aims to support and protect new and existing community facilities which will also contribute towards this objective.	N/A.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	PO8 will help achieve this indirectly by protecting and enhancing access to open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits including flood storage on natural and semi-natural open spaces.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	PO8 will help achieve this indirectly by protecting and enhancing access to open spaces which may include rivers corridors and water bodies.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	PO8 makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective as it seeks to protect and enhance open spaces which could lead to the improvement and protection of soil, and the remediation of contaminated land.	N/A	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient	+	PO8 encourages community food gardens, seeks to improve air quality and provide new and	N/A. Also covered by	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
to the effects of climate change		improved open spaces which will help embed resilience to climate change.	plan objective 7.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO8 seeks to improve air quality to benefit the health of everyone.	N/A.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO8 will help achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment; encouraging the creation of community food gardens, improving air quality to benefit the health of the borough's residents and visitors providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.	N/A.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledged that open spaces can contribute to the walking and cycling network.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	The plan objective will help achieve this through provision of accessible health and well-being services and protecting and supporting new and existing community facilities and enhancing access to open space, sport and recreation facilities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	The plan objective helps meet this through facilitating health and well-being facilities, encouraging community food gardens, providing new and improved open space and recreation	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		facilities, promoting community safety and protecting new and existing community facilities.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO8 will help achieve this through opportunities for community growing which and help promote sustainable growth and job creation on a small scale.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	The plan objective will help achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision, and supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities. Our centres are often hubs when it comes to community uses.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	PO8 will protect and enhance new or improved open space, sport and recreation facilities which will provide leisure opportunities. Supporting Oldham's SportsTown will also achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	PO8 will help achieve this as open space and community facilities can provide access to learning and skills, and through community food growing which can also provide skills. Supporting Oldham's SportsTown will also achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes,	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
types and tenures to meet local housing needs				
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	PO8 will help achieve this by supporting and protecting new and existing open spaces and community facilities; reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment and by promoting new and improved open space, sport and recreation facilities, particularly in areas of need.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 8 scored positive and significantly positive scores with some neutral scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft plan stage and Publication plan stage there were no changes to the scores.

PO9 Improving and valuing a better historic and built environment, by:

- delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character;
- conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets, including the borough's textile mills; and
- ensuring that proposals within Oldham Town Centre follows the recommendations set out in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan with the aim of removing the Conservation Area from the 'at-risk' register.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with buildings and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. This should include green infrastructure. The Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan also encourages the introduction of appropriate green infrastructure within the conservation area.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and through greater emphasis on place-making, with buildings and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. This should include open space.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining	++	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	N/A.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place		Management Plan also seeks to enhance the townscape of the town centre and its sense of place.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	PO9 will help achieve this by conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets, including textile mills and aiming to remove Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area from the 'at-risk' register.	N/A.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	PO9 will achieve this by improving and valuing a better built environment by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character and conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets.	N/A.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO9 will help achieve this as it seeks to maximise opportunities for the enhancement of heritage assets, including textile mills. This will help ensure the re-use of brownfield land and vacant buildings.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is recognised that the historic environment can have positive impacts on health and well-being.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although it is recognised that our canals are a heritage asset there is no specific reference to improving the quality of water.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	Indirectly PO9 will help achieve this through ensuring the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets such as mills as this reduces pressure on greenfield land and therefore soil and agricultural land etc.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	+	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design. This should include effective energy efficiency.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO9 will help achieve this as high-quality design should ensure developments and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO9 should contribute this through well designed buildings and places that encourages ventilation, active travel and green infrastructure therefore improving air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character which will improve local environmental quality. An aim of the Oldham Town Centre Management plan is to address detracting features which can impact on environmental quality such as poor-quality shop fronts and signage and vacant buildings.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	PO9 will help achieve this objective indirectly through improved wayfinding in Oldham Town Centre, including its conservation area, and restoration of waterways such as canals which forms a sustainable transport route for walking, wheeling and cycling.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledged that by having a greater emphasis on place making should ensure that developments are supported, accessible to services and facilities.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO9 helps to achieve this by conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets and by delivering high quality design.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		And by ensuring that proposals within Oldham Town Centre follows the recommendations set out in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan will contribute to Oldham Town Centres regeneration.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO9 helps achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. Creating a better built environment will help promote economic growth.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	The plan objective seeks to do this through delivering high quality design and aiming to remove Oldham Town Centre from Historic England's 'at-risk' register which will protect and enhance its vitality and viability.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	The plan objective helps achieve this through delivering high-quality design which will help to promote sustainable tourism. In addition, the enhancement of heritage assets may also be used for tourism and leisure related uses as well as indirectly attracting visitors through an enhanced historic environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	The plan objective seeks to conserve and enhance heritage assets, such as textile mills, which can be used as part of the sustainable supply of housing sites contributing towards a mix of tenures and types.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective. Although the re-use of heritage assets will reduce pressure for further minerals.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO9 will help achieve this by building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character and through the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets will help to create sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 9 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage only minor amendments were made referencing textile mills.

IA14 was amended regarding air quality from -- to + as on reflection high quality design should lead to buildings and places that encourage ventilation, active travel and green infrastructure therefore improving air quality.

IA16 was amended from – to + as improved wayfinding in Oldham Town Centre, including its conservation area, and restoration of waterways such as canals which forms a sustainable transport route for walking, wheeling and cycling and will therefore on reflection help achieve this.

PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices, by:

- supporting delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy and the Right Mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and an increase in travel by sustainable modes;
- reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities; and
- improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment within the borough, the city region and beyond.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	PO10 contributes to this objective by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel. Multi-functional green infrastructure will be included in some walking, wheeling and cycling routes.	N/A Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO10 helps achieve this by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel. Multi-functional green infrastructure will be included in some walking and cycling routes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place				
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO10 will help achieve this by ensuring new development is in areas with access to public transport, local services, and facilities, which will focus development within the urban area, including on brownfield land.	N/A	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to	++	PO10 will help achieve this by supporting the delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy which includes a number of projects to meet development needs.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7 and 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
meet development needs				
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO10 will help achieve this by supporting the Right Mix approach which will encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) helping to improve health and well-being through more active lifestyles resulting in improved air quality and mental health.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	Indirectly PO10 will help achieve this through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities. This will reduce pressure on greenfield land and therefore soil and agricultural land.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO10 contributes to this objective by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel. Some walking, wheeling and cycling routes will incorporate multi-functional green infrastructure which will help resilience in relation to climate change.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO10 will help protect and improve air quality by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and by reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO10 will help improve local environmental quality by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) which will reduce traffic noise and pollution.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	PO10 will achieve this by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and by reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities.	N/A.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	PO10 will achieve this by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and by reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities and by improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment.	N/A.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO10 helps achieve this by ensuring new development is in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities and improving connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment. This should help people to access employment and other services, reducing levels of deprivation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO10 will help achieve this by improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment. This will promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	PO10 helps achieve this by ensuring new development is in areas with access to public transport local services and facilities – this will include our centres and by supporting the delivery of the Transport Strategy. In addition, many key services and facilities are located within our centres, so improving accessibility to these will improve the overall vitality of the town centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	PO10 helps achieve this as by encouraging active travel and an increase in travel by sustainable modes this will help support	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		sustainable tourism and leisure by allowing access to tourism and leisure facilities by active and sustainable transport modes.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although it is acknowledged that improved access to education as a key service may support improved education attainment.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	PO10 will help achieve this by ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services, which will ensure the housing land supply is sustainable.	N/A	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledges that it may indirectly help achieve this through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities, reducing pressure on greenfield land.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	P010 will help achieve this by ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services, which will ensure the housing land supply is sustainable.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 10 scored positive and significantly positive scores with some neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage PO10 has been reworded slightly in some places to make it clearer that the intention is to reduce the need to travel by car and improve public transport connectivity for our residents. This has not resulted in changes in scores to most IA objectives though the text has been amended accordingly to reflect the new wording.

However, IA13 now includes reference to biodiversity so as a result the score has been amended from neutral to positive as it is felt that by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel, some walking, wheeling and cycling routes will incorporate multi-functional green infrastructure which will help with resilience in relation to climate change.

In addition, on reflection IA15 was amended from a neutral to a positive score as it was felt that the local environmental quality would be protected and improved by the reduced traffic noise and pollution.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 2 : IA of Plan Objectives

January 2026

Oldham Council

IA Publication Plan Appraisal: Plan Objectives

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least, 11,560 new homes;
- delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people;
- ensuring the delivery of high-quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes; and
- ensuring appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	PO1 seeks to ensure high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered at appropriate densities. It is assumed therefore that this would take into consideration the appearance of landscapes and townscapes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environ ment, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO1 seeks to ensure high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered at appropriate densities. It is assumed therefore that this would take into consideration the historic environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	PO1 seeks to ensure high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered at appropriate densities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	PO1 seeks to identify a diverse housing offer and to ensure appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.	N/A	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
supporting infrastructure to meet development needs				
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO1 refers to ensuring high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people. This will have indirect health links by improving housing stock and living environments.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although PO1 refers to ensuring high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered. This should include areas of lower flood risk and incorporation of sustainable drainage. Developing at appropriate densities also helps contribute towards meeting this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile	+	PO1 seeks to ensure appropriate densities and make the best and most effective use of brownfield land.	N/A	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land				
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	+	PO1 requires high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered, this should include good energy efficiency.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO1 requires high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered, this should include cooling which will help achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO1 will contribute to this through ensuring appropriate densities, which will include higher densities in sustainable locations, this will reduce reliance on the private car and therefore improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO1 requires high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivered which will help improve local environmental quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network				
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO1 will contribute to this through ensuring appropriate densities, which will include higher densities in sustainable locations, meaning more new homes are located with good accessibility to key services which reduces the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO1 seeks to identify a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of our residents and to ensure appropriate densities are used and to make the best and most effective use of brownfield land. All of these will help promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO1 seeks to build new homes to meet the borough's local housing need. Providing homes creates jobs directly and indirectly.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town	+	PO1 will help achieve this as a number of the new homes provided will be in our centres. This will help to protect and enhance our centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill				
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	PO1 specifically seeks to achieve this.	N/A	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	PO1 achieves this by ensuring appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably	--	PO1 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 1	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
in line with the waste hierarchy				
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	PO1 refers to ensuring high quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes are delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people. This will help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements were identified for plan objective 1 as a result of the IA.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by:

- supporting the provision of suitable, modern services and facilities for the education and training of all age groups, including addressing the needs for primary and secondary school places; and
- encouraging employment and skills opportunities for local people as part of new developments.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is noted that playing pitches form part of our green infrastructure network.	N/A Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO2 supports the provision of new sites for education and training. Schools may include the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities which can be made available to the wider community.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place				
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. PO2 was amended at Draft Plan stage following the IA to make it clear that the objective applies to existing facilities and not just the building of new facilities.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO2 is intended to ensure that sites are provided for education and skills which form part of our infrastructure needs.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO2 will help contribute to this as playing pitches and sports facilities within schools can often be accessed by the wider community. This will help	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO2 will help provide a key service (education facility) addressing needs which should therefore promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO2 aims to provide opportunities to learn and gain skills which in turn will reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO2 aims to provide opportunities to learn and gain skills for local people which will help to promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledged that there are a number of education and training facilities within our centres.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	PO2 aims to provide opportunities to learn and gain skills for local people.	N/A.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO2 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 2	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO2 aims to encourage employment and skills opportunities for local people which will help promote inclusive communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 2 scored many neutrals due to the specific nature of the objective and some positive and significantly positive scores.

Between Draft plan stage and Publication plan stage there were no changes to the scores.

PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 57,481 sqm of office floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace;
- protecting designated sites that are suitable and attractive for existing and new businesses to locate to and expand on;
- encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies;
- supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth; and
- supporting a range of sustainable leisure and tourism activities.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	PO3 has no specific text although the plan objective supports leisure and tourism activities which will include our green infrastructure.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	PO3 has no specific text although the plan objective supports leisure and tourism activities which will include our open spaces.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place				
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO3 helps to meet this objective by providing for and supporting the delivery of employment floorspace and protecting designated employment sites the majority of which are on brownfield land.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO3 helps meet this objective by supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth which will support development needs of our businesses.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO3 seeks to provide access to employment opportunities which indirectly may help to reduce health inequalities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	Maximising opportunities at designated employment areas will help avoid development on new greenfield sites and therefore will help to protect soil and agricultural land and remediate contaminated land.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	+	PO3 encourages clean growth and green technologies which will help promote sectors linked to energy efficiency.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO3 will help achieve this by protecting employment sites that will focus employment development towards already established employment areas and will help ensure that appropriate uses are located together indirectly resulting in protecting air quality. In addition, encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies will also help to protect and improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO3 will help achieve this by protecting employment sites that will focus employment development towards already established employment areas which will help ensure that appropriate uses are located together, and environmental quality is not diminished due to incompatible neighbour uses.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO3 seeks to ensure access to employment opportunities for all, which indicates through transport connections but there is no specific reference, therefore it has been given a neutral score.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO3 seeks to ensure access to employment opportunities for all which should reduce the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO3 seeks to ensure access to employment opportunities for all and to grow local businesses which will reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	N/A	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO3 seeks to achieve this by ensuring access to employment opportunities for all; growing local businesses and encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key growth sectors.	N/A.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	PO3 refers to supporting a range of leisure and tourism activities, these uses will protect and enhance our centres. In addition, new offices may be located within our centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO3 refers to supporting a range of leisure and tourism activities.	N/A.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A

IA Objective		Plan Objective 3	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
	sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs				
24.	To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	Protecting our designated employment sites will protect further greenfield land being allocated for employment, which indirectly could minimise the need for releasing further greenfield sites, safeguarding minerals.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25.	To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO3 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26.	To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO3 achieves this by providing access to employment opportunities, which is inclusive. Designated employment sites are spread throughout the borough to help create mixed and balanced communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 3 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage PO3 has been reworded slightly in a couple of places with the floorspace to be provided now reflected as square metres rather than hectares and green innovation now referred to as green technologies. The purpose of the objective has not changed though. However, on reflection there has been some changes in scoring:

- IA7 has now been amended from positive to a significant positive as it is felt that supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth will significantly benefit the development needs of our businesses.
- IA14 has changed from a neutral to a positive as it is felt the objective will help achieve an improvement in air quality by protecting employment sites that will focus employment development towards already established employment areas and also by encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies.

PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres by:

- supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres; and
- promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres to ensure their long-term sustainability.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

Plan Objective 4 states that it will supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. Oldham Town Centre Development Framework covers a number of elements relevant to this IA. The key proposals are:

- The introduction of up to 2,000 new homes located within safe, inclusive and attractive neighbourhoods.
- The redevelopment of Spindles Town Square Shopping Centre to redefine the retail core.
- The Green Shoots Business and Innovation Centre, and Minewater District Heat Network Energy Centre, which form part of the council's Greener Oldham commitment.
- The re-use and refurbishment of several prominent heritage assets, specifically the Prudential Building, the Old Library and Gallery, and the Lyceum Building.
- Enhancing accessibility, connectivity and movement, providing sustainable infrastructure connections through the Accessible Oldham programme.
- The enhancement of the town centre's Green Infrastructure with the creation of Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens.
- Upgrading the night-time and creative economy, to make the town centre a destination of choice

All elements from the strategy have been fed into this assessment and any assumptions made.

Other appropriate plans that have been considered during this IA are the Green Infrastructure Strategy, Oldham's Green New Deal, the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plan (CAAMP), Oldham's Transport Strategy and Accessible Oldham.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include quality multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include promoting quality and accessible open spaces such Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	Plan objective helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include strengthening a sense of place.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environ ment, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include a number of projects around the historic core of Oldham Town Centre and through the re-use and refurbishment of several prominent heritage assets, specifically the Prudential Building, the Old Library and Gallery, and the Lyceum Building.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	PO4 will achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and other plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. This will include the Oldham Town Centre CAAMP.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	PO4 seeks to support the regeneration of our centres and therefore maximises the use of brownfield land.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO4 will help support this objective as it supports appropriate plans or projects within our centres that will facilitate the borough's regeneration. This will include plans and strategies such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy, the Green New Deal and Accessible	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 8 and 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		Oldham, all of which will help meet development needs.		
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include quality multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre which will help improve health and well-being. There will be other plans and projects the objective supports which will also help improve health and well-being.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres, these plans will include quality multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre which will help mitigate against flood risk. The objective also supports other plans such as the Green Infrastructure Strategy, which will also help to mitigate against flood risk.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and	--	PO4 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
availability of water resources				
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	PO4 supports the regeneration of the borough's centres which in some cases will result in the remediation of contaminated land.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. Part of the Oldham Town Centre Framework and Oldham's Green New Deal is to deliver a Town Centre Minewater District Heat Network Energy Centre which will promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. New multifunctional green infrastructure such as Tommyfield Park and Snipe Gardens in Oldham Town Centre will provide cooling which will help achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO4 will create thriving centres which will encourage people to live, work and visit within	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		them. This will reduce the need to travel and help protect and improve air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. Regenerating the centres will improve local their environmental quality. In supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre CAAMP the objective will also support the improvement of shop fronts which will help create a more pleasant environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	The objective supports other appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's centres. This includes Oldham's Transport Strategy, Accessible Oldham and the Green Infrastructure Strategy.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the creating thriving centres. Our centres are well served by public transport connections and have a mix of uses, including key services, reducing the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres, this will promote sustainable economic growth and job creation in our centres. The Green Infrastructure Strategy highlights Oldham Town Centre as an area for the Green Economy.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	The plan objective seeks to promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres.	N/A.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres, including by upgrading the night-time and creative economy, to make the town centre a destination of choice. This will promote sustainable tourism and leisure uses in our centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 4 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO4 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although there are education facilities within Oldham Town Centre.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	PO4 helps achieve this by supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres. These plans include the provision of new homes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	PO4 will indirectly achieve this by supporting thriving centres and focussing development within them helps to reduce the pressure on open land and therefore minerals.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO4 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	The plan objective seeks to promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres which will promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 4 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage there were no changes to scores.

PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes by:

- protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park;
- promoting the positive use of the Green Belt;
- identifying Local Green Spaces and supporting their enhancement; and
- ensuring high quality new development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	Plan Objective 5 seeks to achieve this through furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park, promoting positive use of the Green Belt and identifying Local Green Spaces and supporting their enhancement.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO5 will contribute to this through identifying Local Green Spaces which can include open spaces and encouraging their enhancement. Green Belt may also include open space.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the	++	PO5 seeks to do this by furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park, promoting positive use of	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place		Green Belt, identifying Local Green Spaces and by ensuring high quality new development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	PO5 achieves this as the Green Belt includes historic assets and Local Green Spaces can also include places that are important due to their historic significance and landscapes. The objective also seeks to protect and further the purposes of the Peak District National Park which includes cultural heritage.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	PO5 seeks to do this by protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park, which will help conserve and enhance its natural beauty; promoting positive use of Green Belt, identifying Local Green Spaces and through ensuring high quality development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	PO5 helps to achieve this by protecting the purposes of the Peak District National Park, promoting the positive use of the Green Belt and identifying Local Green Spaces. This will all help direct development to the urban area.	N/A	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO5 will help achieve this furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park can include furthering the enjoyment of the special qualities. In addition, Local Green Spaces provide green infrastructure in close proximity to communities. The positive use of the Green Belt can include improving access and recreation opportunities within it which will help ensure improved infrastructure to contribute towards wider development needs.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO5 will help achieve this furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park can include furthering the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities which relates to wellbeing. PO5 also promotes the positive use of Green Belt which can include recreation improvements important for well-being.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	Indirectly PO5 will help achieve this as by protecting the Green Belt and Local Green Spaces this will allow them to be used for working with natural processes including the slow of water.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	PO5 protects and enhances landscapes which helps manage water sustainably on a catchment scale.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land,	++	PO5 will achieve this by furthering the purposes of the Peak District which includes wildlife; designating Local Green Spaces and promoting the positive use of the Green Belt, which will help focus development on	N/A	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
and remediate contaminated land		previously developed land and can enhance ecological value of the Green Belt.		
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	PO5 will largely have a limited impact on this objective, however it is acknowledged that in some areas of the borough it may constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the PDNP.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	PO5 will help achieve this through protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District in relation to wildlife, the positive use of Green Belt and enhancing Local Green Spaces providing enhanced wildlife, cooling, drainage and carbon sequestration etc.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO5 will indirectly help achieve this through the positive use of the Green Belt and Local Green Spaces providing cooling and carbon sequestration etc. which will help improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO5 will help achieve this through providing spaces that can offer tranquillity and landscaping, which can also help mitigate amenity issues such as noise and air pollution. It will also help further the purposes of the Peak District National Park which includes its enjoyment and beauty.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that	+	PO5 can help achieve this as potential Green Belt uses can include improved active travel routes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network		In addition, some Local Green Spaces can also provide recreation routes and linkages for sustainable / active travel.		
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	PO5 helps to achieve this by promoting the positive use of the Green Belt and protecting Local Green Spaces. This will help direct development to the urban area which helps enable regeneration.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill				
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO5 helps achieve this by promoting the positive use of the Green Belt which can include improvements that compliment tourism and leisure and by respecting the Peak District National Park which also can support tourism and leisure.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	++	PO5 protects the Green Belt which will ensure the minerals safeguarding area and area of search is protected.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses.	N/A
25.To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO5 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26.To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive	+	PO5 will contribute to this by identifying Local Green Spaces which help provide spaces for communities to	N/A. This objective is thread that runs	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 5 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
sustainable communities		join together for recreation and wellbeing and through positive use of the Green Belt.	throughout all the plan objectives.	

Plan Objective 5 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment by:

- protecting and restoring core areas of wildlife;
- promoting nature recovery networks and improving connectivity in areas of lower biodiversity;
- using nature-based solutions to mitigate against, and be resilient to, climate change;
- delivering on the priorities for nature recovery within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; and
- implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting projects such as Northern Roots.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
22. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	PO6 seeks to protect, restore and enhance the natural environment by protecting and restoring core areas of wildlife; promoting nature recovery networks and improving connectivity in areas of lower biodiversity; using nature based solutions; delivering priorities within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; and implementing the Green Infrastructure strategy.	N/A.	N/A
23. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO6 will achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces and helping deliver priorities within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which includes better parks and open spaces.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
24. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local	++	PO6 will achieve this by protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment which will enhance our landscapes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
distinctiveness and sense of place				
25. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO6 will help achieve this as it aims to protect and enhance the natural environment which includes historic landscapes and parks and gardens.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
26. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	Through promoting nature networks, implementing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and using nature-based solutions PO6 will help achieve high quality design.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9	N/A
27. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO6 will help use open land more effectively by increasing biodiversity within it and using nature-based solutions.	N/A.	N/A
28. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO6 will support this by using nature-based solutions such as SUDs and providing green infrastructure.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
29. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO6 will achieve this by implementing the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which recognises improving health as a wider benefit and Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces which will have positive health and well-being benefits. Also, projects such as Northern Roots will help improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities by with initiatives such as community growing projects.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
30. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	PO6 will help achieve this by using nature-based solutions such as above ground SUDs which will help mitigate against flood risk and implementing the Local	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		Nature Recovery Strategy which recognises flood risk management as a wider benefit.		
31. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	++	Nature based solutions will help protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources. Implementing priorities within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which recognises water quality as a wider benefit.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
32. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	PO6 helps achieve this as protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment through initiatives such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy will help restore and improve soil quality.	N/A	N/A
33. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	PO6 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although projects such as Northern Roots may include energy efficiency and low carbon energy.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
34. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO6 will help achieve this through using nature-based solutions which will help mitigate flood risk and provide cooling helping achieve being resilient to the effects of climate change.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
35. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO6 will help achieve this objective by using nature-based solutions and implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The Green Infrastructure Strategy encourages tree planning and other solutions which will contribute towards improved air quality. The Local Nature Recovery	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		Strategy recognises improved air quality as a wider benefit.		
36. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO6 will help achieve this by protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environmental which will help achieve wider benefits such as reduced noise pollution and a more pleasant environment. The Green Infrastructure Strategy includes schemes such as using tree planting to screen from the motorway which will also contribute towards this objective. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy notes that its wider benefits include noise regulation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
37. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	PO6 will help achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting projects such as Northern Roots. The Green Infrastructure Strategy includes active travel as a priority and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy notes it can help create attractive active travel routes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
38. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	PO6 will implement Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces, reducing the need to travel.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
39. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO6 will help achieve this as projects such as Northern Roots will have significant benefits to surrounding communities in terms of jobs, education and health benefits. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy aims to deliver more green spaces to help tackle inequalities, particularly health inequalities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
40. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO6 will help achieve this as the Green Infrastructure Strategy has a theme called 'Sustainable Growth and Green Jobs' and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy notes green jobs and careers as a wider benefit. In addition, is recognised that projects such as Northern Roots will create some jobs.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
41. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	PO6 would help achieve this through embedding Green Infrastructure in centres, creating attractive places.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
42. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	PO6 will achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces which are a source of leisure and tourism. In addition, Northern Roots will create a wide range of tourism activities including mountain biking, outdoor events, and arts and culture for local people and visitors.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	PO6 will help achieve this as projects such as Northern Roots seek to provide educational, voluntary and employment opportunities. Further skills can be fostered through food growing and other Green Infrastructure community schemes. The Local Nature Recovery Strategy aims to raise awareness and education of nature.	N/A. Als covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes,	--	PO6 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 6 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
types and tenures to meet local housing needs				
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	PO6 will avoid the sterilisation of minerals in the long term by protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD also addresses this objective.	N/A
23. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO6 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
24. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO6 will achieve this by implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy which aims to promote quality and accessible open spaces and help create mixed and balanced communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 6 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication stage the IA objective was amended to reflect the Local Nature Recovery Strategy more and as such IA15 and IA18 have increased from + to ++ as the LNRS recognises the amenity benefits an enhanced nature network can bring such as noise regulation and its contribution towards reducing inequalities and tackling deprivation.

PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change by:

- achieving high standards of sustainable design and construction;
- adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities;
- reducing the risk of flooding to people and property taking into account climate change;
- managing flood risk using integrated water management and the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure;
- promoting the efficient use of water resources and water quality; and
- protecting and reinstating restorable peat, allowing it to act as an important carbon sink.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	PO7 achieves this through managing flood risk through the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure; promoting water quality and protecting and reinstating restorable peat.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO7 will help achieve this as multi-functional Green Infrastructure can include open spaces which can help manage flood risk through integrated water management.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	PO7 will help achieve this through reinstating restorable peat and manging flood risk using integrated water management.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 5 and 9.	N/A
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective. Although canals are a heritage asset the objective is about using water efficiently and promoting better quality water.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	PO7 achieves this by promoting high standards of sustainable design and construction and managing flood risk using multi-functional green infrastructure which will ensure that high quality developments are delivered.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO7 achieves this through the use of integrated water management and the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure. This will ensure that land will be used to deliver multi-functional benefits using land efficiently.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of	++	PO7 achieves this through the use of integrated water management, adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes, and the provision of multi-functional	N/A. Also covered by plan	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
supporting infrastructure to meet development needs		green infrastructure which will support development needs.	objectives 8 and 10.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	PO7 will help achieve this indirectly as promoting sustainable energy will lead to improved air quality and will help tackle fuel poverty. The plan objective will also reduce flood risk which will help reduce stress and risk to life. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure will provide wider health benefits.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this.	N/A.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this.	N/A.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	PO7 seeks to protect and reinstate restorable peat and promotes the efficient use of water resources and quality. This includes ensuring that development within source protection zones is controlled to ensure pollutants are minimised within soil and water supply.	N/A	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this.	N/A.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.				
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	PO7 directly seeks to achieve this. Reinstating restorable peat will allow it to act as a carbon sink.	N/A.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO7 will achieve this through adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities which will protect and improve air quality. The objective also includes reinstating restorable peat which will allow it to act as a carbon sink helping improve air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO7 will achieve this by adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities as greener energy is more widely used as an alternative to fossil fuels. This will help protect and improve local environmental quality. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure can also help with noise pollution and for example above ground SUDS offer more environmental benefits than underground solutions.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO7 will have a limited impact on this objective although it is acknowledged that multi-functional green infrastructure can include active travel routes for walking and cycling.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	PO7 will help achieve this indirectly as promoting sustainable energy will help tackle fuel poverty.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO7 will help achieve this indirectly as adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities should help generate jobs related to the green sector.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of	+	The plan objective is applicable borough wide, including in centres, helping to create more attractive, vibrant and resilient centres. In addition, energy schemes such as	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill		the proposed district heating scheme will enhance Oldham Town Centre's offer.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	PO7 will have a limited impact on this objective although it is acknowledged that multi-functional green infrastructure can include transport routes for walking and cycling which are important for leisure and tourism.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO7 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses this objective.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 7 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO7 will help achieve this as promoting sustainable energy will help tackle fuel poverty which will help achieve inclusive sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 7 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the objective was amended to make reference to peat. As such:

- IA3 regarding landscapes has increased from – to + as the plan objective has been amended to include reinstating restorable peat and also it seeks to manage flood risk using integrated water management; and
- IA11 regarding soil quality has increased from + to ++ as the plan objective now refers to protecting and reinstating restorable peat.

PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by:

- facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision;
- protecting and enhancing access to, and providing for / or improved open spaces, sports and recreation facilities, to meet the needs of new development and communities;
- supporting sport and recreation projects such as Oldham's SportsTown;
- providing spaces to grow food in new and existing communities, such as allotments and community gardens and connecting people to nature;
- supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities;
- reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment;
- improving air quality for the benefit of everyone; and
- providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	PO8 will help achieve this by protecting and enhancing access to open space and providing spaces to grow food. Health and well-being provision can also include community food growing spaces.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	PO8 will help achieve this by protecting and enhancing access to open space, sport and recreation provision.	N/A.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and	+	PO8 will help achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety,	N/A. Also covered by	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place		through good design of the built environment and providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality which will protect and enhance our landscapes and townscapes.	plan objective 5 and 9.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic, heritage assets and their setting	+	PO8 will help contribute to this through good design of the built environment and providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality which will help protect the settings of heritage assets and the wider historic environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	PO8 helps achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment and standards of amenity and local environmental quality which will help promote high quality beautiful design.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	PO8 will contribute towards this IA objective through facilitating and encouraging health and wellbeing provision, community food gardens and new or improved open space, sport and recreation provision.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7 and 10.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO8 helps achieve this through encouraging health and well-being provision, community food gardens and new or improved open space, sport and recreation provision. Also, the plan objective aims to support and protect new and existing community facilities which will also contribute towards this objective.	N/A.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	PO8 will help achieve this indirectly by protecting and enhancing access to open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits including flood storage on natural and semi-natural open spaces.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	PO8 will help achieve this indirectly by protecting and enhancing access to open spaces which may include rivers corridors and water bodies.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	PO8 makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective as it seeks to protect and enhance open spaces which could lead to the improvement and protection of soil, and the remediation of contaminated land.	N/A	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient	+	PO8 encourages community food gardens, seeks to improve air quality and provide new and	N/A. Also covered by	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
to the effects of climate change		improved open spaces which will help embed resilience to climate change.	plan objective 7.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO8 seeks to improve air quality to benefit the health of everyone.	N/A.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO8 will help achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment; encouraging the creation of community food gardens, improving air quality to benefit the health of the borough's residents and visitors providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.	N/A.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledged that open spaces can contribute to the walking and cycling network.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	The plan objective will help achieve this through provision of accessible health and well-being services and protecting and supporting new and existing community facilities and enhancing access to open space, sport and recreation facilities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	The plan objective helps meet this through facilitating health and well-being facilities, encouraging community food gardens, providing new and improved open space and recreation	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		facilities, promoting community safety and protecting new and existing community facilities.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO8 will help achieve this through opportunities for community growing which and help promote sustainable growth and job creation on a small scale.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	The plan objective will help achieve this by reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision, and supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities. Our centres are often hubs when it comes to community uses.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	PO8 will protect and enhance new or improved open space, sport and recreation facilities which will provide leisure opportunities. Supporting Oldham's SportsTown will also achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	PO8 will help achieve this as open space and community facilities can provide access to learning and skills, and through community food growing which can also provide skills. Supporting Oldham's SportsTown will also achieve this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes,	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 8 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
types and tenures to meet local housing needs				
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO8 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses this objective.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	PO8 will help achieve this by supporting and protecting new and existing open spaces and community facilities; reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment and by promoting new and improved open space, sport and recreation facilities, particularly in areas of need.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 8 scored positive and significantly positive scores with some neutral scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft plan stage and Publication plan stage there were no changes to the scores.

PO9 Improving and valuing a better historic and built environment, by:

- delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character;
- conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets, including the borough's textile mills; and
- ensuring that proposals within Oldham Town Centre follows the recommendations set out in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan with the aim of removing the Conservation Area from the 'at-risk' register.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with buildings and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. This should include green infrastructure. The Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan also encourages the introduction of appropriate green infrastructure within the conservation area.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and through greater emphasis on place-making, with buildings and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. This should include open space.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining	++	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	N/A.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place		Management Plan also seeks to enhance the townscape of the town centre and its sense of place.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	PO9 will help achieve this by conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets, including textile mills and aiming to remove Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area from the 'at-risk' register.	N/A.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	PO9 will achieve this by improving and valuing a better built environment by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character and conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets.	N/A.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO9 will help achieve this as it seeks to maximise opportunities for the enhancement of heritage assets, including textile mills. This will help ensure the re-use of brownfield land and vacant buildings.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objectives 7, 8 and 10.	N/A
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is recognised that the historic environment can have positive impacts on health and well-being.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although it is recognised that our canals are a heritage asset there is no specific reference to improving the quality of water.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	Indirectly PO9 will help achieve this through ensuring the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets such as mills as this reduces pressure on greenfield land and therefore soil and agricultural land etc.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	+	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design. This should include effective energy efficiency.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO9 will help achieve this as high-quality design should ensure developments and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	PO9 should contribute this through well designed buildings and places that encourages ventilation, active travel and green infrastructure therefore improving air quality.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	PO9 will help achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character which will improve local environmental quality. An aim of the Oldham Town Centre Management plan is to address detracting features which can impact on environmental quality such as poor-quality shop fronts and signage and vacant buildings.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	PO9 will help achieve this objective indirectly through improved wayfinding in Oldham Town Centre, including its conservation area, and restoration of waterways such as canals which forms a sustainable transport route for walking, wheeling and cycling.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledged that by having a greater emphasis on place making should ensure that developments are supported, accessible to services and facilities.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 10.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO9 helps to achieve this by conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets and by delivering high quality design.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		And by ensuring that proposals within Oldham Town Centre follows the recommendations set out in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan will contribute to Oldham Town Centres regeneration.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	PO9 helps achieve this by delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character. Creating a better built environment will help promote economic growth.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	The plan objective seeks to do this through delivering high quality design and aiming to remove Oldham Town Centre from Historic England's 'at-risk' register which will protect and enhance its vitality and viability.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	The plan objective helps achieve this through delivering high-quality design which will help to promote sustainable tourism. In addition, the enhancement of heritage assets may also be used for tourism and leisure related uses as well as indirectly attracting visitors through an enhanced historic environment.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 9 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	The plan objective seeks to conserve and enhance heritage assets, such as textile mills, which can be used as part of the sustainable supply of housing sites contributing towards a mix of tenures and types.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 1.	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective. Although the re-use of heritage assets will reduce pressure for further minerals.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO9 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	PO9 will help achieve this by building and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character and through the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets will help to create sustainable communities.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 9 scored positive and significantly positive scores with a few neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage only minor amendments were made referencing textile mills.

IA14 was amended regarding air quality from -- to + as on reflection high quality design should lead to buildings and places that encourage ventilation, active travel and green infrastructure therefore improving air quality.

IA16 was amended from – to + as improved wayfinding in Oldham Town Centre, including its conservation area, and restoration of waterways such as canals which forms a sustainable transport route for walking, wheeling and cycling and will therefore on reflection help achieve this.

PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices, by:

- supporting delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy and the Right Mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and an increase in travel by sustainable modes;
- reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities; and
- improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment within the borough, the city region and beyond.

In relation to timescales, it is assumed that as the plan objectives will be delivered over the lifetime of the plan, that all IA objectives impacts will be delivered in the longer term.

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	PO10 contributes to this objective by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel. Multi-functional green infrastructure will be included in some walking, wheeling and cycling routes.	N/A Covered by plan objective 6.	N/A
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	PO10 helps achieve this by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel. Multi-functional green infrastructure will be included in some walking and cycling routes.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
3. To protect and enhance the	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 5 and 9.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place				
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 9.	N/A
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	PO10 will help achieve this by ensuring new development is in areas with access to public transport, local services, and facilities, which will focus development within the urban area, including on brownfield land.	N/A	N/A
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to	++	PO10 will help achieve this by supporting the delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy which includes a number of projects to meet development needs.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 7 and 8.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
meet development needs				
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	PO10 will help achieve this by supporting the Right Mix approach which will encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) helping to improve health and well-being through more active lifestyles resulting in improved air quality and mental health.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	Indirectly PO10 will help achieve this through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities. This will reduce pressure on greenfield land and therefore soil and agricultural land.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7 and 8.	N/A
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 7.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	PO10 contributes to this objective by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel. Some walking, wheeling and cycling routes will incorporate multi-functional green infrastructure which will help resilience in relation to climate change.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 6 and 7.	N/A
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	PO10 will help protect and improve air quality by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and by reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	PO10 will help improve local environmental quality by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) which will reduce traffic noise and pollution.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 8.	N/A
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	PO10 will achieve this by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and by reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities.	N/A.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	PO10 will achieve this by reducing the need to travel and supporting the right mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and by reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities and by improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment.	N/A.	N/A.
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	PO10 helps achieve this by ensuring new development is in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities and improving connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment. This should help people to access employment and other services, reducing levels of deprivation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objectives 3 and 4.	N/A
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	PO10 will help achieve this by improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment. This will promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3 and 4.	N/A
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	PO10 helps achieve this by ensuring new development is in areas with access to public transport local services and facilities – this will include our centres and by supporting the delivery of the Transport Strategy. In addition, many key services and facilities are located within our centres, so improving accessibility to these will improve the overall vitality of the town centres.	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 4.	N/A
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	PO10 helps achieve this as by encouraging active travel and an increase in travel by sustainable modes this will help support	N/A. Also covered by plan objective 3.	N/A

IA Objective	Plan Objective 10 (2026)	Justification	Mitigation / enhancements	Changes made to the Publication Plan Objective as a result of the IA
		sustainable tourism and leisure by allowing access to tourism and leisure facilities by active and sustainable transport modes.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective, although it is acknowledged that improved access to education as a key service may support improved education attainment.	N/A. Covered by plan objective 2.	N/A
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	PO10 will help achieve this by ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services, which will ensure the housing land supply is sustainable.	N/A	N/A
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective, however it is acknowledges that it may indirectly help achieve this through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities, reducing pressure on greenfield land.	N/A. The Joint GM Minerals DPD addresses.	N/A
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	PO10 will have a limited contribution to this objective.	N/A. The Joint GM Waste DPD addresses.	N/A
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	P010 will help achieve this by ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services, which will ensure the housing land supply is sustainable.	N/A. This objective is thread that runs throughout all the plan objectives.	N/A

Plan Objective 10 scored positive and significantly positive scores with some neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the plan objective were identified as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage PO10 has been reworded slightly in some places to make it clearer that the intention is to reduce the need to travel by car and improve public transport connectivity for our residents. This has not resulted in changes in scores to most IA objectives though the text has been amended accordingly to reflect the new wording.

However, IA13 now includes reference to biodiversity so as a result the score has been amended from neutral to positive as it is felt that by supporting the Right Mix approach to encourage an increase in active travel, some walking, wheeling and cycling routes will incorporate multi-functional green infrastructure which will help with resilience in relation to climate change.

In addition, on reflection IA15 was amended from a neutral to a positive score as it was felt that the local environmental quality would be protected and improved by the reduced traffic noise and pollution.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment
Appendix 3: IA of Homes Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy H1: Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective. The policy has been screened in by the HRA with possible impacts from direct land take; increases in diffuse air and water pollution and increases in recreational impacts.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	X	X	X	Permanent	Local	The policy promotes housing development on suitable sites where the proposed development is consistent with other local plan policies, PfE policies and national planning policies. This could	Policy CO1 sets out circumstances where the loss of an open space would be acceptable. CO1 requires that the loss of an open space is mitigated in terms of	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						include open space sites, where the loss would be consistent with policy CO1.	providing replacement provision in the form of new open spaces or contributing to enhancing existing provision within suitable location, considering the Open Space Study (2022) evidence in relation to need and accessibility, in line with policy CO2. In addition, policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 addresses this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to support residential development which is in line with other Local Plan policies, including design and heritage policies, as such the policy has an indirect positive	No mitigation requred. As set out in the policy, residential development should be in line with relevant local plan policies, PfE policies and national	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
distinctiveness and sense of place						contribution to this objective.	planning policies. As such, PfE policy JP-H4 and Local Plan policy H2 ensures development density is sympathetic to the local character and townscapes. PfE policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 further addresses this objective.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to support residential development, which is in line with other Local Plan policies, including heritage policies. It could also support the positive reuse of historic buildings, such as mills, for housing (some mills are identified within the housing land supply). As such, the policy has an indirect positive contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality		--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to support residential	No mitigation required. Policies D1	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
design that meets local design expectations						development, which is in line with other Local Plan policies, including design policies, as such the policy has an indirect positive contribution to this objective.	to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE policy JP-P1 also address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly seeks to support the redevelopment of brownfield land for housing. It also requires that development is sustainable and accessible which can ensure land is used in an effective manner, especially when considered alongside policy H2 which promotes the efficient use of land through ensuring appropriate densities are achieved.	No mitigation required. Policy H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that all residential development is sustainably located and accessible via public	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
infrastructure to meet development needs						transport, walking, wheeling and cycling.	Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited impact on this objective, however access to quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being, therefore by ensuring the development of housing the policy contributes indirectly to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Flood risk may affect some housing sites that come forward for development, however the policy itself will not contribute towards this	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						objective. Where necessary, proposals would be subject to a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	There may be opportunities to improve the quality of water bodies as part of development proposals, however it is considered that the policy itself is limited in its contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy directly supports the redevelopment of brownfield land for housing. This will indirectly help to reduce pressure for development on greenfield sites helping to protect soil and agricultural land. In addition, some proposals may help remediate Contaminated Land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						The policy supports residential development on suitable sites. Some sites that come forward for development may be greenfield land (or include some greenfield land). The development of these sites could affect soil quality.		
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Whilst the redevelopment of existing buildings will help to reduce energy use from construction of new build and new builds could be built to higher energy efficiency standards, it is considered that the policy in itself will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							that address this objective include CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy ensures that development is sustainably located and accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling. This could reduce car usage and thereby improve air quality. As such this policy has an indirect positive contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-S5 and policy LE3 of the Local Plan addresses air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of brownfield land for housing which could lead to the redevelopment and improvement of formerly derelict or detrimental sites/ vacant buildings. Moreover, the policy seeks to support residential development,	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						which is in line with other Local Plan policies, including amenity policies, as such the policy has an indirect positive contribution to this objective.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that all residential development is accessible by active travel and is in sustainable and accessible locations and promotes and encourages the use of public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling. It requires that development meets Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above, as a measure of accessibility to public transport (exceptions apply). Therefore, the policy promotes an integrated transport system and development could improve connectivity to	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						the walking and cycling network, where it does not exist currently.		
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that all residential development is accessible by active travel and is in sustainable and accessible locations and promotes and encourages the use of public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling. As such, the policy explicitly promotes accessibility and seeks to reduce the need to travel.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of housing which could help to promote wider regeneration and reduce deprivation and disparity. Moreover, the policy supports the redevelopment of brownfield land for housing which could lead to the regeneration of	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						formerly derelict or detrimental sites/ vacant buildings which could be contributing to deprivation.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy supports the development of housing, the construction of which could generate job creation and support the local economy in the short to medium term. Moreover, the development of quality housing can contribute to sustainable economic growth, retaining residents and supporting the local economy in the medium to long term.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the delivery of housing, which could include housing within Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres. A significant proportion of Oldham's identified housing land supply, as identified in the	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, is identified within Oldham Town Centre, in particular. Appropriate housing in Oldham's centres can support other uses and promote and enhance the vitality and viability of the centres.	supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports the delivery of a range of housing to meet	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs						the differing needs of Oldham's residents.	several Local Plan policies on housing further address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to support the delivery of housing, which could include the reuse of existing buildings through conversion and change of use. This will indirectly help reduce pressure on the need for a higher amount of minerals for new development.	No mitigation required. The GM Minerals Plan addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Waste Plan addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to support the delivery of housing in sustainable and accessible locations, some of which will include affordable housing (in line	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						with policy H5). Therefore, the policy makes a direct positive contribution to this objective.	communities and design aim to address this objective further.	

The policy scored mostly a mixture of positives and neutrals; however, it did score negative in terms of promoting quality and accessible open spaces (IA2) as the policy promotes housing development on suitable sites where the proposed development is consistent with other local plan policies, PfE policies and national planning policies, which could include open space sites. Mitigation is included within policy CO1 of the Plan in terms of addressing and compensating for the loss of open spaces to development (in line with policy CO2). As such, no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required.

Between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage there have been some minor changes to IA scores to reflect that the policy wording has been amended slightly and a specific measure of accessibility to public transport has been added, as follows:

- IA16 has been amended from positive to significantly positive across all time periods to reflect that the policy now specifically requires that all development (unless there is an exceptional reason not to) is accessible by active travel and meets Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) 4 or above. This means that the policy has a stronger positive contribution to this objective.

The policy has been screened in by the HRA with possible impacts from direct land take; increases in diffuse air and water pollution and increases in recreational impacts. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.

Policy H2: Density of New Housing

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy allows for alternative housing densities in certain circumstances such as where the defined density would impact on landscape or green infrastructure. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing	The policy ensures site densities are sympathetic	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						densities as is defined in the policy. However, the policy allows for alternative housing densities in certain circumstances such as where the defined density would impact on heritage assets, flood risk, design context, or green infrastructure, in line with PfE policy JP-H4.	to the local character and townscapes. It reflects PfE policy JP-H4 in an Oldham context. JP-G1 and JP-P1 also address this objective.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities, as is defined in the policy. However, the policy allows for alternative housing densities in certain circumstances such as where the defined density would impact on heritage assets.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality, design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities, as is defined in the policy. However, the policy allows for alternative housing densities in certain circumstances such as	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						where the defined density would be inappropriate or impracticable in terms of design context, ensuring that design expectations are upheld.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities, as is defined in the policy. The policy ensures that development makes the most efficient use of land, including specifying that the mix of residential developments within Oldham Town Centre, other centres and close to transport hubs will mostly be for higher density developments, including apartments.	No mitigation required. Policy H1 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this policy in itself, however when read as a whole, policy H1 requires that all residential development is sustainably and accessibly located.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports this objective as access to quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being, therefore by ensuring appropriate housing densities for the site's location ensures the most efficient use of land and contributes to meeting local housing needs.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy allows for alternative housing densities in certain circumstances such as where the defined densities would be inappropriate or impracticable in terms of site-specific issues such as flood risk.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to ensure land is used efficiently by ensuring appropriate densities are applied relevant to the site location. This will indirectly help to reduce pressure for development on greenfield sites helping to protect soil and agricultural land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy sets out that higher density housing will be required for sites close	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						to public transport stops and within the boroughs centres. Therefore, the policy supports this objective by locating residential development within highly accessible areas, thus reducing the need to travel and indirectly improve air quality.	Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective. However, it does ensure that residential development is accessible to public transport.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out that higher density housing will be required for sites close to public transport stops and within the boroughs centres. Therefore, the policy supports this objective by locating residential development within highly accessible areas, thus reducing the need to travel.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities, as is defined in the policy, to ensure the efficient use of land and to address housing needs which could help to promote wider regeneration and reduce deprivation and disparity. Where appropriate the policy allows for alternative housing densities to deliver a particular form of housing to meet a specific local need.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities and specifies that higher densities will be required within the borough's centres. Promoting housing within the borough's centres will contribute to enhancing the vitality and viability of the centres.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities relative to the site location. Ensuring that a mix of housing types and sizes are developed, and development is sustainably located which is important in delivering mixed and balanced communities. Therefore, the policy makes a direct positive contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate housing densities relative to the site location. Ensuring that a mix of housing types and sizes are developed, and development is	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix, specialist and affordable housing, communities and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						sustainably located which is important in delivering mixed and balanced communities, will make a direct positive contribution to this objective.	design aim to address this objective further.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positive, positive and neutral. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

There were no changes to scores between Draft Plan and Publication Pan stage.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy H3: Housing Mix

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy allows for an alternative housing mix in certain circumstances such as where the defined mix would impact on landscape or ecological designations or assets. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote a diverse housing mix, in line with local evidence. However, the policy allows for an alternative housing mix in certain circumstances such as where it can be clearly demonstrated that the site has distinct characteristics that make a higher density inappropriate or impracticable, such as flood risk, design context, impact on heritage assets.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote a diverse housing mix, as is defined in the policy. However, the policy allows for an alternative housing mix in certain circumstances such as where the defined mix would impact on heritage assets.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote a diverse housing mix, as is defined in the policy. However, the policy allows for an alternative	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
design expectations						housing mix in certain circumstances such as where the defined mix would be inappropriate or impracticable in terms of design context, ensuring that design expectations are upheld.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote a diverse housing mix, as is defined in the policy. The policy reasoned justification provides an overall recommended housing mix. The policy (and reasoned justification) also cross-references to the density requirements of policy H2, which ensures the efficient use of land, including specifying that residential developments within Oldham Town Centre will mostly be for higher density such as apartments.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this IA objective in itself.	No enhancement to the policy is required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
infrastructure to meet development needs							that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports this objective as access to quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being, therefore by ensuring a diverse mix of housing in line with evidence of local housing needs (and when read alongside policy H4 which supports the delivery of housing for need groups such as older persons and disabled persons) the policy contributes to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy allows for an alternative housing mix in certain circumstances such as where the defined mix would be inappropriate or	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						impracticable in terms of flood risk.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change							Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a limited positive contribution to this objective. The policy seeks to promote a	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
reduce the need to travel						diverse housing mix, based on local evidence. The policy should be read alongside policy H1 which requires that all residential development is sustainably and accessibly located; and policy H2 (as referenced in the policy) which ensures housing is delivered at a density appropriate to its location, for example higher density development should be located close to town and district centres and public transport, where services and facilities can be easily accessed.	T2 can help achieve this objective.	
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly seeks to promote a diverse housing mix, as is defined in the policy, to address housing needs which could help to promote wider regeneration and reduce deprivation and disparity. Where appropriate the policy allows for an alternative mix to deliver a particular	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						form of housing to meet a specific local need.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote a diverse housing mix, in line with local evidence. In line with policy H2 'Housing Density', the policy sets out that level-access homes will come forward as part of the overall housing mix, especially within town centres and highly sustainable locations. Promoting housing within the borough's centres will contribute to enhancing the vitality and viability of the centres.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							policies addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly seeks to deliver a sustainable housing land supply including an appropriate mix of housing based on local evidence.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to support a diverse mix of housing to meet a range of local housing needs. Ensuring a diverse mix of	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on specialist and affordable housing,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						housing on development sites is important in delivering mixed and balanced communities. Therefore, the policy makes a direct positive contribution to this objective.	communities and design aim to address this objective further.	

The policy scored a mixture of positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

There have been no changes to scores between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy H4: Providing for Local Housing Needs

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that provision for older and disabled people is guided by several principles relating to physical accessibility, locational accessibility and design (criteria a to d).	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the delivery of housing suitable for people with specialist housing needs (including	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) which will ensure that housing land is used effectively in meeting local housing needs, and as such contributes to this objective.	JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the delivery of housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) which could include various forms of supported, extra-care housing and nursing care homes, which could contribute to meeting development needs. In addition, the policy requires that provision is guided by several design and accessibility related standards (criteria a to d).	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the delivery of housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) which could include	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						a range of housing, care and support options which will meet a local housing need. In addition, access to suitable, quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being.	address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
use of renewable and low carbon energy							addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that provision is guided by several accessibility related standards (criteria a to e), including ensuring that provision is sustainably	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						located with access to public transport, local services and facilities (including a hospital or GP practice), accessible to the development via active travel means; and must promote ease of movement on foot.	design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy supports the delivery of housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) which could include various forms of supported and extra-care housing. This type of provision could include certain healthcare or support services and facilities that a housing need group would otherwise have to travel to access. In addition, the policy requires that provision must meet several accessibility related standards (criteria a to e), including ensuring that provision is sustainably	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						located with access to public transport, local services and facilities (including a hospital or GP practice), accessible to the development via active travel means.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the delivery of housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) and therefore addresses housing needs which could help to reduce deprivation and disparity for these groups. In addition, the policy requires provision to be accessible and sustainably located which could help to reduce isolation.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote the development of housing, the construction of which could generate job creation and support the local economy in the short to medium term. Moreover, the development of quality	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						housing can contribute to sustainable economic growth, retaining residents and supporting the local economy in the medium to long term.	address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires and supports the delivery of housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) - this could include sites within the borough's centres, especially Oldham Town Centre in line with the identified housing land supply. The delivery housing within the borough's centres will contribute to enhancing the vitality.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports and requires appropriate development to provide housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) which will contribute to addressing local housing needs, thus diversifying the borough's housing land supply.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports and requires appropriate development to provide	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
sustainable communities						housing suitable for those with specialist housing needs (including older people, disabled people, children and care leavers) which will contribute to addressing several local housing needs, thus creating inclusive and sustainable communities. Moreover, the policy requires that housing provision is appropriately designed, accessible and suitable for the intended user which will support inclusive sustainable communities.	Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective further.	

The policy scores a mixture of positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

This policy is not comparable to the IA done at Draft Plan stage as the contents of this policy were covered by multiple policies previously.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy H5: Affordable Housing

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place							JP-P1 address this objective.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy indirectly supports this objective by ensuring affordable housing is provided within all major residential developments, making efficient use of land to meet local housing needs. In addition, where appropriate, the policy	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						allows for an exception to providing the full amount of affordable housing required (or a contribution to offsite provision) to support the redevelopment of a Vacant Building, in line with national policy and guidance on Vacant Building Credit.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the delivery of affordable housing which will contribute to meeting development needs. In addition, when read as a whole with policy H1 which requires that all residential development is sustainably and accessibly located, will ensure that development is supported by infrastructure.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy indirectly contributes to this objective as access to quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being, therefore by ensuring the development of affordable	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						housing which will contribute to meeting a local housing need, the policy contributes indirectly to this objective.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and low carbon energy								
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective in itself, however when read as a whole in line with policy H1 all residential development, including affordable housing, should sustainably located and be	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						accessible by active travel and public transport.	sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective in itself, however when read as a whole in line with policy H1 all residential development, including affordable housing, should be sustainably located and accessibly by active travel and public transport.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires and supports the development of affordable housing therefore addressing a particular housing need which could help to promote wider regeneration and reduce deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote the development of housing, the construction of which	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
economic growth and job creation						could generate job creation and support the local economy in the short to medium term. Moreover, the development of quality housing can contribute to sustainable economic growth, retaining residents and supporting the local economy in the medium to long term.	within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires and supports the delivery of affordable housing, this will include on sites within the borough's centres, especially Oldham Town Centre in line with the identified housing land supply. The delivery of affordable housing within the borough's centres will contribute to enhancing the vitality.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports and requires the development of affordable housing of varying tenure and mix which will contribute to addressing local housing needs, thus diversifying the borough's housing land supply.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports and requires the	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and inclusive sustainable communities						development of affordable housing of varying tenure and mix which will contribute to addressing local housing needs. In addition, the policy requires that affordable housing is pepper-potted throughout developments ensuring balanced and mixed communities.	the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective further.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given, and no mitigation or enhancement was required as a result of the IA.

There were no changes to scores between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy H6: Houses in Multiple Occupation

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							Specifically, policy CO2 requires that all HMOs with 10 or more occupants, will be required to contribute to offsite new or enhanced open space, sport and recreation to meet the needs of the prospective residents.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of HMOs which are appropriate and requires that the development of HMOs complies with the relevant design and amenity standards within policy D1 and does not result in the loss of, or impact on the character and amenity to the area. The policy also requires that applications for HMOs provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of HMOs	No mitigation required. Policies HE1	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting						which are appropriate and requires that the development of HMOs complies with the relevant design and amenity standards within policy D1 and does not result in the loss of, or impact on the character and amenity to the area. The policy also requires that applications for HMOs provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment.	to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy makes a direct positive contribution to this objective as the policy requires that the development of HMOs complies with the relevant design and amenity standards within policy D1.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports this objective as it supports the development of HMOs, which often involve the change of use or conversion of previously	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
use of brownfield land						developed land and buildings.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective. However, when read as a whole policy H1 requires that all residential development is sustainably located and accessible by active travel and public transport.	Where appropriate planning conditions or obligations will be used to secure the necessary infrastructure required to mitigate impacts of the development on existing provision, as set out in policy IN2.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has an indirect contribution to this objective as access to quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being, therefore by supporting the development of suitable HMOs and including policy requirements to address amenity and housing quality the policy contributes indirectly to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Flood risk may affect some sites, however the policy itself will not contribute towards this objective. Where necessary	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
effects of flood risk						proposals would be subject to a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment.	Plan address flood risk.	
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy contributes to this objective as it supports the development of HMOs, which often involve the change of use or conversion of previously developed land and buildings. This will indirectly help to reduce pressure for development on greenfield sites helping to protect soil and agricultural land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Whilst the redevelopment of existing buildings will help to reduce energy use from construction of new build and new builds could be built to higher energy efficiency standards, it is considered that the policy	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						in itself will have a limited contribution to this objective.		
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy supports the development of HMOs that do not result in the loss of or impact on the amenity of the area as a consequence of increased traffic, noise or general disturbance and requires compliance with the relevant design and amenity standards in policy D1. In addition, the policy seeks to protect areas from the impacts of an over-concentration of HMOs, restricting the level	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						of HMOs permitted within particular distances.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy does not support the development of HMOs that would result in the loss of or impact on the amenity of the area as a consequence of development and requires compliance with the relevant amenity standards in policy D1. In addition, the policy seeks to protect areas from the impacts of an over-concentration of HMOs, restricting the number of HMOs permitted within particular distances (not applicable to HMOs allowed through permitted development rights).	It is considered that appropriate mitigation is included within the policy to address any issues that may arise in terms of local environmental quality. In addition, PfE policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan also addresses environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective in itself, however when read as a whole policy H1 requires that all residential development is sustainably located and	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						accessible by active travel and public transport.	address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective in itself, however when read as a whole policy H1 requires that all residential development is sustainably located and accessibly by active travel and public transport. In addition, the policy seeks to support appropriate HMOs within Oldham Town Centre, recognising the central location is well suited to HMOs.	No mitigation required**.** PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of suitable HMOs therefore addressing a particular housing need which could help to promote wider regeneration and reduce deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy supports appropriate HMOs within Oldham Town Centre, recognising the central location is well suited to HMOs. The policy does not support the development of HMOs that would result in the loss of or impact on the amenity of the area as a consequence of development and requires compliance with the relevant amenity standards in policy D1. In addition, the policy seeks to protect areas from the impacts of an over-concentration of HMOs, restricting the level	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						of HMOs permitted within particular distances.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports the development of suitable HMOs which are a key source of housing for a variety of groups, including those in need of semi-supported housing, those in need of temporary housing, key workers and those in need of affordable housing, thus diversifying the borough's housing land supply.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy supports the development of suitable HMOs, many of which are likely to be through the	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
management of minerals						reuse of existing buildings through conversion and change of use. This will indirectly help reduce pressure on the need for a higher amount of minerals for new development.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of suitable HMOs which are a key source of housing for a variety of groups, including those in need of semi-supported housing, those in need of temporary housing, key workers and those in need of affordable housing, thus directly contributing to this objective. The policy also requires that applications for HMOs provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective further.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage there has been a change to an IA score to ensure consistency with scores given to other housing policies which relate to housing for housing need groups. IA8 has changed from neutral to positive – the policy seeks to ensure high quality development of HMOs - access to quality housing is a key determinant of health and well-being. As such, it is considered that the policy has an indirect positive contribution to this objective and so the score should be changed for all time periods (with effects scored as permanent and the scale as local).

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy H7: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to support the provision of sites suitable for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople which is in line	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						with other Local Plan policies, including design and heritage policies. The policy also includes criteria to ensure appropriate screening and landscaping, as such the policy has a positive contribution to this objective		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has limited contribution to this objective. However, the policy does seek to support the provision of sites suitable for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople which is in line with other Local Plan policies, including design policies.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the provision of sites suitable for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, which will ensure that housing land is used effectively in meeting local housing needs, and as such contributes to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that applications for provision must have safe access points and parking facilities; are located within or near existing settlements with access to key services and public transport; has access to or can be linked to appropriate infrastructure that is required for occupiers including water, sewage, power and drainage.	No mitigation required. Where appropriate planning conditions or obligations will be used to secure the necessary infrastructure required to mitigate impacts of the development on existing provision, as set out in Policy IN2.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective, although access to suitable, quality housing	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						is a key determinant of health and well-being.	infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires that applications for provision must protect the residential amenity and safety of current and future occupiers and neighbouring uses and must have safe access and provision for onsite parking, turning and servicing, as well as access to infrastructure and services. In addition, sites for Travelling Showpeople will also be required to demonstrate that there is	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						safe access for larger vehicles, and the proposed use is compatible with surrounding land uses.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy indirectly contributes to this objective as it requires that provision is located near or within existing settlements with public transport, local services and facilities accessible to the development. It also ensures that there is safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access to the road network. However, the policy's impact is limited.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy contributes to this objective as it requires that provision is located near or within existing settlements with public transport, local services and facilities accessible to the development. It also ensures that there is safe	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						and convenient pedestrian access to the road network.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of suitable provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, therefore addressing a particular housing need which could help to promote wider regeneration and reduce deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy supports suitable sites for Travelling Showpeople which can support the wider economy; however, it is considered that the impact is limited on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill							and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly supports the development of suitable provision for a housing need group, thus diversifying the borough's housing land supply.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5-10 yrs)	LT (10+ yrs)	T o P	Local or Cross-boundary			
management of minerals								
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the development of suitable provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, which are a housing need group, thus directly contributing to this objective. The policy also requires provision is integrated into the community by ensuring provision is located within sustainable locations and protects residential amenity of neighbouring uses (such as other housing).	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective further.	None

The policy scored a mixture a positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage there has been a minor change to the score for IA objective 3 – on reflection it is considered that the policy could have a positive impact on this objective, and as such the score has been changed from neutral to positive.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 4: IA of Economy and Employment Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy E1: Employment Floorspace Requirements

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible impacts from direct land take and increases in diffuse air and water pollution.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	By providing floorspace for office, industry and warehousing to meet the requirements set out in PfE the policy is ensuring land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
environmental quality							Local Plan address environmental quality.	
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							achieve this objective.	
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	By providing floorspace for office, industry and warehousing to meet the requirements set out in PfE the policy is ensuring there is enough premises in Oldham for our existing businesses to expand and new businesses to relocate to. This will help to promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	By providing floorspace for office, industry and warehousing to meet the requirements set out in PfE the policy is ensuring there is enough premises in Oldham for our existing businesses to expand and new businesses to relocate to. This will help to promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and other policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	By providing floorspace for offices (which are a main town centre use) to meet the requirements set out in PfE the policy is contributing to the	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						vitality and viability of our centres.	well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	By providing floorspace for office, industry and warehousing to meet the requirements set out in PfE the policy is ensuring there are premises for businesses to expand on and relocate to and these businesses may provide training for staff which will help to improve skills levels of our residents.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs							housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Providing employment floorspace will help to promote balanced and inclusive sustainable communities by ensuring our residents have access to jobs.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored predominantly neutrals with some positive and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible impacts from direct land take and increases in diffuse air and water pollution. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.

Policy E2: Business and Employment Areas

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective, however, by focussing employment development towards already established employment areas may inadvertently protect some of the borough's green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective, however, there are a number of mills within our Business and Employment Areas (BEAs) which contribute towards the borough's local distinctiveness and sense of place.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective, however there are a number of mills within our BEAs which contribute towards our historic environment.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Focussing employment development towards already established employment areas ensures that land and building are used in an effective and efficient manner.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective generally. However, the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Sequential Test noted three BEAs where there are flood risk issues.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk. Mitigation could be provided through site-specific policy wording.	Text on flood risk added to Policy E1 – see conclusion
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land							Plan address soil and contaminated land.	
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	Focussing employment development towards already established employment areas will help ensure that appropriate	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						uses are located together. It is anticipated air quality will improve over time.	Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Focussing employment development towards already established employment areas will help ensure that appropriate uses are located together, and environmental quality is not diminished due to bad neighbour uses.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	By having a range of employment areas for existing businesses to expand on and new firms to locate to will improve the prosperity of the borough and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Having a range of employment areas for existing businesses to expand on and new firms to locate to will promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and other policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy only allows office development where it will not detract from the role of the borough's centres which should be the main focus for office activity. This will help protect and enhance the vitality and viability of our centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs							Local Plan on housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for waste management facilities within the Business and Employment Areas, in line with the Greater Manchester Waste DPD policies. This will help to ensure that waste is managed sustainably.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Designating a range of employment areas across the borough helps to promote balanced and inclusive sustainable communities by ensuring our residents have access to jobs.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							address this objective.	

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local.

Since the Draft Plan the policy has been revised in relation to the uses that are permitted within BEAs. Reference to leisure uses has been removed as a permitted use within BEAs. Due to this the following amendments have been made:

- IA21 this is now neutral rather than positive as it does not encourage any tourism uses.

In addition, the SFRA Sequential Test has highlighted that large proportions of BEA19, BEA20 and BEA 21 falls within Flood Zone 3b. To mitigate against this the following text has been added to Policy E2 supporting text to provide some mitigation against IA 9 on flood risk.:

No other mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy E3 - Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 yrs)	MT (5 – 10 yr)	LT (10 + yrs)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective, however by focussing employment development towards already established employment areas may inadvertently protect some of the borough's green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective however there are a number of mills within our employment areas which contribute towards the borough's local distinctiveness and sense of place.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective, however there are a number of mills within our BEAs which contribute towards our historic environment.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Focussing employment development towards already established employment areas ensures that land and building are used in an effective and efficient manner. The policy allows for other uses within employment areas provided that certain exceptions are met – one of the exceptions is that the site is no longer suitable for employment uses. This will also ensure that land and buildings are used for the most suitable form of development.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy allows for other uses within employment areas provided that certain exceptions are met – one of the exceptions is that the site is required for a facility or infrastructure meeting a	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
development needs						regional or national need. However, this objective is around supporting infrastructure to meet development needs and therefore it is felt it makes a limited contribution to this objective.	requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
and river corridors and availability of water resources							CC5 address water quality.	
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however by only allowing other uses within our BEAs in certain circumstances protects our BEAs for employment meaning that there will be no pressure on our agricultural land for those uses.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for other uses within employment areas provided that certain exceptions are met – one of the exceptions is that the site or premises are no longer suitable with regards neighbour amenity issues. This will go some way to improving local environmental quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for other uses within employment areas provided that certain exceptions are met – one of the exceptions is that the site is specifically identified as being appropriate for other uses in a masterplan or framework – this will ensure that our employment areas will not hinder any wider regeneration plans coming forward.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy sets out an approach to ensure that proper consideration is given to the loss of employment sites so that they are only released in exceptional circumstances.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and other policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill							policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies address tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate	?	?	?	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective; however, the policy allows for non-employment generating uses providing that the relevant exceptions are	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs						met. This means that housing may be permitted on employment sites and if that was the development proposal this could go some way to meeting a sustainable housing land supply.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out an approach to ensure that proper consideration is given to the loss of employment sites so that they are only released in exceptional circumstances.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							address this objective.	

The policy scored a lot of neutrals and some positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local. There was one uncertain in relation to IA23 as although this is primarily an employment policy, it does allow for non-employment generating uses providing that the relevant exceptions are met. This means that housing may be permitted on employment sites and if that was the development proposal this could go some way to meeting a sustainable housing land supply. However, it is uncertain as it depends on the applications that are submitted.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy E4 – Employment sites outside of Business and Employment Areas

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however by focussing employment development towards already established employment areas this may inadvertently protect some of the borough's green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective however there are a number of mills that are in use for employment which contribute towards the borough's local distinctiveness and sense of place.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however there are a number of mills in employment use which contribute towards our historic environment.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for other uses when it is demonstrated that the site is unsuitable in land use terms as an employment site. This will also ensure that land and buildings are used for the most suitable form of development.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however the majority of the borough's businesses are already supported by a level of infrastructure.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
water resources								
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective focussing retaining employment sites there will be no pressure on our agricultural land for those uses.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
are resilient to the effects of climate change							that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for other uses when it is demonstrated that the site is unsuitable in land use terms as an employment site. This will go some way to improving local environmental quality by enabling change of uses when there are potentially unsuitable neighbouring uses.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for other uses on employment sites provided that certain exceptions are met, one of which is that the location is unsuitable for its current use. By allowing a more suitable uses as part of a	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						redevelopment, regeneration is promoted.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy sets out an approach to ensure that proper consideration is given to the loss of employment sites so that they are only released in specific circumstances.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and other policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	?	?	?	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective; however, the policy allows for non-employment generating uses in some circumstances. This means that housing may be permitted on employment sites and if that was the development proposal this could go some way to meeting a sustainable housing land supply.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out an approach to ensure that proper consideration is given to the loss of employment sites so that they are only released in certain circumstances.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

This policy has been added since the Draft Plan was published. The majority of the text was included within what is now Policy E3, however, to improve readability the policy has now been split into two.

The policy scored a lot of neutrals and some positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local. There was one uncertain in relation to IA23 as although this is primarily an employment policy, it does allow for non-employment generating uses providing that the relevant exceptions are met. This means that housing may be permitted on employment sites and if that was the development proposal this could go some way to meeting a sustainable housing land supply. However, it is uncertain as it depends on the applications that are submitted.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy E5: Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 yrs)	LT (10 + yrs)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy allows flexibility regarding the uses that may be permitted within our mills providing the proposal secures the future of the mill. The mills form part of Oldham's local distinctiveness, sense of place and form part of our townscape and landscapes.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy allows flexibility regarding the uses that maybe permitted within our mills providing the proposal secures the future of the mill.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
design expectations							PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy allows flexibility regarding the uses that may be permitted within our mills providing the proposal secures the future of the mill. This is maximising the use of the mills and therefore brownfield land.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality,	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land							Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Whilst the redevelopment of existing buildings, such as mills, will help to reduce energy use from construction of new build and new builds could be built to higher energy efficiency standards, it is considered that the policy in itself will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The refurbishment of mills as part of a redevelopment scheme could improve the local environmental quality of the area.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Encouraging the re-use of our mills will ensure that the condition of vacant and underused mills does not deteriorate further and detract from Oldham's image and will have a positive impact on regeneration of communities.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and other policies within the Economy and Employment section	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							of the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective, however there are a number of mills located within our centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective however the policy allows for non-employment generating uses within our mills providing that the relevant policy requirements are met. This means that tourism and leisure uses may be permitted.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies address tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however the policy allows for non-employment generating uses within our mills providing that the relevant policy requirements are met. This means that housing may be permitted in the mills and this could go some way to meeting a sustainable housing land supply.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy								
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy allows for non-employment generating uses within our mills providing that the relevant policy requirements are met. This means that other uses may be permitted in the mills and this could go some way to promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored mostly neutrals and some positives and significantly positive scores.

No changes were made to the policy text between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage, further information on viability assessments has been added to the Reasoned Justification though this has not impacted on the outcome of the IA. Although no changes were made to the policy on reflection IA26 has been amended from neutral to positive. It is felt that as the policy allows for non-employment generating uses within our mills in certain circumstances this could go some way to promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment
Appendix 5 : IA of Our Centres Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy C1 – Our Centre's

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
accessible open spaces						contribution on this IA objective.	addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres, taking advantage of each centres unique character.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres, taking advantage of each centres unique character.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the vitality and viability of our centres, taking account of the unique character of each centre.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out our centres hierarchy and states that the emphasis will be on our centres providing a strong convenience function. It also states that as well as a retail function the centres will be complemented by a range of other town centre uses and housing.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
supporting infrastructure to meet development needs						IA objective. However, the centres will have a range of facilities and uses within them that will help meet development needs.	Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that as well as a retail function the centres will be complemented by a range of other town centre uses, this includes fitness centres and gyms. In addition, centres act as a hub for residents which is important for social interaction.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
to the effects of flood risk								
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
renewable and low carbon energy								
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	By ensuring that there are convenient facilities near people's homes in the form of Local Shopping Parades will reduce the need to travel which in turn will help improve air quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
environmental quality						of our centres and taking advantage of each centres unique character.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out our centres hierarchy and states that the emphasis will be	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
reduce the need to travel						on our centres providing a strong convenience function so that the need to travel is minimised for our residents. In addition, by ensuring that there are convenient facilities near people's homes in the form of Local Shopping Parades will reduce the need to travel.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres to ensure their long-term success. Doing this will promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						disparity as money will be being spent in our centres and jobs provided. Regeneration of our centres will take some time therefore the positive effects will increase overtime.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres to ensure their long-term success. Doing this will mean that jobs are created in our centres and economic growth will happen. Regeneration of our centres and increased job creation within will take some time	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						therefore the positive effects will increase overtime.		
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres to ensure their long-term success.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C2 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres to ensure their long-term success, it also says a range of town centre uses will be permitted which	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						includes tourism and leisure uses.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that range of town centres uses will be permitted including housing. This will contribute to our housing land supply.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy						contribution on this IA objective.		
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres to ensure their long-term success, it also says a range of uses will be supported which will promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local.

Since the Draft Plan the policy has been revised, and the policy includes Local Shopping Parades as part of the hierarchy and states that they will contribute towards vibrant communities by providing convenient facilities near people's homes, reducing the need to travel. Due to this the following amendment have been made:

- IA14 is now positive rather than neutral as reducing the need to travel will have a positive effect on air quality.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy C2 – Protecting the vitality of our centres

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	**MT (5 – 10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective in terms of outdoor open	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						space provision, however it could support indoor sports, recreation and fitness provision.	PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to ensure that centre uses are located within our centres which helps to ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this objective by ensuring our centres have a strong retail function, complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities, including leisure and community uses all of which will	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						support development needs.		
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this objective by supporting centre uses including sports, fitness and recreation facilities to locate in our centres which will help reduce health inequalities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
climate change								
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however, ensuring centre uses are located in our centres will reduce the need to travel and therefore have a secondary effect with improved air quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out that centre uses should be located in our centres which will reduce the need to travel as these are our most accessible locations.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports this objective by encouraging centre uses to be located within the borough's centres which will support their regeneration. In addition, the policy states that impact assessments must take	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						into account the likely effects of development on any appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's centres, this will help to promote the regeneration of our centres.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports this objective by encouraging centre uses to be located within the borough's centres which will support their regeneration and therefore promote economic growth within our centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres by ensuring centre uses are located in our centres unless the	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1, C3 and C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						council is satisfied by an impact assessment or a sequential test that they are can be suitably located elsewhere.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure centre uses (including leisure facilities) are located in our centres unless the council is satisfied by an impact assessment or a sequential test that they are can be suitably located elsewhere.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
meet local housing needs								
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the viability and vitality of our centres by ensuring centre uses are located in our centres which will promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a large number of neutrals due to the specific and technical nature of the policy. In addition, there were also a mixture of positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local.

No substantial changes were made to the policy between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage other than the policy number and name changing. Therefore, the IA has remained the same in terms of scoring.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy C3 – Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address his objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that proposals will be required to positively restore and/or enhance the character and appearance of frontages and make a positive contribution to vitality, viability and diversity of our centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that proposals will be required to positively restore and/or enhance the character and appearance of frontages and make a positive contribution to vitality, viability and diversity of our centres. Many of our centres	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						have heritage assets.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that proposals will be required to positively restore and/or enhance the character and appearance of the frontage and be of a scale and type of use appropriate to the size and function of the centre.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to ensure that our centres meet a wide range of local needs and will be complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities, this will help ensure land and buildings are used in an	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						effective and efficient manner. In addition, it sets out that new homes will be supported in our centres which is also maximising the use of brownfield land.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy states that the centres will have a range of facilities and uses within them that will help meet development needs.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that the role of our centres is important in meeting a wide range of local needs will be protected and enhanced, our	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						centres act as a hub for residents which is important for social interaction.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
contaminated land								
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however ensuring local services and facilities are	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						located in appropriate locations will reduce the need to travel and therefore have secondary effects with improved air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy states that proposals will be required to positively restore and/or enhance the character and appearance of frontages and make a positive contribution to vitality, viability and diversity of our centres. The policy also aims to restrict an overconcentration of uses such as hot food take aways and gambling uses	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						which could also improve local environmental quality.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to ensure that our centres meet a wide range of local needs and will be	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the need to travel						complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities, by co-locating these services in our centres will help reduce the need to travel.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims for the successful functioning of the centres, and our centres are an integral part of the borough providing everyday needs, the ability to socialise and engage in cultural activities. Their success will promote regeneration. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						increase over time.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy aims for the successful functioning of the centres. Achieving this will mean that jobs are created in our centres and economic growth will happen. Regeneration and therefore job creation takes time. It is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that change of use and redevelopments within our centres will be carefully managed to ensure that they support, rather	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1, C2 and C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						than detract from, the successful functioning of the centres and their ability to meet local needs. This will protect and enhance the vitality and viability of our centres.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy aims to ensure that our centres meet a wide range of local needs and will be complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities including leisure facilities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not make a strong contribution to the objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that in relation to	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs						the borough's other centres the provision of homes will generally be supported when it is demonstrated the residential use will not be detrimental to the vitality and viability of the centre. It is recognised that the contribution some of our centres will make to our housing land supply will be limited. Policy OTC1 deals with housing in Oldham Town Centre.	on housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to ensure that our centres meet a wide range of local needs and will be complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities, including the provision of homes, which will promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local.

No changes were made to the policy between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage other than a cross reference to Policy LE1 being added to the policy for clarity. Therefore, the IA has remained the same in terms of scoring, taking into account amendments to IA objectives 1 and 13.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy C4 – Local Services and Facilities

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective in terms of outdoor open space provision; however it could	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						support small scale indoor sports, recreation and fitness provision as these fall into the Use Class Order E.		
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective, however the policy does recognise that locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities which can help foster a sense of place.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
assets and their setting								
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to ensure that local services and facilities are located in appropriate locations. This helps to ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this objective by supporting local services and facilities which include medical facilities, sports and recreation facilities and creches, all of which will	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						support development needs.		
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this objective by supporting local services and facilities that fall within Use Class E which include medical facilities and sports, fitness and recreation facilities which will help reduce health inequalities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
climate change								
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, however ensuring local services and facilities are located in appropriate locations will reduce the need to travel and therefore have a knock-on effect with improved air quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective; however, the policy does recognise that locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities which could help improve local environmental quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy states that locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities by providing convenient facilities near people's homes, reducing the need to travel and providing a valuable service for less mobile	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						members of the community.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this by facilitating the development of local shops, services and facilities which will promote regeneration.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy recognises that locally available services can contribute towards vibrant communities which can contribute toward economic growth.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy protects and enhances our centres as it has thresholds in relation to local shops and services to ensure that larger scale developments are directed to our centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C3 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy recognises that locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities which can help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local.

Some changes were made to the policy text between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage, particularly around the inclusion of Local Shopping Parades, though this did not alter the scorings for this policy. However, on reflection IA14 has been amended from neutral to positive as the policy does (and did at Draft Plan Stage) refer to reducing the need to travel and this will have a knock-on effect with improved air quality.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy was required because of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 6: IA of Oldham Town Centres Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy OTC1 - Oldham Town Centre

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature and OTC4 address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1, CO2 and OTC4 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure development in Oldham Town Centre follow a set of principles.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						This includes ensuring development reflects the distinctive role of the town centre and positively responds to key landmarks and views and the incorporation of cycling and walking links in a way that supports active travel and helps to define and enhance local character and sense of place.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the enhancement of Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area to contribute to its removal from Historic England's heritage at risk register. In addition, the policy states that the re-use of existing listed buildings on Union Street will make space for live performance, including a new theatre and home for Oldham Coliseum,	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 – HE5 and OTC2 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						and the Prudential Building will be renovated to create innovative and flexible office space aimed at attracting creative and digital businesses to Oldham.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre and the principles expected include high-density, high-quality and sustainable development that reflects the distinctive role of the town centre. These will help promote high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 – D4 and OTC3 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre and the principles expected include high-density,	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						high-quality and sustainable development that reflects the distinctive role of the town centre. In addition, the policy states that the re-use of existing listed buildings on Union Street will make space for live performance, including a new theatre and home for Oldham Coliseum, and the Prudential Building will be renovated to create innovative and flexible office space aimed at attracting creative and digital businesses to Oldham. This will also help to achieve this objective. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.		

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs by supporting the development of a low carbon district heat network, that will extract heat from water in disused mines underneath the town centre and through the provision of incorporation of cycling, wheeling and walking links.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this objective by the incorporation of cycling and walking links, and improved wayfinding, to create and contribute to, enhanced permeability and connectivity, in a way that supports active travel, improving health and well-being.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The delivery of over 1,000 homes in Oldham Town Centre will ensure a large amount of brownfield land is remediated and brought back into use, helping to meet this plan objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help to achieve this by supporting the development of a low	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
the use of renewable and low carbon energy						carbon district heat network, that will extract heat from water in disused mines underneath Oldham Town Centre to create a low carbon power source that will help deliver our ambitions for carbon neutrality.		
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will improve air quality through ways such as delivery of a low carbon district heat network.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre – in doing so the local environmental quality will be improved. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help achieve this objective by the incorporation of	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						cycling and walking links, and improved wayfinding, to create and contribute to, enhanced permeability and connectivity, in a way that supports active travel, improving health and well-being.	Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre – in doing so the town centre will have over 1,000 new homes with access to a retail core, a cultural and creative quarter, an incubation space and an educational quarter.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity						regenerate Oldham Town Centre. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre. A regenerated town centre will create jobs and bring in sustainable economic growth. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill								
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre. This includes a cultural and creative quarter, which it says will be the focus for our night-time and visitor economy, providing an improved food and drink offer, expanded entertainment and leisure sector and cultural attraction. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre. This includes an educational quarter which will remain home to high-quality	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						further and higher education establishments.		
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre. This includes the development of over 1,000 homes which will contribute to providing a a sustainable housing land supply.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre. In	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
sustainable communities						achieving this, the town centre will have over 1,000 new homes with access to a retail core, a cultural and creative quarter, an incubation space, and an educational quarter. This will all contribute towards promoting mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities. Regeneration takes time and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.	design aim to address this objective.	

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, due to the fact Oldham Town Centre attracts people from outside of the borough, but the majority were local. Some of the effects went from positive to significantly positive over time due to the fact that regeneration can be a lengthy process and therefore it is assumed that the positive effects will increase over time.

Since Draft Plan stage the policy has been amended to remove some duplication with the other Oldham Town Centre policies. As a result IA1, IA2, IA9 and IA13 have been amended from positive scores to neutral scores. In addition, on reflection IA3 has been amended from a positive to a significantly positive score.

No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy OTC2 – Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages the introduction of appropriate multi-functional greening and landscaping. This should result in increased multi-functional green infrastructure including biodiversity over the plan period. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy allows for new interventions in public realm which could include open spaces and encourages the introduction of appropriate multi-functional greening and landscaping.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None.
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to protect and enhance the character and townscapes within Oldham Town Centre conservation area through a number of criteria. This will strengthen sense of place and distinctiveness.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to protect and enhance Oldham Town Centre	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
environment, heritage assets and their setting						conservation area, which is on Heritage at risk register. This includes a number of listed assets as well as the conservation area.	JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires development to carefully consider and reflect the character and appearance of the conservation area through high quality design of an appropriate scale, density, height, form, massing, layout, plot position, materials, colours, composition and detailed design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages developments to	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						secure the viable reuse of vacant heritage assets to prevent their decay and dereliction. This will ensure that land and buildings are used efficiently.	JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy may support new infrastructure and as part of that ensure it is appropriate given the conservation area and seek to improve wayfinding, but it is not the policy aim to ensure adequate supporting infrastructure to support new development.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to enhance the conservation area through engaging	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
reduce health inequalities						the public, improving wayfinding and introducing multi-functional greening. These interventions should have a positive impact on health and well-being.	infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy encourages the introduction of multi-functional greening and landscaping however it is not the focus of the policy to mitigate flood risk.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will contribute towards this	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land						objective as it supports development proposals where they secure the viable reuse of vacant heritage assets to prevent their decay and dereliction. This will indirectly reduce pressure of greenfield land and protect soils.	of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although there may be energy savings associated with avoiding demolition and redevelopment the policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages the introduction of multi-functional greening and landscaping,	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change						which should provide cooling and habitats for biodiversity.	include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy aims to enhance Oldham Town centre and in doing so indirectly it is hoped that the centre will be a place where people want to live alongside working and spending recreational time. The policy also aims to improve way finding therefore creating a more accessible and user-friendly environment to encourage walking and cycling and encourages greening. All	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						these interventions should indirectly have a positive impact on air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy includes criteria which will help improve environmental quality including to secure the viable reuse of vacant heritage assets to prevent their decay and dereliction, and include positive interventions to improve the condition of buildings, or reverse inappropriate alterations; and improve active uses at ground floor level; ensure high quality shopfronts are	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						installed and that adverts are of a quality and design appropriate to the conservation area.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	-	-	-	Permanent	Local	The policy supports development that improves wayfinding into and around the conservation area and between key transport links however it is not in itself aiming to improve the transport system.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy will indirectly contribute towards this objective as the policy aims to enhance Oldham	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						Town centre and in doing so it is hoped that the centre will be a place where people want to live, work and spend recreational time therefore promoting accessibility to key services and reducing the need to travel. The policy also aims to secure the viable reuse of vacant heritage assets which could be used for key services.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to enhance Oldham Town centre and in doing so it is hoped that the centre will be a place where people want to	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						live, work and spend recreational time therefore assisting in regeneration and reducing deprivation.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to enhance Oldham Town centre, including through measures such as securing viable uses and supporting temporary uses. It is hoped that the centre will be a place where people want to live, work and spend recreational time. Indirectly this should help promote sustainable economic growth.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to protect and enhance Oldham Town Centre through a range of measures which should remove the conservation area from the heritage at risk register and consequently enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy aims to protect and enhance Oldham Town Centre through a range of measures including supporting viable uses and engaging the public. Enhancing the centre and better defining the conservation	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						area should have a positive impact on tourism and leisure in the centre.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although the policy aims to engage the public through measures such as public art the policy is not likely to improve education attainment and skill levels.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy promotes the reuse of heritage assets which may be used for housing, but it is not the focus of the policy to provide a sustainable housing land supply.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy promotes the reuse of heritage	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
management of minerals						assets which may reduce the pressure for minerals.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to improve wayfinding and to engage the community therefore the policy should help achieve this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutrals, positives and significantly positive scores.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stages only a footnote has been added to the policy and therefore no scoring changes have been made to the IA. Some text changes have been made to the IA to reflect policy wording changes as a result of the IA from the Draft Plan (multi-functional added) however this has not affected the scores.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy OTC3 – Creating a Better Public Realm for Oldham Town Centre

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that will ensure the introduction of trees, soft planting and landscaping to create a greener, cooler and biodiverse town centre. This will help to protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that will ensure	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						the introduction of trees, soft planting and landscaping in appropriate locations and creating areas where the public may stop and dwell, providing opportunities for play and leisure. Both of these may help to promote quality and accessible open spaces.	In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that will respond positively to the wider landscape, and views and vistas and integrate public art that reflects the local character and distinctiveness of the town centre. Both of these principles will help to achieve this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment,	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that will	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
heritage assets and their setting						celebrate Oldham's unique backdrop, responding positively to the wider landscape, and views and vistas. This will help to achieve this IA objective.	P2 address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that will help meet this IA objective, including providing for a simple and uncluttered environment, the integration of public art and that the public realm be designed for all to feel welcome, comfortable and safe.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that ensure the use of robust and durable materials that promote cost effective and sustainable maintenance to ensure long-term quality. This will help ensure land and	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it requires the provision of high-quality public realm in Oldham Town Centre, which could be considered as supporting infrastructure.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that provide a functional and accessible streetscape, are designed for all to feel welcome and at appropriate locations opportunities should be taken to create areas where the public may stop and dwell, providing opportunities for play and leisure, and encouraging social interaction for all	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						ages. These principles will help to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that introduce trees, soft planting, and landscaping in appropriate locations to create a greener, cooler and biodiverse town centre and to explore the delivery of sustainable drainage solutions. These will help to minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 'Flood Risk and the Water Environment' and policies CC2 'Managing Flood Risk' and CC3 'Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water' and OTC4 'Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre' of the Local Plan also addresses flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land							Plan address soil and contaminated land.	
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that introduce trees, soft planting, and landscaping in appropriate locations to create a greener, cooler and biodiverse town centre which can help ensure that communities are resilient to the effects of climate change.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that introduce trees, soft planting, and landscaping in appropriate locations to create a greener, cooler and biodiverse town	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						centre which can help to protect and improve air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that will help meet this IA objective, including providing for a simple and uncluttered environment, the integration of public art, creating areas for people to stop and dwell and ensuring that the public realm be designed for all to feel welcome, comfortable and safe.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that provide a functional and accessible streetscape and create a spatial hierarchy of routes through, and around, the town centre that are easy to understand. This will help to meet this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective, though it is acknowledged that making the environment feel safer, with overlooking onto routes, may encourage people to use active travel and reduce the need to travel by car.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help improve the quality of public realm in Oldham Town Centre, which will help promote regeneration.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton,	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will ensure a high-quality public realm is located in Oldham Town Centre, helping to protect and enhance the	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						vitality and viability of the centres, by creating more walkable, uncluttered, safe environments and encouraging dwell time within them.	well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that encourage dwell time and providing opportunities for play and leisure and encouraging social interaction for all ages. This will help to increase opportunities for leisurely activities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires new public realm in Oldham Town Centre to follow principles that are designed for all to feel welcome, comfortable and safe and provide a functional and accessible streetscape. These will help to contribute towards more inclusive communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of positives and neutrals, with no negatives. No mitigation or enhancements were required to the policy as a result of the IA process.

Since Draft Plan stage, this policy has been amended, it now includes five more principles that are concerned with safety and lighting, sustainable drainage solutions, public art, opportunities for play and leisure and landscapes, views and vistas. As a result of these amendments:

- IA9 has increased from a positive in the short and medium term to a significantly positive

- IA13 and IA14 have been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is not felt that the positive benefits of the policy would increase over time therefore, they score positive form short to long term.
- IA16 has been amended from significantly positive to positive
- IA26 has changed from a neutral to a positive.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy OTC4 – Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy focus is on creating and enhancing multi-functional Green Infrastructure within and around the town centre which would provide benefits such as enhanced habitats for biodiversity. The policy also refers to nature network opportunities. However, it was noted that the policy does not actually state 'multi-functional'. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	First sentence of policy could state 'multi-functional' for clarity. In addition, Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	Added multi-functional into the first sentence of the policy.
2. To promote quality and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy focus is on creating and enhancing	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
accessible open spaces						Green Infrastructure within and around the town centre including open spaces, such as Tommyfield Park.	of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permannet	Local	The policy will introduce new green infrastructure within and around the town centre. The town centre has very little green space and so the introduction of green infrastructure should enhance the townscapes and sense of place.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy should indirectly enhance the historic environment of Oldham Town Centre through introducing green infrastructure and public realm.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy focus is on creating and enhancing Green Infrastructure within and around the town centre including as part of new developments so this will contribute towards high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Indirectly introducing green infrastructure within and around the centre will help make sure that this land is being used for multi purposes such as encouraging active travel and climate change resilience. Enhancing the centre will also make the centre more attractive as a place to live helping to direct people to higher density areas.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Protecting, creating and enhancing green infrastructure will ensure that this type of infrastructure is implemented to support new development proposals.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Protecting, creating and enhancing green infrastructure will encourage healthier lifestyles and will provide	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						benefits such as cooling. In a part of the borough where health deprivation is high this will have a positive impact.	address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages the use of nature-based solutions and sustainable drainage systems to manage surface water flood risk in the town centre. However, it was noted that the policy could make reference to 'multi-functional' green infrastructure for clarity.	It is considered that adding 'multi-functional' before green infrastructure will also emphasise this. In addition, PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	Added multi-functional into the first sentence of the policy.
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy encourages green roofs, walls and nature-based solutions. Measures such as these will help slow the flow of water and therefore safeguard water resources.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land,	--	--	--	Permanent	Local	Green Infrastructure will be introduced however it may not restore existing soil quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
and remediate contaminated land								
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	Mitigation not required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will ensure green infrastructure is created as part of new developments, which will provide cooling preventing heat exhaustion and providing flood risk mitigation, efficient use of water and habitats for biodiversity. This will help ensure users of the town centre are resilient to climate change. The policy also seeks to create nature networks. However, it was noted that the policy could make reference to 'multi-functional' green infrastructure for clarity.	It is considered that adding 'multi-functional' before green infrastructure will also emphasise this. In addition, PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	Added multi-functional into the first sentence of the policy.

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy aim is to create and enhance green infrastructure which will capture carbon and help improve air quality as well as encouraging active travel which will help reduce emissions from a reduction in the use of private based vehicles. This should improve air quality over the plan period.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to create and enhance green infrastructure which will improve local environmental quality within and around the centre.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy refers to the Oldham Greenway movement strategy and encourages the creation of active travel routes across the town centre and linking to Northern Roots, Oldham Edge and strategic allocations.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to enhance green infrastructure within and between the town centre, which has a number of key services, and strategic allocations which include employment therefore this should assist in promoting accessibility and reducing the need to travel by making the town centre a more attractive place to live.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy should make a significant contribution towards regeneration of the town centre and surrounding areas through enhancing the environment and improving active travel routes.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy should make a significant contribution towards regeneration of the town centre and	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						surrounding areas through enhancing green infrastructure, which should have positive secondary and cumulative effects on economic growth.	Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Creating and enhancing green infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre will help enhance the centre overall which will improve its vitality and viability.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Creating and enhancing green infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre will help enhance the centre overall which will improve its attractiveness as a place to visit, particularly through supporting active travel routes that link the town centre to Northern Roots.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will assist in ensuring high quality homes are built but it does not in itself provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of housing.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help make Oldham Town Centre a place where people want to live and spend leisure time therefore helping to create mixed and inclusive communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design also aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutrals, positives and significantly positive scores.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the policy was updated to reflect the latest Oldham Town Centre Framework. It was noted during the IA that the policy did not explicitly refer to ‘multi-functional’ Green Infrastructure and therefore the first sentence of the policy was amended to enhance it to refer to ‘multi-functional’. This is reflected in IA1, IA9 and IA13. This amendment did not affect scoring.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 8 : IA of Natural Environment and Open Land Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy OL1 – Consideration for the Peak District National Park

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Policy will have a positive effect due to ensuring development does not conflict with purposes of the PDNP, which includes its natural beauty, wildlife and enjoyment of the Peak District. In the long term the policy may have significant positive effects as text has been added to state opportunities to further the purposes must be considered, where possible. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						anticipated from the operation of this policy.		
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect the purpose of the PDNP which includes the enjoyment of its natural beauty which will include open spaces. It doesn't address quality and accessibility of open spaces however as this is a matter for the PDNPA.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will protect the character and appearance of the PDNP as it will take into account cultural heritage and natural beauty. There may sometimes be opportunities to replace detracting features with better designed development /landscapes. In addition, in the long term the policy may contribute to	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						enhancing landscapes, sense of place and distinctiveness as text has been added to state opportunities to further the purposes must be considered, where possible.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will protect cultural heritage, ensuring development does not conflict with the PDNP purposes. In the long term the policy may contribute to enhancing the historic environment, including cultural heritage as text has been added to state opportunities to further the purposes must be considered, where possible.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy isn't seeking to explicitly set out design requirements but by definition by ensuring	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
design expectations						development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP and seeking opportunities to further the purposes this will promote a higher quality of design.	JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that whilst development may be more constrained towards the PDNP the policy does not in itself ensure the effective and efficient use of brownfield land.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy does not relate to the provision of supporting infrastructure other than the enjoyment of the PDNP.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy will ensure development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP and seek opportunities to further the purposes which includes the understanding and enjoyment of the Peak District. This links to health and well-being and promoting understanding can be promoted within different communities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact as it is not addressing flood risk specifically.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact as development within Oldham's planning boundary will have limited influence of the quality of water bodies	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
water resources						and river corridors within the PDNP.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy cannot control development within the planning boundary of the PDNP therefore its impact will be limited.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	x	x	x	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy could constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the PDNP.	It is not considered that mitigation is needed as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines. In addition, PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy cannot control development within the planning boundary of the PDNP therefore its impact will be limited.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change							that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy cannot control development within the planning boundary of the PDNP therefore its impact will be limited, although development is more likely to be limited close to the PDNP boundary.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy will indirectly have a positive impact through ensuring that development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP, and where possible seeks opportunities to further the purposes, including its natural beauty and enjoyment.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy does not in itself contribute to this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on regenerating areas of deprivation. It seeks to maintain or further the purposes of the PDNP.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will help protect or further the purposes of the PDNP which may link to sustainable growth, however it will not in itself promote growth and job creation.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	There is no link between the policy and this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	++	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a positive impact through ensuring development does not conflict with the purposes of the PDNP and possibly a significant positive effect over time as the purposes are furthered	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						where opportunities arise. This will help ensure that the gateway into the PDNP is enjoyed which promotes tourism and leisure.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not influence this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not influence this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact however it is noted that the PDNPA would be a consideration in the determination on applications for	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						minerals within close proximity to the PDNP.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not have a strong impact on this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of positives and neutrals. There was one potentially negative impact in relation to IA12 'To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy' as the policy could constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy where it conflicts with the purposes of the Peak District National Park. However, it is not considered that mitigation is needed as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines and this objective can be met in other ways. Policy CC1 also addresses energy.

IA1, IA3, IA4 and IA21 have been amended since the Draft Plan to score significantly positive in the long term. This is to reflect changes to the policy which now require development where possible to consider furthering the purposes of the national park which could relate to wildlife, cultural heritage and as such tourism.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy OL2 –Oldham's Green Belt

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will protect and conserve Oldham's Green Belt which is part of the multi-functional GI network and includes nature designations and geodiversity (RIGS). The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will protect and conserve Oldham's Green Belt which includes open spaces.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The Green Belt is part of Oldham's distinctiveness and sense of place and the landscape features within it. The policy will ensure that only appropriate development will be approved, except in very special circumstances, therefore ensuring that this objective is achieved.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect Oldham's Green Belt, which by its nature has a strong role within Oldham's historic environment and is one of the Green Belt purposes to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns. Through protecting the openness of Oldham's Green Belt and only allowing appropriate developments, unless	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						there are very special circumstances, this will ensure that the historic environment is protected to a strong degree, particularly where the Green Belt forms part of the settings to heritage assets.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Indirectly developments having to ensure that they protect the openness of the Green Belt will drive a higher quality of design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. In doing so this will contribute to the first three green belt purposes on preventing sprawl of large built-up areas, preventing neighbouring towns from merging into one	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						another and assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. This ensures that the spatial strategy for growth and development is directed towards the urban area, with most development being on brownfield land and in doing so ensures that land is used efficiently through other policies on density etc. The policy also reflects amendments to NPPF which allows development on grey belt and previously developed land within the Green Belt.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not particularly address this objective. There may be some secondary / indirect impact through the implementation of the	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
development needs						policy such as extensions to PROW / walking and cycling infrastructure where the Green Belt is enhanced but this is likely to be limited to strategic allocations identified in PfE.	used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Through protecting Oldham's Green Belt this will have a positive impact on health as the Green Belt provides space for recreation, including tranquillity. It is appreciated that some of the more deprived wards do not have Green Belt within them.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Through protecting Oldham's Green Belt this will have a positive impact on flood risk as land can be used for sustainable drainage, and the Green Belt (greenfield parts)	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						offers greenfield run off rates.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Through protecting Oldham's Green Belt this will have a positive impact on water resources as the Green Belt overlaps with water catchment areas and water safeguard zones and so generally these will be protected and only limited development permitted, which will be controlled where necessary with appropriate measures.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Protecting Green Belt will consequently protect soil and agricultural land through limiting development and there may be instances where contaminated land, is redeveloped and remediated within the Green Belt.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise	X /?	X/?	X/?	Permanent	Local	The policy could constrain the	It is not considered that mitigation is needed as it may	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy						development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the Green Belt.	not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits. In addition, PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is recognised that the Green Belt can provide functions that link to climate change resilience.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Indirectly by protecting the Green Belt this ensures spatially development is directed towards urban areas where there is better public transport infrastructure and opportunities for active travel and access to services. The Green	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						Belt offers a role in terms of carbon storage and wildlife enhancements.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The Green Belt is considered to offer local environmental quality in most cases. Protecting this in line with NPPF will ensure that local environmental quality is maintained and/or enhanced.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Protecting the Green Belt will protect the existing walking / cycling infrastructure, which can be enhanced further through PfE policies on Green Belt enhancement and other plan policies.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. This ensures that the spatial strategy for new growth and development is directed towards the urban area, and in doing so ensures that development is directed towards areas in close proximity to key services.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. In doing so this will help serve green belt purpose five - to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						and other urban land. This ensures that the spatial strategy for growth and development is directed towards the urban area, which in turn promotes the regeneration of areas and land within the urban area. The secondary impact of this is that new development within the urban area then contributes towards reducing levels of deprivation and disparity.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy allows development where it accords with NPPF, which may allow development linked to job creation or employment development on grey belt land. However, the policy isn't seeking to achieve this in itself.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to protect the remaining Green Belt within Oldham, only allowing limited types of development. This ensures that the spatial strategy for new growth and development is directed towards the urban area, which includes centres. Whilst there may be an argument to say the policy will help achieve this it is felt that the score should be neutral as it isn't directing development specifically to centres in itself.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The Green Belt is part of Oldham's identity, with the special qualities of the landscape types being part of Oldham's tourism offer and the functions that the Green Belt provides,	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						such as those related to recreation.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not influence this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Whilst some housing may be granted planning permission within the green belt, including on grey belt land, in line with NPPF, the policy is not seeking to achieve this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Protecting the Green Belt will indirectly ensure that the minerals within the minerals safeguard areas within the borough are protected in line with the GM Minerals Plan, including any development proposals on grey belt land. Areas of search in Oldham for minerals are also within the Green Belt and would	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						be determined in line with NPPF and the GM Minerals Plan.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not have a strong impact on this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutrals, positives and significantly positives. A potentially negative / unsure score was given against IA 12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy as the policy could constrain the development of renewable energy and low carbon energy, where it conflicts with the purposes of the Green Belt. It is not considered that mitigation is needed as it may not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits.

Between Draft Pan and Publication Plan stage text referring to enhancing the Green Belt was removed as to not duplicate PfE. As such the score in IA1 was reduced from ++ to +.

IA16 had previously scored unsure / positive and has been amended to positive. This is to reflect that text on Green Belt enhancements has been removed from the policy as it is already referenced in PfE and so the uncertainty score is not relevant as to where these enhancements may be.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy OL3 – Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 to 10 years)	LT (10 years +)	T or P	Local or Cross Boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy is seeking to ensure that disproportionate	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt does not take place, thereby protecting the openness and therefore character and appearance of place.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that the design is required to be sympathetic in keeping with the character of the original building and surrounding vernacular. This will ensure the protection and enhancement of the historic environment, where relevant. In addition, ensuring that disproportionate extensions and alterations do not	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						take place will preserve the openness of the Green Belt and its purposes, including to preserve the special character and setting of historic towns.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that the design is required to be sympathetic in keeping with the character of the original building and surrounding vernacular and sets out detail one ensuring that developments are no disproportionate to the original building. This will help promote high quality, beautiful design.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy does not particularly relate to this although it may help ensure that	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						homes can be altered to suit changing occupiers needs, ensuring continued use of existing buildings in an appropriate manner in line with Green Belt policy in NPPF.	Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	NA	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although ensuring extensions / alterations to existing buildings are not disproportionate may help reduce the footprint of new build on greenfield land it is considered that its contribution will be limited.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change							Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	By ensuring extensions / alterations are not disproportionate to the original building this will ensure that local environmental quality is protected. Occasionally extensions are replacing a previous addition and sometimes the new development is an enhancement which contributes towards an improved local environmental quality by way of improved appearance.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective although it is noted that the policy may be applicable to proposals related to the tourism industry.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective as it is not the main aim of the policy. It is noted however that the policy may help to provide larger	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						family homes for example which may meet a local need.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a neutral impact.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not have a strong impact on this IA objective in itself.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy mostly scored neutral, with some positives, as it is a very specific policy not particularly impacting on many of the IA objectives.

No changes were required to mitigate or enhance the policy as a result of the IA process. The policy is considered to have local impacts, very close to where the development takes place.

No changes to scores have been made between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage IA as despite an amendment to the volume, the scores are still considered appropriate.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 9 : IA of Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy N1 –Protecting Nature

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected.	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will directly help to protect and conserve Green Infrastructure, biodiversity, and geodiversity. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N2 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Through protecting sites designated for nature this will help preserve open spaces. However, the policy does not relate to quality and accessibility of open spaces.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Protecting sites designated for nature will preserve these landscapes retaining Oldham's sense of place.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will indirectly protect and conserve the historic environment as a consequence of protecting sites designated for nature where they overlap with heritage assets and designations. The policy will not enhance the settings of heritage assets.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will protect nature designations which retains an attractive environment, but it will not promote high quality design in developments.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Protecting sites designated for nature will	No mitigation required. Policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						mean that development is focussed towards less sensitive areas in general which will indirectly influence the availability of land and the use of this in a more efficient and effective manner.	H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although biodiversity is critical to life the policy is not really ensuring the provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although biodiversity is critical to life and being around nature can aid good well-being the policy is not really	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						seeking to improve health and wellbeing.	CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will indirectly help mitigate flood risk through slowing the flow of water on designated and non-designated nature sites.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will help achieve this as the Rochdale Canal is a Special Area of Conservation and many nature designations overlap with Source Protection Zones and watercourses.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Protecting nature designations and non-designated nature will protect the soil that supports these habitats and ecosystems. Nature designations also overlap with agricultural land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Protecting biodiversity will indirectly provide cooling reducing the effects of rising temperatures.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Protecting biodiversity will indirectly help to capture carbon which will help improve air quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Protecting biodiversity can help provide an attractive environment and provides other benefits such as	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						tranquillity, cleaner air etc which contributes towards environmental quality.	address environmental quality.	
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective as it is seeking to protect nature value rather than improve transport objectives.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
deprivation and disparity							promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although the landscape within which Oldham's biodiversity sits within may attract tourism and leisure the policy is not seeking to promote tourism and leisure.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective although it is noted that biodiversity and geodiversity sites offer an educational resource.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will not help in contributing towards the sustainable housing land supply. In some ways the policy is a constraint but nevertheless it is part of the process of identifying suitable sites.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Many of the nature designations and non-designated assets overlap with mineral	No mitigation required. The GM Minerals	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
management of minerals						safeguarding areas within Oldham therefore the policy will indirectly help achieve this objective.	Plan cover minerals.	
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Waste Plan covers waste.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The aim of the Local Plan is to ensure mixed, balanced, and inclusive communities through for example policies on housing and design.	None

The policy scored a mix of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage some amendments have been made to policy wording to re-word policy and to make reference to restorable peat. However, this has not resulted in any scoring amendments.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy N2 –Restoring Nature

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected.	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks a net gain in biodiversity through having regard to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) and implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1, N3 and N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Net gain may be incorporated with landscaping and open space. The LNRS also seeks to achieve better parks and open spaces. Therefore, this policy should help achieve this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	Net gain may be incorporated with landscaping. The LNRS also seeks to improve nature on a landscape scale which takes account of existing landscapes and the urban area. Therefore, this policy should help achieve this objective directly and indirectly the impacts of which should be felt more over time.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective although it is noted that the LNRS refers to historic parks and wetlands.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Providing biodiversity net gain and implementing the LNRS where opportunities arise will help contribute towards high quality design.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will ensure that land is used effectively by aiming to foster nature recovery and deliver nature	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						priorities and actions and therefore focussing development elsewhere making use of brownfield land whilst taking into account priorities and actions for urban green spaces and buildings.	policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help deliver an enhanced nature network.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will directly bring people into more contact with nature and landscaped environments which will have a positive impact on health and well-being. The LNRS notes that	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						communities experiencing racial inequalities are nearly twice as likely to live in areas with the least green space. Therefore, creating or enhancing green space should help reduce those inequalities.	address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Reducing flood risk is recognised as one of the wider benefits of implementing the LNRS. Therefore, the policy should help achieve this indirectly.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy aims to help implement the LNRS which has identified opportunity areas (nature network) for rivers, canals and waterbodies with actions to improve water quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The LNRS aims to achieve healthier, better-quality soils and reduce soil erosion and encourage soil recovery. The policy should therefore help achieve this.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective although it is noted	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy						in the LNRS that green walls and green roofs provide natural cooling and reduce energy use.	S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The LNRS aims to work towards a resilient network for nature which will benefit communities. The policy will therefore help achieve this.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The LNRS notes improved air quality is a benefit an enhanced nature network. Therefore, implementation of the LNRS and BNG will help achieve this indirectly.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Enhancing biodiversity can help provide an attractive environment and provides other benefits such as tranquillity, cleaner air etc which all indirectly contributes towards environmental quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this	No mitigation required. PfE	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						objective as it is seeking to restore nature value rather than improve transport objectives.	'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The LNRS notes areas of low access to green space and high levels of deprivation and that this should be considered when considering urban actions. Therefore, if implemented well the policy should achieve this.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The LNRS notes a benefit of an enhanced nature network is opportunities for more green jobs and careers. Therefore, indirectly the policy could help encourage this.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Opportunities to enhance urban green spaces and buildings should help contribute to creating vibrant centres. Examples of good case studies are included within the LNRS. The linear park is one such example within Oldham Town Centre and is a key part of the town centre regeneration.	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The LNRS notes that a benefit of an enhanced nature network is more visitors and sustainable tourism opportunities. Green spaces are also used for leisure. Therefore, implementation of the LNRS where opportunities arise should help achieve this indirectly.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The LNRS aims to improve education in relation to species and notes that spaces can be used for education. However, in relation to education in a wider sense the policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective. The LNRS should be integrated alongside addressing other land use needs.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	?	?	?	Temporary / Permanent	Cross-boundary	There may be an overlap with BNG and mineral safeguarding areas and although BNG would temporarily then preclude the working of minerals for at least 30 years it would not sterilise the minerals from being extracted in the long term so would not have permanent impacts.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
in line with the waste hierarchy							Waste Plan covers waste.	
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Through aiming, through the LNRS, to enhance green spaces particularly in the urban area where there may be less access to green space in areas of higher deprivation the policy will indirectly help to create inclusive communities.	No mitigation required. The aim of the Local Plan is to ensure mixed, balanced, and inclusive communities through for example policies on housing and design.	None

The policy has neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There was one uncertain score given against minerals as securing a site for off-site BNG would prevent any mineral working on that site over a thirty-year period. It would not however sterilise the minerals permanently. It was not considered that mitigation is needed as on balance enhancing biodiversity is not leading to the sterilisation of minerals unlike development.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the policy has been revised significantly from focussing on BNG to focussing on the LNRS and how developments can consider the LNRS. Therefore, in response to this many of the IA objectives have been revised in terms of commentary and the following IA objectives have had amendments to the scores:

- IA3 has been amended to double positive in the long term as the natural landscapes should be enhanced over time, as the LNRS is implemented;
- IA10 has been amended to double positive as the policy aims to help implement the LNRS which has identified opportunity areas (nature network) for rivers, canals and waterbodies with actions to improve water quality.
- IA18 has been amended from neutral to positive as the LNRS notes areas of low access to green space and high levels of deprivation which should be considered when considering urban actions;
- IA19 has been amended from neutral to positive as the LNRS notes a benefit of an enhanced nature network is opportunities for more green jobs and careers. Therefore, indirectly the policy could help encourage this.

- IA20 has been amended from neutral to positive as opportunities to enhance urban green spaces and buildings should help contribute to creating vibrant centres. Examples of good case studies are included within the LNRS. The linear park is one such example within Oldham Town Centre and is a key part of the town centre regeneration.
- IA21 has been amended from neutral to positive as LNRS notes that a benefit of an enhanced nature network is more visitors and sustainable tourism opportunities. Green spaces are also used for leisure. Therefore, implementation of the LNRS where opportunities arise should help achieve this indirectly.
- IA26 neutral to positive as through taking opportunities to implement the LNRS, to enhance green spaces particularly in the urban area where there may be less access to green space in areas of higher deprivation the policy will indirectly help to create inclusive communities.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy N3 –Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected.	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires new development to provide new and / or enhanced green infrastructure, including the ecological network, and in larger development linking to the wider landscape. The policy includes Urban Green Factor targets. Householder developments and change of use should aim to incorporate practical measures to support biodiversity. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1, N2 and N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires developments to provide new Green Infrastructure and/or introduce multifunctional use of	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						existing green spaces in response to a site-specific assessment of need which may include the need for improved open space. The policy also encourages opportunities for riparian development sites to create high quality river corridor and GI asset which can include opportunities for an enlarged and continuous open space adjacent to rivers.	addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires developments to enhance the landscape setting of the site by improving the character, appearance and condition of access corridors, gateways, settlement edges and landscape features, including historic environment assets where appropriate.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires developments to enhance the landscape setting of the site and landscape features,	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
environment, heritage assets and their setting						including historic environment assets where appropriate.	P2 address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will aid high quality functional design such through inclusion of food production and better linkages but also design through the provision of new and/or enhanced green infrastructure.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help ensure that land is used effectively through seeking to maximise functionality of green spaces within development proposals.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help ensure the delivery of a net gain in green infrastructure.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help with the health agenda through requiring developments where possible to provide for food production, active travel, cooling and open space which will all help create healthier communities. One of the priority themes within the Green Infrastructure Strategy is healthy and active communities.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy links to slowing the flow priority themes from the GI Strategy and the policy requires incorporation of open spaces adjacent to rivers where possible to allow for flood storage and multifunctional use of green spaces which would encourage sustainable drainage.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy encourages opportunities for riparian development sites to create a high-quality river corridor and Green Infrastructure asset. One of the priorities themes within the Green Infrastructure	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
water resources						Strategy is slowing the flow and a quality water environment.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Providing new and enhanced green infrastructure will help improve soil and land quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will help provide cooling and manage surface water flood risk and provide space for water storage and provide opportunities for local food production increasing green infrastructure over the years. It seeks to enhance the ecological network and provide	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, and CC3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						practical measures to support biodiversity. The priority themes within the Green Infrastructure Strategy include thriving wildlife, slowing the flow and a quality water environment, healthy and active communities and carbon neutral Oldham. These will all contribute to this objective.		
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will help capture carbon which will help improve air quality. One of the priorities themes within the Green Infrastructure Strategy is carbon neutral Oldham.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Enhancing green infrastructure through developments will mean that developments are of a high quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires larger developments to enhance pedestrian and cycle connectivity between residential areas, town centres, schools and workplaces, outdoor sports, tourism and recreational facilities, public transport services and the countryside around the site.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires larger developments to enhance pedestrian and cycle connectivity between residential areas, town centres, schools and workplaces, outdoor sports, tourism and recreational facilities, public transport services and the countryside around the site.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote regeneration and reduce deprivation by making sure that developments look at the needs of an areas such as health deprivation and link provision of green infrastructure to that need and include where provision for food production so residents can access healthy foods. One of the priority themes within the Green Infrastructure Strategy is healthy and active communities.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	One of the Green Infrastructure priority themes that the policy links to, which developments would need to consider is sustainable growth and green jobs.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help create attractive centres which are functional offering cooling and other benefits.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy links to the GI Strategy which includes opportunities for tourism enhancements.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Minerals Plan cover minerals.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Waste Plan covers waste.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages green access for all which will ensure that communities have access to green space within close proximity and provide spaces to integrate.	No mitigation required. The aim of the Local Plan is to ensure mixed, balanced, and inclusive communities through for example policies on housing and design.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positive, and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required because of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the IA for this policy has been amended. IA 13 has increased from positive to significantly positive for the short and medium term to reflect reconsideration of the role that Green Infrastructure plays in being resilient to climate change and to reflect that IA13 has been amended to include biodiversity and the contribution that the policy makes towards that.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy N4 –Trees

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected.	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will steer applicants into aiming to retain as many trees as possible, particularly mature trees protecting green infrastructure and will require the provision of a number of replacement trees therefore contributing towards enhanced green infrastructure. The policy also encourages developments to contribute towards increasing tree canopy cover generally. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N3 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy links to increasing tree cover and compensating tree loss rather than open spaces although this may overlap with open spaces.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Trees are part of the landscape particularly ancient trees therefore protecting them will maintain a sense of place. The policy also encourages developments to contribute towards increasing tree canopy cover generally which will enhance sense of place.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy sets out the approach for addressing loss of historic trees.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages developments to contribute towards increasing tree canopy cover	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
meets local design expectations						generally which will enhance design quality. The policy will also indirectly achieve this objective as it will help applicants consider whether tree removal is unavoidable in the siting and design of developments.	D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy encourages developments to contribute towards increasing tree canopy cover generally which will help provide green infrastructure. The policy sets out the requirements for compensating tree loss and therefore this element of green infrastructure.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	+	++	Permanent	Local	Trees provide health benefits. The policy has been amended to ensure developments demonstrate how existing trees and hedgerows and their health have been retained, wherever possible and sets out criteria for allowing loss of or damage to trees. Therefore, this should help maintain health and wellbeing in the early years of the plan and in later years as tree saplings grow into more mature trees the benefits will be felt from tree planting and tree replacement. Tree planting efforts will likely be co-ordinated o areas of need including in areas of deprivation and inequality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt	--	+	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires tree planting and replacement trees. Initially this could have limited impacts on flood risk mitigation, but these benefits	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
to the effects of flood risk						should improve over the years once trees mature.	Local Plan address flood risk.	
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires tree planting and replacement trees. Initially this could have limited impacts on soil quality however these benefits should improve over the years once trees mature.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure	--	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires tree planting and replacement trees. Initially this could have limited impacts on	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change						resilience to climate change however these benefits should improve over the years once trees mature.	JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires tree planting and replacement trees. This will have positive impacts on air quality which will accelerate over the years once trees mature.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Trees are considered to be part of a quality local environmental offering benefits which further adds to environmental quality therefore a policy approach which steers avoiding loss of trees and compensating where required and increasing tree canopy covber generally will help to protect and improve environmental quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective although tree lined streets can encourage active travel.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective although trees will be planted in areas of need.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective, although tree planting will help create attractive employment areas.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	++	N/A	N/A	The policy encourages developments to increase tree canopy cover. This will include within our centres which would create more vibrant and welcoming places to enjoy as can be seen by recent tree planting in Oldham Town Centre. This should increase over time as trees mature and opportunities arise.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective although tree	No mitigation required. PfE	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
tourism and leisure						planting will help create an attractive borough for visitors.	Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Minerals Plan cover minerals.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Waste Plan covers waste.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positives. It was noted where the impacts would change over the short to long term once trees that were replaced matured. No mitigation or enhancements were made to the policy as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage there have been several changes to IA scores to reflect that the policy has broadened to include tree planting generally:

IA3 and IA5 positive to significantly positive as the policy has been amended to embed policy text on contributing towards increasing tree canopy cover generally and showing how existing trees and hedgerows have been retained therefore contributing to sense of place and design.

IA8 and IA9 have been amended from positive to significantly positive in the long term to recognise that tree planting, focussing on multi-functional benefits, will help enhance health and well-being, mitigate flood risk and increase resilience to climate change more over the long term.

IA13 has been amended from positive to significantly positive in the medium to long term recognise that tree planting, focussing on multi-functional benefits, will help increase communities and biodiversity's resilience to climate change more over time.

IA14 has been amended to reflect that the policy requires tree planting and the air quality impacts from even young tree should help with air quality in the short term. Therefore, the score has been amended from neutral to positive in the short term. In the medium to long term the score has been amended from positive to significantly positive now that the policy encourages tree planting generally which is linked to need. Therefore, this should have a significantly positive impact on air quality.

IA20 has been amended form neutral to positive in the short and medium term and significantly positive in the long term. The policy encourages developments to increase tree canopy cover. This will include within our centres which would create more vibrant and welcoming places to enjoy as can be seen by recent planting in Oldham Town Centre. This should increase over time as trees mature and more opportunities arise.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 10 : IA of Oldham's Historic Environment Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy HE1 –The Historic Environment

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the historic environment parts of which may contribute to or enhance the setting of and be part of the GI network. The policy specifically references the protection, restoration and appreciation of the canals which are a significant part of the borough's GI network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the historic environment parts of which may contribute to or	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						enhance the setting or sense of place of open spaces. The policy specifically references the protection, restoration and appreciation of the canals which are a recreation route.	PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect and enhance the historic environment which makes a significant contribution to the landscape, townscapes, local distinctiveness, and sense of place. The policy seeks to ensure the appearance of the conservation area is preserved and enhanced and recognises the mill clusters identified within the Mill's Strategy which should be considered in terms of their contribution to landscape.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment,	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly relates to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies HE2 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
heritage assets and their setting							address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure development within or affecting the historic environment positively conserves and enhances the historic environment and historic assets. It includes particular reference to development within the conservation area and reference to conservation area management plans, which will ensure design expectations are met.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to conserve and where appropriate enhance existing heritage assets, with particular reference to Oldham's Mills and safeguarding these assets and vacant assets within the town centre conservation area, as a key resource of brownfield land thereby reducing the	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						need for development on greenfield land.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None.
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The historic environment makes a positive contribution to health and well-being, including for visitors. The policy seeks to protect and enhance the historic environment.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will protect and enable restoration and appreciation of the canals, in terms of their	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None.

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
corridors and availability of water resources						contribution to the historic environment.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the protection and enhancement of heritage assets, including mills, which from their industrial legacy often include contaminated land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None.
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
climate change								
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly seeks to protect and enhance the borough's historic environment and assets, which contributes to improving environmental quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect and enable the restoration of the canals which are also Recreation Routes and pass-through adjoining authorities. The Oldham Town Centre Conversation Area Management Plan includes recommendations on improving the public realm which will encourage active travel.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly seeks to promote and support heritage-led regeneration and development.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to promote and support heritage-led regeneration and development, this could involve economic growth and job creation for local residents and residents outside of the borough.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to promote and enhance the historic environment and its assets many of which fall within the borough's centres. Also, the policy	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						seeks to enhance Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area with the aim of removing it from the 'at risk' register which will improve the vitality of the centre as a whole.	housing supports this objective	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Enhancement and protection of the borough's historic environment, including heritage-led regeneration and development will directly support sustainable tourism and leisure.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies address tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective, although it does seek to maximise opportunities to increase the understanding and interpretation of the borough's historic environment, which facilitates learning.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to safeguard heritage assets including the Mills which	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs						provide a key housing land supply resource, and to promote heritage-led regeneration and development which could include the provision of housing.	Local Plan on housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy ensures heritage-led regeneration and development including the reuse of heritage assets such as textile mills which would reduce the need for new development and therefore contribute to the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD also addresses objective.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has no direct impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD also addresses objective.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has no direct impact on this objective, but opportunities for increasing the understanding of the historic environment are	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
sustainable communities						promoted through this policy.	aim to address this objective.	

The policy scores a mixture of neutrals, positives and significantly positives. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy wererequired as a result of the IA. There were no changes to scores between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage as only footnotes to evidence have been added since the Draft Plan and scores are still considered appropriate.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy HE2 –Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-Boundary	The policy seeks to protect the historic environment which includes elements of GI, such as open space and Green Belt, which may contribute towards the setting of heritage assets. Many GI assets are heritage assets in themselves. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect the historic environment parts of which may overlap with open spaces.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect and enhance the historic environment which makes a significant contribution to the landscape, townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly relates to this objective and should have a positive impact.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 and HE3 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure development sustains and enhances heritage assets and their settings. This will lead to higher quality design, including where work	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						involves heritage assets at risk. The policy requires development to be designed sympathetically.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure development sustains and enhances heritage assets and their settings. It states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses. The policy will therefore have a direct impact through the reuse of heritage assets which will ensure that brownfield land and buildings are used effectively, reducing pressure on greenfield land.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is not considered that the policy has an impact on this objective, although it is noted that the green infrastructure elements of the historic environment will form part of infrastructure.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The historic environment makes a positive contribution to health and well-being for residents and visitors. The policy seeks to sustain and enhance the historic environment, which can have wider social benefits. The policy also ensures that public benefits are taken into account when assessing proposals with the supporting text referring to health deprivation.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N./A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will protect and enable restoration and appreciation of the canals, in terms of their contribution to the historic	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
corridors and availability of water resources						environment. Indirectly there may be opportunities through redevelopment / regeneration of mills to improve the quality of associated water bodies.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the preservation and enhancement of heritage assets, including the mills, which from their industrial legacy often include contaminated land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective although it is noted that the reuse of heritage assets contributes towards using less energy through construction.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change							objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes no direct contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly seeks to sustain and enhance the borough's historic environment and assets, which contributes to improving environmental quality, particularly where heritage assets are at risk.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to sustain and enhance heritage assets which does include canals which form part of the transport network however it is not felt that the policy wording is such that the impact of this policy alone will make a strong enough contribution to score positive.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and sensitive restoration. This will directly aid regeneration and help tackle deprivation through the secondary benefits, which could have a wider than local impact. Assessing public benefits will also consider wider economic and social benefits of a scheme.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
growth and job creation						sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and sensitive restoration. This may include uses associated with job creation and also specialist heritage skills required for any construction works.	Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and sensitive restoration. This will include assets within centres therefore helping to enhance the vitality and viability through making centres more attractive for future investment. The centres tend to have a high concentration of heritage assets and so the impact within these areas should be more significant,	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						particularly Oldham Town Centre.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and sensitive restoration. This may include uses associated with tourism and leisure and / or ensure that the borough maintains its distinctiveness which encourages people to come and enjoy Oldham's tourism offer.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
meet local housing needs						sensitive restoration. This may include proposals for housing.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy states the council will support opportunities to put heritage assets to viable sustainable uses consistent with their conservation and sensitive restoration. This will indirectly help reduce pressure on the need for mineral extraction for new development.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mix of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

No changes to scores have been made between Draft Plan and Publication Plan as only minor amendments including a footnote to the at-risk register and an amendment of wording from permitted to supported have been made. Text to refer to the Local List in the supporting justification has also been added. In addition, scores were still considered appropriate.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy HE3 –Development proposals affecting conservation areas

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance. This includes open spaces, the canal corridors etc which form part of the setting conservation areas, and which will indirectly contribute towards this objective. The policy also notes the statutory provisions for the protection of trees. In addition, a number of sites of biological interest overlap with conservation areas. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						character and appearance. This includes open spaces, which is referenced within criterion 3, therefore contributing to this objective.	address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance. The policy sets out criteria for proposals within or affecting the setting of a conservation area all of which will help contribute towards this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy directly relates to this objective and should make a significantly positive contribution.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1, HE2, HE4 and HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should	No mitigation required. Policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
design that meets local design expectations						preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance. The policy sets out criteria for proposals within or affecting the setting of a conservation all of which will help contribute towards this objective. Criterion one specifically states proposals should be of high quality.	D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to prevent loss of buildings / elements that make a positive contribution to the significance of the conservation area therefore the policy seeks to ensure that appropriate assets are retained which can then be put to positive use.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will make limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The historic environment makes a positive contribution to health and well-being. The policy seeks to preserve and enhance the elements making a positive contribution to conservation areas, which should indirectly have a positive impact on wellbeing.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will make limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although canals and watercourses pass through conservation areas the policy is likely to make a limited contribution to this policy.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance. This includes open spaces and within conservation areas there is agricultural land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this policy.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this policy.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this policy.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance. This will help to retain local environmental quality. In addition, the policy sets out criteria on shop fronts and signage which can be detracting elements when not carefully planned. This will also ensure that the policy significantly contributes to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although canals and rights of way will be present within conservation areas the policy will have a limited contribution towards promoting an integrated and improved transport system.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Preserving or enhancing those elements which contribute to conservation areas character and appearance and ensuring proposals are of high quality will promote regeneration directly and indirectly. Proposals may also have wider economic and social benefits which may contribute towards reducing deprivation and disparity in Oldham and elsewhere. The policy will help regenerate Oldham Town centre, which is on the heritage 'at risk' register.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Proposals may have wider economic and social benefits which may contribute towards	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
growth and job creation						reducing deprivation and disparity, but it is not the aim of the policy to directly influence economic growth.	and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance and includes criteria on assessing proposals for shop fronts and signage which can be negative elements affecting conservation areas. The policy will help ensure that the centres within conservation areas are enhanced over time so therefore the impact should be significantly positive over a longer duration. The policy should assist in removing Oldham town centre for the heritage 'at risk' register.	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Policy states proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance. The policy sets out criteria for proposals within or affecting the	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						setting of a conservation all of which will help contribute towards this objective through ensuring that the borough retains distinctiveness and high-quality environments or support proposals for tourism and leisure use, both of which will directly and indirectly help attract visitors.	policies address tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although proposals may include residential use within conservation areas the policy has a limited impact itself on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to retain positive elements affecting a conservation area which may help reduce pressure on further minerals needing to be extracted but this contribution will be limited from this policy alone.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mix of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were needed as a result of the IA.

No changes to scores were made between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stages as there were no amendments made to the policies and the scoring is still considered appropriate.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy HE4 –Oldham's Mills

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although the settings of mills, including associated waterbodies such as rivers and canals form part of the green infrastructure network it is considered that this policy alone will be limited in its contribution to this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The settings around non designated mills may include open spaces, but it is considered that the policy in itself will	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						not promote quality and accessible open spaces.	PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect non-designated mills, particularly those holding high heritage significance which takes landscape character and sense of place into account.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE3 and HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to retain those elements of the mill stock which contribute to the local identity and sense of place of Oldham and ensure they are	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						appropriately conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. The policy also sets out policy on landscape clusters. The policy should make a strong contribution to this objective.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair. This includes consideration of the contribution that mills can make towards housing land supply and appropriate densities.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will make a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
							or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The historic environment makes a positive contribution to health and well-being. The policy seeks to retain those elements of the mill stock which contribute to the local identity and sense of place of Oldham and ensure they are conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Flood risk may affect some non-designated mills, however the policy itself will not contribute towards this objective. Where necessary proposals would be subject to a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	There may be opportunities to improve the quality of water	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources						bodies as part of development proposals, however it is considered that the policy itself is quite limited in its contribution.	Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair. This will indirectly help to reduce pressure for development on greenfield sites helping to protect soil and agricultural land. In addition, some proposals may help remediate Contaminated Land.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although reuse of mills will help reduce energy use from construction of new builds, it is considered that the policy itself will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair. This will ensure that the condition of vacant and underused mills does not deteriorate further and detract from local environmental quality and the reuse ensures a	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						stronger sense of pride in the area.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						repair. This will ensure that the condition of vacant and underused mills does not deteriorate further and detract from Oldham's image. Future uses within the mills will directly and indirectly have a positive impact on regeneration of communities.	Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair. A high proportion of Oldham's mills are in employment use and this will continue to be the most appropriate use within the plan period. In addition, some mills overlap with the strategic areas identified in the Strategic investment Framework as being key for growth sectors so the mills can	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						significantly contribute to this objective by providing premises for existing and expanding businesses and new growth sectors.		
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair and seeks to retain positive elements. Where mills are within / close to centres this can have a positive impact on vitality and help with viability of future schemes.	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills. This could include tourism uses but this is unknown at this stage. In addition, maintaining Oldham's local distinctiveness contributes to part of the local environment and	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						reasons why people may want to visit. However, it is felt that the impact of the policy alone is neutral.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has the potential to make a positive contribution towards this objective through mills forming part of the housing land supply.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	This policy directly seeks to establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills and retain those elements of the mill stock which contribute to the local identity and sense of place of Oldham and ensure	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						they are appropriately conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. This will help to reduce pressure for minerals for new development therefore contributing positively towards this objective.		
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Through the reuse of mills for employment and housing, the policy could help create mixed, balanced and inclusive communities.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA. No changes to scores have been made between Draft Pan and Publication Plan stage as only minor amendments to the policy has been made and the scores are still considered appropriate.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy HE5 –Canals

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The canals form part of the borough's green infrastructure network and include nature designations therefore a policy which ensures the restoration, conservation and enhancement of the canal can take place can help contribute towards this objective. The HRA has screened the policy in due to potential impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC during any restoration.	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None.
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that development proposals should include green infrastructure incorporating walking and cycling routes. The canal corridors are recreational routes.	No mitigation required. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None.

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The canals form part of the borough's identity and sense of place. The policy which seeks to protect these assets and prevent harm to the setting or appearance of the canal will therefore make a significantly positive contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The Huddersfield Narrow Canal and Rochdale Canal will be protected as heritage assets under this policy therefore having a significantly positive impact.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy requires that any new development should respect the canal frontage, ensure active quality elevations, whilst respecting the unique	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						character of the waterway and its associated heritage assets. Opportunities should be taken to improve the appearance and vitality of the canal side environment. This will have a significantly positive impact over time.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although there may be associated development alongside the canals on brownfield land this policy in itself will have a limited impact towards this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Policy requires green infrastructure incorporating walking and cycling routes and heritage interpretation features along its line should be provided as part of development proposals. This will	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						therefore contribute towards this objective where opportunities arise.	mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Green Infrastructure incorporating walking and cycling routes and heritage interpretation features along its line should be provided as part of this policy. This would help contribute towards opportunities to improve active travel which would have a positive impact on health and well-being.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Although residual flood risk from canals would need to be assessed for development proposals, where relevant, the policy will not in itself help meet this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Policy states 'To ensure that the future restoration of the canals is enabled, development alongside the line of the canal and towpath shall not prevent its restoration,	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
water resources						conservation and enhancement…' This should contribute positively to this objective.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Whilst there may be opportunities alongside the canal to remediate contaminated land it is not considered that the policy wording will have a strong impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy states Green Infrastructure should be provided which should contribute towards biodiversity being	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the effects of climate change						resilient to climate change.	include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Green Infrastructure incorporating walking and cycling routes and heritage interpretation features along its line should be provided, as part of this policy. Indirectly this would help contribute towards opportunities to improve active travel which would have a positive impact on air quality.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The canals contribute to the borough's sense of place therefore protecting and allowing for restoration and enhancement will help meet this objective alongside ensuring opportunities are taken to improve the appearance and vitality of the canal side environment.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1-LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Green Infrastructure incorporating walking and cycling routes and heritage interpretation features along its line should be provided as part of this policy therefore contributing to sustainable transport choices.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Canals are part of the borough's sense of place and protecting and taking opportunities to	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
deprivation and disparity						restore and enhance the waterways and opportunities to improve the appearance and vitality of the canal side environment will form part of the borough's regeneration, which may help alleviate deprivation and disparity over the longer term.	is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The wider restoration and enhancement of canals could have indirect economic benefits. But it is felt that the policy's contribution itself is limited.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Canals are part of the borough's sense of place and protecting and taking opportunities or restore and enhance the waterways and opportunities to improve the appearance and vitality of the canal side environment will contribute positively towards this objective for	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						Failsworth and Uppermill centres.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The introductory text to the policy explains that the conservation, development and improved access to Oldham's canal corridors will allow for the community and visitors to celebrate the unique industrial heritage of these historic manmade waterways. They also have recreational and ecological roles, contribute to the borough's local identity and enhance Oldham's tourism offer. In addition, the policy will provide opportunities for ensuring development can contribute towards a more sustainable environment through enabling opportunities to incorporate walking and cycling routes.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy may aid learning opportunities	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
education attainment and skill levels						associated with the canals and their evolution however the policy will not contribute towards education attainment and skill levels.	Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes a limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy may contribute towards this	No mitigation required. The aim of the Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
mixed, balanced, and inclusive sustainable communities						objective through enabling the use of canal corridors as part of active travel, promoting the canals as a tourism asset and celebrating the canals through the provision of interpretation features. This will help bring the community together for different purposes.	Plan is to ensure mixed, balanced, and inclusive communities through for example policies on housing and design.	

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. Not mitigation was required to the plan as a result of the IA.

Since the IA on the Draft Plan IA13 has been amended from a neutral to positive score in the IA of the Publication Plan to reflect that the IA objective now specifically references biodiversity, and the policy encourages Green Infrastructure to be provided.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 11 : IA of Achieving High Quality Design

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy D1 Achieving high quality design

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design incorporate appropriate landscaping and urban greening, such as green roofs, green walls, trees and shrubs and supporting nature through the incorporation of wildlife-friendly features (such as nest boxes) and integration with the nature recovery network.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.		
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design make appropriate provision for outdoor amenity space.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
local distinctiveness and sense of place						development should through their design deliver buildings and spaces that are appropriate, in terms of their form, massing and height, for the site and surrounding context, and positively respond to local distinctiveness and character. It also provides specific guidance on tall buildings with regards how they should relate to their surroundings.	address this objective.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						development should through their design deliver buildings and spaces that are appropriate, in terms of their form, massing and height, for the site and surrounding context, and positively respond to local distinctiveness and character. It also provides specific guidance on tall buildings with regards how they should relate to their surroundings.	JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy D1 is focussed on ensuring high standards of design are	No mitigation needed. Policies D2 to D4 of the Local Plan and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						achieved in all developments and all the criteria included promotes high quality design.	PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design deliver buildings and spaces that are appropriate, in terms of their form, massing and height, for the site and surrounding context, and positively respond to local distinctiveness and character.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design ensure parking areas reduce their visual impact and adopt a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to development, respecting existing site constraints including utilities situated within, and running through, the site.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						development should through their design promote health and well-being through active design and ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability).	CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design incorporate appropriate landscaping and urban greening	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						and provide adaptable and resilient buildings and places, that are easily maintainable and resistant to the effects of ageing, weather and climatic conditions.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design incorporate appropriate landscaping and urban greening and provide adaptable and resilient buildings and places, that are easily	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						maintainable and resistant to the effects of ageing, weather and climatic conditions.		
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective indirectly as it states that development should through their design encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes which will in turn protect and improve air quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective indirectly	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						as it includes a number of criteria that will help achieve this, such as ensuring that recycling and waste disposal, storage and any on-site management facilities are conveniently located, appropriately screened and are designed to work effectively, ensuring parking areas reduce their visual impact through landscaping and boundary treatments and ensuring that site layout, orientation, design, and	LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						common spaces provide privacy, adequate daylight and active frontages with the public realm.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						development should through their design encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes and by ensuring developments are based on a clear street hierarchy. This will help create more walkable environments, reducing the need to travel by car.	policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						their design promote health and well-being through active design and ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability) both of which will help reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Policy D1 is focused on ensuring high standards of design are achieved in all developments and all the criteria included promote high quality design. This includes development within our centres and will contribute to enhancing their vitality and viability.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet Local housing needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as it states that development should through their design deliver buildings and spaces that are appropriate, in terms of their form, massing and height, for the site and surrounding	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						context, and positively respond to local distinctiveness and character which could help diversify the borough's housing mix.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective in relation to the waste hierarchy, however it is acknowledged that the policy sets out design criteria for recycling and waste disposal facilities.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective due to the various requirements in relation to the design of streets, building orientation, open spaces and usability and ongoing maintenance all of which will help balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of positives, significantly positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancement to the policy was made as a result of the IA.

Since the Draft Local Plan was published, policies D1 – D4 have been combined into this one policy in the Publication Plan (D1) and therefore it is not felt that the previous IAs are comparable.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy D2 – Advertisements, Signage and Shop Fronts

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						objective as it will only support advertisements and signage where they have regard to the character and appearance of the local area and states that shop fronts should be designed to fit with the character and context of the building itself and the surrounding area.	JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it will only support advertisements and signage where they have regard to the character and appearance of the local area and states that shop fronts should be designed to fit with the character and context of the building itself and the surrounding area. In addition, it refers	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						applicants back to the policies regarding heritage assets and conservation areas, where applicable.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy D2 is focussed on ensuring advertisements and signage contribute positively to the visual amenity and safety of the built environment and that shop fronts are designed to fit with the character and context of the building itself and the surrounding area, all of which promote high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1, D3 and D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							Local Plan policy CC1.	
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as the policy includes a specific requirement to ensure that new advertisements	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						do not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of nearby residents and / or occupiers of sensitive uses nor lead to an excessive, cluttered or overbearing appearance on the host building or vicinity of the site and the policy states that they should be appropriate in terms of siting, design, size, scale, number, colour, and method and level of illumination. All of which contribute to protecting and improving local environmental quality.	environmental quality.	
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity,	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	Policy D2 is focused on ensuring advertisements and signage contribute positively to the visual amenity and safety of the built environment and that shop fronts are designed to fit with the character and context of the building itself and the surrounding area. This promotes high quality design which helps to protect and enhance the vitality and viability of centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals, with no negatives. No mitigation or enhancements were made to the policy as a result of the IA.

IA3 has been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is felt that the policy would provide positive benefits rather than neutral.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy D3 – Creating a Better Realm in Oldham

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable support biodiversity, and integrate green infrastructure. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						public realm should, where applicable create a sense of place, with opportunities for social activities and interaction during, formal and informal play and support biodiversity, and integrate green infrastructure.	JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable be well-designed, easy to understand, and related to the local and historic context, should create a sense of place and ensure that any buildings are of a design that activates and defines the public realm.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable be well-designed, easy to understand, and related to the local and historic context.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy D3 is focused on creating a better public realm in Oldham, ensuring it is well-designed and related to the local context, all of which promote high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1, D2 and D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy aims to create new public realm which can serve multiple purposes (i.e. flood risk reduction, space to play, social interaction, enhanced biodiversity)	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						therefore using land efficiently and effectively.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable use durable, attractive, and locally appropriate materials in paving, street furniture, and landscaping and ensure appropriate management and maintenance arrangements are in place and integrate green infrastructure and surface water management both of which will help support development needs.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
reduce health inequalities						objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable ensure it is inclusive and fully accessible to all users, including people with disabilities, older people, and families with children, and provide appropriate seating and prioritise active travel. All of which will help improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable integrate green	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						infrastructure and surface water management which would help mitigate against flood risk.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities,	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this	No mitigation needed. PfE policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change						objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable integrate green infrastructure and surface water management and ensure that appropriate shade, shelter, seating and areas of direct sunlight, are provided having regard to microclimatic considerations such as temperature and wind.	JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable integrate green	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						infrastructure and prioritise active travel through providing safe, legible and well-connected routes whilst discouraging travel by car. Both of these measures will help protect and improve air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable ensure it is well-designed, create a sense of place, ensure lighting is carefully considered and well-designed in order to minimise intrusive lighting infrastructure and reduce light pollution and use	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
						durable, attractive, and locally appropriate materials. All of these measures will contribute towards protecting and improving local environmental quality.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable prioritise active travel through providing safe, legible and well-connected routes whilst discouraging travel by car.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective. However, the policy does discourage the use of the car by prioritising active travel.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
							achieve this objective.	
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will promote regeneration by improving public realm and will help reduce levels of disparity by ensuring new public realm is inclusive and fully accessible to all users.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective, though it is acknowledged that improved public realm may make the borough more attractive to investors.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Policy D3 is focused on creating better public realm in Oldham, ensuring it is well-designed and related to the local context, and creating a sense of place	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						where social interaction occurs. This will protect and enhance the vitality and viability of our centres.	centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy states that any development proposals that include the creation of new public realm should, where applicable create a sense of place, with opportunities for social activities and interaction during, formal and informal play and social interaction during different times of the day and night, days of the week and times of the year. This will help to increase opportunities for leisurely activities, which could also improve opportunities for tourism.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals, with no negatives. No mitigation or enhancements were required to the policy as a result of the IA.

IA9, IA13 and IA14 have been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is not felt that the positive benefits of the policy would increase over time.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy D4 – Extensions and alterations to, and development within the curtilage of, a dwellinghouse

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						objective as it states that extensions / alterations will be supported where they are in keeping with the character and appearance of the original dwelling and surrounding properties. This will help to maintain and strengthen local distinctiveness and sense of place.	JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that extensions / alterations will be supported where they are in keeping with the character and appearance of the original dwelling and surrounding properties. This will help to conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting if the proposed	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						development is located there.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that extension / alterations will be supported where they are in keeping with the character and appearance of the original dwelling and surrounding properties and where they would not have a significantly adverse effect on the amenities of nearby residential properties This helps to promote high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D3 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help ensure that existing developed land and buildings can be utilised in an appropriate manner to meet needs.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy states that provision must be made for waste and recycling. However, it is felt that the impact is neutral in terms of infrastructure.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy requires the sustainable management of surface water.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
							Local Plan address flood risk.	
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states that extensions / alterations will be supported where they are in keeping with the character and appearance of the original dwelling and surrounding properties and where they would not have a significantly adverse effect on the amenities of nearby residential properties These will help to protect	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						and improve local environmental quality.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10-15 years)**		**Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)**			
							Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies address tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective. It is accepted however that by allowing the extension or replacement of houses this allows people to meet their personal needs. It will not necessarily however contribute to the needs set out in the local	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						housing needs assessment.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective in relation to the waste hierarchy, however it is acknowledged that the policy sets out criteria for ensuring that recycling and waste storage facilities are provided.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals, with no negatives. No mitigation or enhancements were made to the policy as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the policy has been revised and reworded in places and the priorities now differ slightly. Therefore, in response to this:

- IA1 has been changed from positive to neutral as the policy no longer refers to landscaping.
- IA4 has also been amended from significantly positive to positive after further reflection.
- IA9 has been amended from neutral to positive as the policy now includes reference to sustainable surface water management.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 12 : IA of A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy references active travel and active design principles which can include a network of multi-functional open spaces. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that this policy will have a positive impact upon this objective. Principally because of its aim to increase accessibility across the borough by both active travel and public	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						transport, but also by its linkages to other policies within the plan that deal with open spaces and green infrastructure.		
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will promote high quality design as it refers to active design principles which include high quality streets and spaces and by avoiding street clutter.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land						objective, primarily in relation to the support in investing in new transport infrastructure which allow for the maximisation of brownfield land and the intensification of the urban area by higher density development as existing high-capacity transport corridors are improved.	the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy states that the council will seek developer contributions where appropriate, toward the provision or enhancement of highway, public transport and / or active travel schemes.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy includes specific requirements in relation to prioritising and promoting active travel and supporting public transport which	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						will have a direct impact on improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities through higher physical activity.	infrastructure address health and well-being.	
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would address this objective by helping to improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions by supporting improvements to public transport and prioritising and promoting active travel and maintaining and improving Public Rights of Way. Ensuring that communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact against this objective by supporting improvements to public transport and prioritising and promoting active travel which will reduce car travel and therefore help protect and improve air quality. In addition, it supports the introduction of measures such as a	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						new Metrolink stop at Cop Road, which would further help improve air quality by removing cars from the roads in Oldham.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact upon this objective, primarily due to ensuring the amenity and safety of the public realm is protected and the nature of supporting improvements to public transport and promoting active travel measures which will help to improve environmental quality by reduced traffic noise and emissions.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy includes several requirements which help to promote an integrated and improved transport system and maintain and improve the Public Rights of Way network.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T2-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy includes requirements to ensure that people can access key points of interest by active travel and states that measure that help improve connectivity and accessibility from Oldham to the key growth locations identified in PfE will be supported.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy includes a number of requirements that will help promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation. Principally, by prioritising and promoting active travel, supporting improvements to public transport and by supporting Oldham's role in the Greater Manchester economy. Thereby helping to improve connectivity and accessibility from	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						Oldham to the key growth locations identified in PfE and encouraging and enabling the movement of people and goods in the most efficient, sustainable and safe way. This will allow more people to travel to work, either by public transport and/or active travel and the associated benefits of employment that would endure.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective, due to the relationship between the investment in transport infrastructure and economic growth. The policy supports Oldham's role in the Greater Manchester economy by helping improve connectivity and accessibility from Oldham to the key growth locations	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						identified in PfE and encouraging and enabling the movement of people and goods in the most efficient, sustainable and safe way.		
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective in relation to its support for investment in the transport infrastructure which will improve access to Oldham's centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town Centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports the growth of the active travel network and	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs						supports improvements to public transport such as a new Metrolink stop at Cop Road. This will help ensure a sustainable land supply of sites in accessible locations.	housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the policy has been revised and reworded in places and the priorities now differ slightly. Therefore, in response to this some of the IA objectives have been revised in terms of commentary and the following IA objectives have had amendments to the scores:

- IA1 has changed from neutral to positive as the policy now references active travel and active design principles which can include a network of multi-functional open spaces.
- IA5 has changed from significantly positive to positive as it is felt the policy goes someway to promoting high quality design by referring to active design principles which includes high quality streets and spaces and by avoiding street clutter, however on reflection it is not felt that it is significantly positive with regards this.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy T2 – Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place								
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy contributes positively to this objective as it is concerned with improving transport infrastructure and ensures a safe and secure environment for users.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting	+	+	+	N/A	N/A	The policy contributes positively to this objective as it is supporting improved	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
infrastructure to meet development needs						public transport infrastructure.	Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy includes specific requirements in relation to increasing active travel and the use of public transport which will have a direct impact on improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities through higher physical activity.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy supports increasing the use of public transport and active travel and reducing levels of private vehicular traffic. This will contribute	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						towards protecting and improving air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy supports increasing the use of public transport and active travel and reducing levels of private vehicular traffic. It is also concerned with ensuring a safe and secure environment for users. This will contribute towards protecting and improving air quality which in turn will help improve local environmental quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy is about supporting travel hubs and park and ride facilities both of which contribute towards enabling seamless and convenient multi-modal journeys and to improve access to the Bee Network.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1, T3, T4 and T5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy is about supporting travel hubs and park and ride facilities. Transport hubs are designed to co-locate transport modes, improve first and last mile connectivity. Park and ride facilities complement this approach by intercepting longer car journeys and connecting users to the rapid transit network. Both facilities help promote accessibility.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1 and H2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Having an integrated and improved transport system will help promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation. Principally, by improving connectivity for our residents allowing more people to travel to work, either by public transport, and the associated benefits of employment.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Having an integrated and improved transport system will help promote sustainable economic growth and job creation. Principally, by improving connectivity for our residents allowing more people to travel to work, either by public transport and the associated benefits of employment.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective in relation to its support for investment in the transport infrastructure which will improve access to Oldham's centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Having an integrated and improved transport system will help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities. Principally, by improving connectivity for our	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						residents allowing more people to travel to work, for leisure and to access services in a sustainable manner.		

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy T3 – Parking provision

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy includes a requirement to support the efficient use of land and reflect the type, mix and use of the development. It also requires mitigation where car parking could have a detrimental impact on a surrounding area – which could include townscapes. However, the impact of the policy would be neutral.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Policy includes a requirement to support the efficient use of land and reflect the type, mix and use of the development and requires mitigation where car parking could have a detrimental impact on a surrounding area – which could include the historic environment. However, the impact of the policy would be neutral.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires the efficient use of land and to reflect the type and mix of the development. In addition, the reasoned justification states that the quality of parking provision is as important as the quantity, and it should be attractive and practical to use. This will help promote high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy requires the efficient use of land.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective as it ensures the appropriate level of car parking in new development ensuring that	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
development needs						a developments travel needs are met.	conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have an indirect benefit on this objective by virtue of considering the accessibility of a location when determining parking levels, making places more accessible by active modes of transport and helping to improve health and wellbeing.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
availability of water resources								
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A		No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy has an indirect impact on this objective as Oldham is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030 and the transport choices that individuals make will influence the council's ability to achieve this target. A positive	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						difference can be made is through effective parking provision for all vehicle types in new developments. However, the impact of the policy would be neutral.		
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy has an indirect benefit on this objective by ensuring parking provision is appropriate for its location. This will reduce levels of car usage in areas of high public transport accessibility. Therefore, it could help improve air quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy ensures that the level of car parking is appropriate to the development type. This could therefore help reduce the impact of new development on surrounding area by reducing the number of cars. In addition, the policy	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						states that where development would be likely to lead to levels of off-site car parking that would have an adverse impact on the surrounding area, appropriate mitigation measures will be required. These measures will also protect and improve local environmental quality.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy ensures appropriate levels of parking depending on the scale, nature, accessibility and location of the development. This will encourage more walking, wheeling and cycling for shorter journeys, and for longer journeys encourage more sustainable options such as using public transport wherever possible.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1, T2, T4 and T5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have an indirect positive impact on this objective by ensuring appropriate levels of parking depending on the scale, nature, accessibility and location of the development. This will promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel by ensuring the parking provided reflects the location.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
							Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy will have minor benefit in relation to this objective, principally because of the car parking standards in areas of high accessibility will most likely be lower and allowing for higher densities in our centres which will help create more vibrant centres.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy ensures appropriate levels of car parking for all new development, promoting a sustainable form of tourism by allowing an appropriate level of car parking in new development.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
attainment and skill levels							CO5 address this objective.	
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy will have an indirect positive impact on this objective as by ensuring appropriate car parking, will help create denser, more	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)	T / P	Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						walkable developments in areas of high public transport accessibility, making them more sustainable.	design aim to address this objective.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

IA5, IA6, IA8, IA14, IA17, IA20, IA21 and IA26 have been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is not felt that the positive benefits of the policy would increase over time.

IA 3 has been amended from a positive to a neutral as it is not felt that the impact would be great enough to see a direct improvement with regards landscapes and townscapes. IA7 has also been amended from a positive benefit to a significantly positive benefit as on reflection the adequate provision of car parking is felt to have a more positive impact on this objective.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy T4 – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity and geodiversity that is ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place								
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy does not in itself enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting. However, the reasoned justification does state that, in the limited circumstances that making provision for electric vehicle charging infrastructure would be considered to cause unacceptable harm to a heritage asset the policy will not apply. This provides some level of protection to heritage assets.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive benefit on this objective as it specifically states that the provision of charging points must be included within the total number of parking spaces and not in addition, ensuring that land is used efficiently.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive benefit on this objective by ensuring that developments will have an appropriate amount of charging points to meet the	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						development's needs. It also t has a more positive effect in the longer term by ensuring that appropriate ducting infrastructure to facilitate future provision is providing in non-residential developments.	impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy does not in itself improve health and well-being, though it is acknowledged that the policy could help improve air quality which may go some way to improving the health of our residents.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
							Local Plan address flood risk.	
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive benefit on this objective as the provision for electric vehicle charging infrastructure will allow for the use of more electric vehicles, therefore contributing to the use of low carbon energy.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
13. To ensure communities and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive benefit on this objective as the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure will allow for the use of more electric vehicles, therefore reducing the emissions from fossil fuel vehicles.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help improve air quality which will contribute towards an improved local environmental quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the proposal will have a positive impact on this objective by ensuring that by providing electric vehicle charging infrastructure it will allow for more electric buses and taxis helping to provide a more sustainable transport system.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1, T2, T3 and T5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
							design aim to address this objective.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements were required as a result of the IA.

IA15 and IA16 have been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is not felt that the positive benefits of the policy would increase over time and therefore the IA objectives score positive throughout the plan period.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Policy T5 – Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Development

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive effect on this objective as by having to consider the air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss the policy is helping to conserve multi-functional green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
							address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as by setting out a vision-led transport strategy for new development, applicants should reinforce the transport vision for the	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						site and explain what the proposals are seeking to achieve in terms of walking, wheeling and cycling. Then test a set of scenarios to determine the optimum design and transport infrastructure to realise this vision, this will help promote high quality design.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective by considering the public transport accessibility of a site when determining if Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans are required.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a benefit on this objective by ensuring that developments will have an appropriate provision of supporting	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						infrastructure due to the assessments that would be required to support new development, outlining any mitigation measures required.	policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this objective because the use of Travel Plans would ensure that active modes of travel are used. Helping to improve health and well-being and ensuring that developments that are likely to generate significant travel demands are designed in a way that maximises the opportunity for walking, wheeling and cycling, and public transport trips.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective as the use of Transport Statements and Travel Plans ensure that more sustainable modes of transport are utilised to access development and therefore help improve air quality. In addition, having to consider the air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss is also a positive impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will ensure that through the Transport Statement, Assessment and/or Travel Plan that any supporting infrastructure and mitigation to encourage active travel is in place to support new development. This will help reduce reliance on the private car and therefore should improve air quality with secondary and cumulative positive effects on local environmental quality. In addition, the policy will ensure that the design and use of the site will not result in an unacceptable impact on highway safety also improving environmental quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the proposal will have a positive impact on this objective by ensuring certain developments submit a Transport Statement, Assessment and/or Travel Plan, the contents of which should help promote an integrated and improved transport system etc.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-4 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the proposal will have a positive impact on this objective by ensuring that certain developments submit a Transport Statement, Assessment and/or Travel Plan. The contents of which should help promote access to key services by active modes of travel and mitigate the impact of new development so	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
						that active modes of travel are the preferred mode of transport for short journeys.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would ensure that places have access to employment by sustainable modes of transport, including active modes, which would help reduce levels of deprivation.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would result in a positive impact on this objective as through the Travel Plans, the council will be able to influence how people travel to work and ensure that sustainable, active modes are available and attractive.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Travel Plans, Assessments and Statements would	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						ensure that sustainable forms of transport are considered in new development which will help create more accessible routes to town centres.	JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a positive impact on this plan objective as the assessments would ensure that any proposed developments consider sustainable modes of transport and mitigation.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will ensure that people can access education facilities. However, it will not improve education attainment in itself.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score			Effects are temporary or permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST <5 years	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10-15 years)		Local (L) / Cross Boundary (CB)			
tenures to meet local housing needs								
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has limited impact on this objective	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective by taking into account the public transport accessibility of a site when determining if Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans are required helps to create inclusive, sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancement was required as a result of the IA.

IA7, IA8, IA14, IA15, IA18, IA19 and IA20 have been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is not felt that the positive benefits of the policy would increase over time.

In addition, IA5, IA6, IA14 and IA26 have all increased in their positivity since the Draft Plan. Now the policy has been amended to require vision led transport assessments it is felt that this will help promote high quality design. On reflection it is felt that IA6 and IA26 both would benefit from the fact that the policy takes into account the accessibility of the site and IA14 would have a stronger positive impact on air quality than was scored at Draft Plan stage due to the inclusion of text regarding the consideration of air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment
Appendix 13 : IA of Communities Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy CO1 – The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces which are a key element of the Green Infrastructure Network and only allows for the loss or partial loss in certain circumstances and, where appropriate, replacement provision is provided. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on the wider Green Infrastructure Network promoting quality and accessible open spaces beyond Oldham, as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the	This policy and CO2 ensure that any replacement provision of open space is appropriate and provided in line with the Open Space Standards. In addition, Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.		
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces and only allows for the loss or partial loss in certain circumstances and, where appropriate, replacement provision is provided. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on promoting quality and accessible open spaces beyond Oldham, as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough	None required. This policy and CO2 ensure that any replacement provision is appropriate and provided in line with the Open Space Standards. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs.		
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces which are a key element of the green infrastructure network, which makes a positive contribution to the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces which are a key element of the green infrastructure network. Open spaces can make a positive contribution to the historic environment and the settings of heritage assets.	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces. Open spaces can make a positive contribution to the design of places and is a key part of ensuring high-quality design.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has an indirect positive contribute to this objective by ensuring that land is used effectively by protecting open spaces, which can provide multifunctional benefits. This will also ensure that development is focused on brownfield land rather than greenfield land.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces which form a key part of the green infrastructure network and can contribute to serving the development needs of existing and new communities. As	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						such, the policy has a positive contribution to this objective.	impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces. Open spaces provide the opportunity for sport, recreation and community engagement, and access to open space is a key contributor to good health and well-being. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on improving health and wellbeing as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs, providing opportunities for those	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						outside of Oldham to benefit.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits including flood storage on natural/ semi-natural open spaces. As such the policy makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on minimising and mitigating against flood risk as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for flooding that open spaces can provide	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						can extend beyond Oldham.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces which may include river corridors or water bodies, and as such makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for water quality that open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective as it seeks to protect existing open spaces from development which could ensure the protection of soil.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits including cooling, the management of surface water flood risk and water storage and also providing opportunities for local food production. Thus, increasing green infrastructure over the	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						years which could support this objective. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for climate change that open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective as it seeks to protect open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits, including capturing	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						carbon which will help improve air quality. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for air quality that open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Ensuring the protection of existing open spaces will contribute to protecting local environmental quality as open spaces make a positive contribution to the local environment.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Open spaces can include, and be accessible to, cycling and walking networks, however the policy in itself will have limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Ensuring the protection of open spaces will ensure that residents have access to open space near to where they live now, and in the future, in line with the accessibility standard. Thus, reducing the need to travel.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote regeneration and reduce deprivation	No mitigation required. All the policies within PfE and the Local Plan seek	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
deprivation and disparity						by ensuring the protection of existing open spaces which contribute to social interaction, health and wellbeing and community engagement. Where local open spaces are in need of improvement, policy CO2 ensures that they can be enhanced as part of new development.	to aid regeneration and tackle reducing deprivation and disparity.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this policy.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces, some of which may be located within the borough's centres and can contribute to	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill						protecting and enhancing vitality.	housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to protect existing open spaces which can serve as recreation and leisure facilities and in some instances (dependent on scale and type) can support tourism. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for leisure and tourism that open spaces	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD covers minerals.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD covers waste.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable	No mitigation required. The aim of the Local Plan is to ensure mixed,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	**MT (5 – 10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
sustainable communities						communities by ensuring the protection of existing open spaces which contribute to social interaction, health and wellbeing and community engagement.	balanced, and inclusive communities through, for example, policies on housing and design.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

No changes were made to IA scores between Draft Pan and Publication Plan stage.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy CO2 – New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development. It also sets out that open spaces should be multifunctional and integrated into the Green Infrastructure Network. In addition, the policy requires that proposals should have regard to the Green Infrastructure Strategy. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on the wider Green Infrastructure Network promoting quality and accessible open spaces beyond Oldham, as many open space sites are	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.		
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development, based on identified deficiencies and accessibility. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on promoting quality and accessible open spaces beyond Oldham, as many open	No mitigation required. Policy CO1 of the Local Plan also address open space – in terms of loss. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs.		
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development. Open spaces are a key element of the green infrastructure network, which makes a positive contribution to the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
environment, heritage assets and their setting						of new development. Open spaces can make a positive contribution to the historic environment and the settings of heritage assets.	address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development. Open spaces can make a positive contribution to the design of places and is a key part of ensuring high-quality design within new development. The policy requires that open spaces provided onsite are of a high-quality design, in line with policy D1.	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help ensure that land is used effectively by promoting the delivery of multifunctional open spaces.	No mitigation required. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
use of brownfield land								
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development. In ensuring the delivery of new open spaces, the policy requires that local deficiencies and accessibility are considered. As such the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces can help to meet development needs and ensure impact on existing provision is mitigated.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development. Open spaces provide the opportunity for sport, recreation and community engagement,	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						and access to open space is a key contributor to good health and well-being. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on improving health and wellbeing as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs, providing opportunities for those outside of Oldham to benefit.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to support new or enhanced open spaces, which can provide multi-functional benefits including flood storage on natural/ semi-natural open spaces. As such the policy makes an	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						indirect positive contribution to this objective. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on minimising and mitigating against flood risk as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for flooding that new or improved open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open spaces which may include river corridors or water bodies, and as such enhancing these	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						open spaces could make an indirect positive contribution to this objective. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for water quality that new or improved open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective as it seeks to ensure the delivery of new and enhanced open	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
contaminated land						spaces which could lead to the improvement and protection of soil, and the remediation of contaminated land.		
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits including cooling, the management of surface water flood risk and water storage and also providing opportunities for local food production. Thus, increasing green infrastructure over the years which could have secondary impacts on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for climate change that new or improved open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy makes an indirect positive contribution to this objective as it seeks to ensure the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces which can provide multi-functional benefits, including capturing	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						carbon which will help improve air quality. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for air quality that new or improved open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Ensuring the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces will contribute to improving local environmental quality as open spaces make a positive contribution to the local environment.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	Open spaces can include, and be accessible to, cycling and walking networks, however the policy in itself will have limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Ensuring the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces will ensure that residents have access to quality open spaces near to where they live now, and in the future in line with the accessibility standard. Thus, reducing the need to travel.	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote regeneration and reduce deprivation	No mitigation required. All the policies within PfE and the Local Plan seek	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
deprivation and disparity						by supporting the delivery of new and improved open spaces, including sports facilities, which contribute to social interaction, health and wellbeing and community engagement.	to aid regeneration and tackle reducing deprivation and disparity.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy makes limited contribution to this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to deliver new and enhanced open spaces, some of which could be located within the borough's centres, which will support their vitality.	No mitigation. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces which can serve as sporting, recreation and leisure facilities and in some instances (dependent on scale and type) can support and generate tourism. Whilst the scale of open space delivered onsite as part of residential development may be more limited, the enhancement of existing provision could sustain and increase the leisure and tourism function of that space. This policy could have a cross-boundary positive impact on this objective as many open space sites are accessible to those outside of the borough and many open spaces may even	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						straddle the borough boundary, extending into other boroughs. Therefore, the positive benefits for leisure and tourism that new or improved open spaces can provide can extend beyond Oldham.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Minerals DPD covers minerals.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The Waste DPD covers waste.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities by ensuring the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development, which contribute to social interaction, health and wellbeing and community engagement.	No mitigation required. The aim of the Local Plan is to ensure mixed, balanced, and inclusive communities through, for example, policies on housing and design.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No negative scores were given, and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy CO3 – Community Facilities

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that this policy would a positive impact on this IA objective, primarily due to the fact that many of the borough's community facilities, such as places of worship and museums, are older and may contribute to the townscape of the borough due to their architectural significance. Their protection from redevelopment unless the policy criteria has been met will help to protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that this policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective, primarily due to	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
environment, heritage assets and their setting						the fact that many of the borough's community facilities, such as places of worship and museums, are older and may be heritage assets. Their protection from redevelopment unless the policy criteria has been met will help protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this IA objective by only allowing the loss of a community facility if certain policy criteria are met. This helps ensure that land and	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
use of brownfield land						buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.		
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this IA objective by supporting development proposals for new and improved community facilities, which are an important part of the borough's social infrastructure.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective, due to health-related uses such as doctor's surgeries being a community facility that is supported by this policy and also due to the benefits to mental health in relation to access to	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						community facilities that can be derived from visiting them.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy is considered to have a positive impact on this IA objective, due to the requirement for new community facilities to be located in areas that are accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling. This	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						helps to reduce the reliance on the private motor car and therefore protect and improve air quality.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy is considered to have a positive impact on this IA objective, due to proposals for new community facilities being supported as long as unacceptable impacts on neighbouring uses, the local environment, highway safety and traffic generation can be mitigated. This helps to protect local environmental quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy is considered to have a positive impact on this IA objective, due to the requirement for new community facilities to be located in areas that are accessible by public	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						transport, walking, wheeling and cycling.	promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy is considered to have a positive impact on this IA objective, due to the requirement for new community facilities to be located in areas that are accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling, therefore promoting accessibility to key services and reducing the need to travel.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the fact that community facilities	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						can be drivers for sustainable economic growth and job creation, due to – for instance, cultural facilities putting on productions throughout the year which drive employment in the arts and can attract visitors to the borough. Furthermore, community facilities can also help reduce levels of deprivation and disparity by being used for educational and employment purposes.	Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the fact that community facilities can be drivers for sustainable economic growth and job creation, due to – for instance, cultural facilities putting on	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						productions throughout the year which drive employment in the arts and can attract visitors to the borough.		
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the fact that community facilities can protect and enhance the vitality and viability of the centres of Oldham, where they are located.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the fact that some community facilities can promote sustainable tourism and leisure, for instance, cultural facilities putting on	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						productions throughout the year which drive employment in the arts and can attract visitors to the borough.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive long-term impact on this IA objective due to the fact that community facilities, such as education and training facilities can be important places for people to improve education attainment and skill levels in the arts.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the fact that community facilities can promote mixed, balanced and inclusive communities due to the role they play in them.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements were identified for the policy as a result of the IA.

Since the Draft Plan the policy has been revised in places but not significantly.

IA3, IA4, IA8, IA18, IA19, IA20, IA21, IA22 and IA26 have been amended since the Draft Plan as on reflection it is not felt that the positive benefits of the policy would increase over time from positive to significantly positive.

IA6, IA7, IA14 and IA15 have all been amended from a neutral a positive as on reflection it is felt that the policy does help to achieve these objectives.

IA17 has also been amended from a neutral to a significantly positive as on reflection the policy is aiming to ensure community facilities are in accessible locations which is the focus of this objective.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy CO4 – Education and Skills

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective due to the requirement for providing high quality outdoor facilities which can contribute to enhancing the multifunctional green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature, address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener chapter also addresses objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective due to the requirement for providing high-quality	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition,	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	**MT (5 - 10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
						indoor and outdoor facilities which where the opportunities arise may be shared facilities by the local community. This will help to promote access to open spaces.	PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. Although it is acknowledged that some educational facilities may have historic interest	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						which the policy would help protect.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective due to the requirement for new facilities to be of high quality.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this IA objective by only supporting development proposals for education and skills in the appropriate locations. This helps ensure that land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it states suitable sites for educational use will be identified where there is	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
meet development needs						a need for them, ensuring an adequate level of supporting infrastructure for new development.	conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact upon this objective, because access to education is known to improve health and wellbeing. Specifically in relation to learning about healthy food choices and active lifestyles for example. Also, the provision of facilities that may be shared by the local community will also contribute towards this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
effects of climate change							this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the requirement for new facilities to be accessible by public transport and active travel modes, helping to reduce the need to travel by private car which will improve air quality.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy is considered to have a positive impact on this IA objective by supporting proposals that are located, designed and managed to minimise the impacts of associated traffic and car parking on the surrounding area.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a positive impact upon this	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places'	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network						IA objective as one of the requirements of the policy is to ensure that the location of any new education facilities are accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling.	chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a positive impact upon this IA objective as one of the requirements of the policy is to ensure that the location of any new education facilities are located within the community they are intended to serve and that they are accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact upon this IA objective due to the benefits associated with new education facilities. Access to good quality education is a key driver for reducing levels of deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to fact that access to education, for instance, in relation to post 16 education, allows people to retrain for new sectors and allow for job creation.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill							centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact upon this IA objective due to good quality education being a key driver for improving education attainment and skill levels.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policy CO5 address this objective. Residential Development' address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 - 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective. Education institutions in the communities they are intended to serve and accessible by public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling help create inclusive sustainable communities.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

Since the Draft Plan the policy has been revised in places but not significantly.

IA6 has been amended from a neutral a positive as on reflection it is felt that the policy does help to achieve this objective by only supporting development proposals for education and skills in appropriate locations.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy CO5 – Securing Educational Places through new Residential Development

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

distinctiveness and sense of place								
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective due to the requirement to provide S106 monies towards the provision of educational places at local schools, which would ensure an appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure in relation to new development.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None

8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this	None

biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change							objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective by securing S106 monies for new educational facilities which are considered to be a key service.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact upon this IA objective due to the benefits associated with new education facilities being established in areas of development. Access to good quality education is one of the key drivers for reducing levels of deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other	None

							policies addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact upon this objective due to the benefits associated with new education facilities being established in areas of development. Access to good quality education is one of the key drivers for improving education attainment and skill levels.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policy CO4 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy is considered to have a positive impact on this objective,	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as	None

						primarily in relation to how it can help promote inclusivity and ensure mixed communities through the creation of new schools.	those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals, with a high positive result in relation objective 22. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

Since the Draft Plan the policy has been revised in places but not significantly.

IA8 has been amended from a positive to a neutral as on reflection it is felt that the policy is more concerned with the mechanism for providing new education places.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy CO6 – Health Impact Assessments in New Development

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity and geodiversity that is ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective. The use of Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) could lead to an improvement to an accessible open space and / or natural environment as one of its recommendations which may include the multifunctional green infrastructure network. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective. The use of a HIA could lead to an improvement to an accessible open space for instance as one of its recommendations.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
historic environment, heritage assets and their setting							Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective. The policy requires residential developments that will create or exacerbate, a	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
development needs.						shortfall in health provision to address the unmet need generated by the development, as appropriate.	obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy is focused on new health care provision and ensuring HIAs are required where appropriate to understand the developments impact on health and well-being.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policy CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities and infrastructure are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as in relation to air quality and improving access to active travel. This could have an indirect positive impact on air quality, by ensuring that people can travel by active modes and reduce the use of travel by car.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as in relation to air quality, noise and amenity.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as in relation to improving access to active travel ensuring that people can travel by active modes and reduce the use of the car.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as in relation to improving access to	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						active travel ensuring that people can travel by active modes and reduce the use of the car and in relation to access to health care services, open spaces and work and training.		
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as in relation to access to work and training and healthcare services and other social infrastructure – all of which will help reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
						recommendations, such as in relation to accessibility and active travel and access to work and training which will help to promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	the Local Plan address economic growth.	
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
attainment and skill levels						HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as in relation to access to work and training and other social infrastructure – both of which may help improve education attainment and skill levels.	Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations, such as a requirement to create a better mix of property tenures, for instance, in order to meet local housing needs.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
management of minerals								
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have a limited contribution to this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy establishes a requirement to submit an HIA for certain developments. The use of an HIA can help in providing a number of recommendations – it could include a requirement to create a better mix of property tenures, for instance, in order to achieve an inclusive and sustainable development.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. Some effects were cross boundary, but the majority were local. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

Since Draft Plan stage this policy has been amended to consider the provision of health care facilities and to provide more detail on what a HIA should demonstrate. As a result of the policy wording changes IA1, IA7, IA15, IA17 and IA22 have been amended from neutral scores to positive scores, and IA 8 has been amended from a single positive to a significant positive.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy CO7 – Hot Food Takeaways and fast food outlets

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 'Green Infrastructure Network' and JP-P7 'Sport and Recreation' address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will help avoid a concentration of hot food take aways and fast-food outlets within Oldham Town Centre which will help maintain sense of place.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and their setting								
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have limited impact on this IA objective.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The aim of the policy is to ensure that there is no unacceptable concentration of hot food takeaways or fast food outlets in certain locations. Furthermore, the policy requires the submission of a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). This should help to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policy CO6 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk						impact on this IA objective.	Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy								
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the requirement for appropriately designed and sited fume extraction systems in new hot foot takeaways and fast food outlets.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						Impact on traffic management also needs to be considered which influences air pollution.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective due to the number of requirements the policy has that will contribute towards protecting and improving local environmental quality, including no unacceptable impact on residential amenity, no adverse implications for traffic management, parking or	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						highway safety and appropriate litter provision.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this IA objective as there are only certain circumstances in which hot food take aways and fast food outlets will be permitted. This will help protect and enhance the	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						vitality and viability of our centres.		
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have a limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10 + years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
management of minerals								
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy includes a requirement for ensuring that waste is effectively managed from new hot food takeaways and fast food outlets.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy would have limited impact on this IA objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of one significantly positive score against health, positives, and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

Since Draft Plan stage this policy has been amended to reflect changes to national planning policy for hot food takeaways and fast food outlets. These amendments have not resulted in any scoring changes in themselves, however on reflection IA15 and IA20 have been changed from a positive impact to a significantly positive impact.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 14 : IA of Protecting Our Local Environment Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy LE1 – Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
design expectations							PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	The policy reflects the agent of change principle of the NPPF and requires mitigation and/or refusal of proposals where they would likely result in a rise of complaints in relation to noise and/or vibration arising from new development, which can have a detrimental impact on health and health inequalities.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	The policy reflects the agent of change principle of the NPPF and requires mitigation and/or refusal of proposals where they would likely result in a rise of complaints in relation to noise and/or vibration arising from new development.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE2 and LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs							housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have a limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements were made to the policy as a result of the IA.

Between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage only minor amendments were made to the policy and supporting text, which did not affect the IA scoring.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy LE2 – Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective. It is recognised however that remediated land/development on brownfield land will lessen the pressure to develop greenfield sites and thus help protect, conserve and enhance the green infrastructure network but it is considered this policy should score neutral. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
accessible open spaces						limited impact on this objective.	CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy would have an indirect positive impact on this objective. Remediation of ground conditions could for instance be linked to redevelopment of the Mills and their settings and thus	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						help protect and enhance the historic environment.		
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	Remediation of ground conditions will ensure brownfield land can be reused for development.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy would have a minor positive impact on this objective as the policy ensures that mitigation is required as part of any proposed development to ensure that any land contamination and / or land stability is mitigated.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy could lead to improved health outcomes through the remediation and stabilisation of land. Remediated land could form part of public open space for instance in new brownfield development, which in turn could help improve health and well-being.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the policy requirements could have a positive impact on water quality. Remediated land will help improve water quality as run off from surface water	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						will no longer carry pollutants to water sources.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive impact on this objective through the remediation of land improving soil quality on brownfield sites and land stability, and helping to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land by allowing for the development of brownfield sites before greenfield sites.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 addresses soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
are resilient to the effects of climate change							Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective, as the stabilisation of land and remediation of contaminated land would lead to a direct benefit in terms of soil and land quality, and help improve possible detrimental impacts on human health.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 and LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network							sustainable transport choices.	
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	++	Permanent	Local	The policy would have a positive impact on this objective in relation to the promotion of regeneration by supporting the stabilisation and remediation of brownfield land, which in turn will allow for the regeneration of sites within the borough and thus reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						through the creation of new jobs and homes.		
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							addresses tourism and leisure.	
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy is considered to have limited impact upon this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements were required as a result of the IA.

Changes have been made to the policy wording between Local Plan and Publication Plan stage to set out requirements for land stability. The IA wording has changed as a consequence against some IA objectives but the scoring has not.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy LE3 – Air Quality

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	**MT (5 – 10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will ensure development considers air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss specifically and indirectly through improving air quality will ensure that biodiversity is resilient. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner,	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have no impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP-	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
maximising the use of brownfield land							H4 address the efficient use of land.	
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this objective as it ensures a requirement for mitigation in relation to any potential air quality impacts associated with new development, which could include new infrastructure such as transport improvements.	No mitigation needed. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	It is considered that the policy would have a positive impact on this objective. Poor air quality is linked to an increase in asthma in children and causes excess deaths every year. The requirements of the policy would help	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies C06 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						ensure that air quality is not worsened and/or improved by new development and any impacts on air quality are appropriately mitigated.		
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have no direct impact on this objective, but would have an indirect positive impact, primarily in relation to any mitigation for schemes that could impact on air quality, such as street trees or living roofs/walls which would help mitigate the impact of flood risk.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have an indirect positive impact on this objective, primarily in relation to the link between water quality and air pollution. The policy aims ensure that developments do not have an adverse effect on air quality and on the	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						natural environment, which could include water quality. Furthermore, mitigation for new development could include schemes that could improve water quality, such as increased urban greening and street trees.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have an indirect positive impact on this objective, primarily in relation to the link between soil quality and air pollution. The policy aims to ensure development does not have adverse impacts on air quality and the natural environment which could include soil quality. Furthermore, mitigation for new development could include schemes that could improve soil	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						quality, such as increased urban greening, street trees.		
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will ensure that air quality is not worsened and/or is improved by new development and any impacts on air quality are appropriately mitigated.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S5 addresses air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						Mitigation could include new bus stops, active travel etc which could help improve air quality in the locality of new development.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will ensure that air quality is not worsened by new development and any impacts on air quality are appropriately mitigated.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 and LE2 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy would have an indirect positive impact on this objective. Mitigation could propose things such as new bus stops, active travel etc which could all help improve air quality in the locality of new development.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would ensure that development does not worsen and/or improves air quality in the locality, thus creating more sustainable growth however its impact is not considered to be such that it should score positive.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill							Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy would have a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of positives and neutrals and significantly positive against IA objectives 7, 8, 14 and 15. No mitigation or enhancement to the policy were required as a result of the IA.

Some policy amends were made to the policy between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage to remove repetition between PfE and the Local Plan and to refer to the need to consider Holcroft Moss. Consequently, some IA wording has been amended within this assessment however this has not resulted to changes to scores.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 15 : IA of Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham Policies

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy IN1 – Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through criteria 2, which ensures that the siting, height and design of the equipment will not cause harm to the character and appearance of	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place						the area in which it is located, including the significance and setting of historic assets. This will help to protect the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes.		
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through criteria 2 that ensures that the siting, height and design of the equipment will not cause harm to the character and appearance of the area in which it is located. Including the significance and setting of historic assets. This will help to protect the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through criteria 2 that ensures that the siting, height and design of the equipment will not cause harm to the character and appearance of the area in which it is located, this helps to promote high quality design.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective as the expansion of digital infrastructure and telecommunications equipment will be key to extending and improving digital connectivity across the borough, including to the new homes that will be provided.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change							this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through criteria on highway safety and appearance.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and	--	--	--	Permanent	Local	It is considered that the policy will have a limited contribution on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
the protection of the PROW Network								
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective as the expansion of digital infrastructure and telecommunications equipment will be key to extending and improving digital connectivity across the borough, reaching areas it may not have reached previously. This will help to reduce disparity levels.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective as the expansion of digital infrastructure and telecommunications equipment will be key to extending and improving digital connectivity across the borough, including to businesses. This will help increase productivity and	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.		
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs							housing address this objective.	
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and mostly neutrals, given its specific nature. No mitigation or enhancements to the policy were made as a result of the IA.

No changes were made to the policy between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage. Therefore, the majority of the IA has remained the same in terms of scoring. However, on reflection the following amendments were made:

- IA4 has been amended from significantly positive to positive as the policy will protect the historic environment but not enhance it.
- IA7 has been amended from neutral to positive as it is felt that the provision of the digital infrastructure and telecommunications equipment will support existing homes and the new homes that will be provided over the lifetime of the plan.
- IA15 has been amended from neutral to positive as criterions include issues affecting local environmental quality.
- IA16 has been amended from positive to neutral as the policy won't promote an integrated transport system it only makes sure that the highway is not affected by proposals.
- IA18 and IA19 have been amended from neutral to positive as it is felt that the provision of the digital infrastructure and telecommunications equipment will contribute towards reducing levels of deprivation and disparity and the promotion of sustainable economic growth and job creation.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy IN2 – Planning Obligations

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include green infrastructure, in line with other local plan policies. In site-specific circumstances the policy allows for a reduction in the level of planning obligations sought, where it is not viable and only where criterion 1-3 in the policy are met. This could reduce the impact of planning obligations on this	No mitigation required. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						objective, however the extent to which is unknown. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this policy.		
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include open space, in line with other local plan policies. In site-specific circumstances the policy allows for a reduction in the level of planning obligations sought, where it is not viable	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						and only where criterion 1-3 in the policy are met. This could reduce the impact of planning obligations on this objective, however the extent to which is unknown.		
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include planning obligations related to green infrastructure provision could have an indirect positive impact on landscape and townscape.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 addresses this objective.	None
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment,	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities,	No mitigation required. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 also	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
heritage assets and their setting						beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include planning obligations related to green infrastructure provision could have an indirect positive impact on the historic environment, including settings.	address the historic environment.	
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include planning obligations related to housing provision, green infrastructure, open space, highways and	No mitigation required. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 also address design.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						infrastructure which could have an indirect positive impact on design.		
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. Policies H2 and H3 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and JP-H4 also addresses efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. It also sets out that planning obligations will be sought to secure the ongoing maintenance and management of provision where necessary.	No mitigation required. There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that also address infrastructure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include health facilities and open spaces (access to open space is a key determinant of health and wellbeing). In site-specific circumstances the policy allows for a reduction in the level of planning obligations sought, where it is not viable and only where criterion 1-3 in the policy are met. This could reduce the impact of planning obligations on this objective, however the extent to which is unknown.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include green infrastructure and specific flood mitigation infrastructure such as SUDs, which can provide multi-functional benefits.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and policies CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan also addresses flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include green infrastructure,	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						which can impact on water bodies.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. However, as this is dependent on the individual site, the impact of the policy on this objective is unknown and likely to be limited.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan also addresses soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change						demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include green infrastructure and flood mitigation infrastructure such as SUDs, which can provide multi-functional benefits including cooling, management of surface water flood risk and water storage, and also providing opportunities for local food production. Thus, increasing green infrastructure over the years which could support this objective. However, this is an indirect contribution.	address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy makes an indirect contribution to this objective as it seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-S5 and Policy LE3 of the Local Plan also addresses air quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include green infrastructure, which can provide multi-functional benefits, including capturing carbon which will help improve air quality. However, this is an indirect contribution.		
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include green infrastructure and open space which could	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan also addresses environmental quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						improve local environmental quality.		
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include transport and highways infrastructure, in line with other local plan policies. It is not considered that this objective will be impacted by viability as highways infrastructure is essential in making the development safe.	No mitigation required. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside policies T1-T5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure,	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H2 and	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
reduce the need to travel						services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include transport infrastructure, health and education provision and open space, which could improve access to services and facilities and reduce the need to travel.	T2 can help achieve this objective.	
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote regeneration and reduce deprivation by ensuring that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required.	No mitigation required. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include social value, in line with other local plan policies. In addition, the policy seeks to ensure the delivery of infrastructure alongside development which promotes sustainable development and can support economic growth. In site-specific circumstances the policy allows for a reduction in the level of planning obligations sought, where it is not viable and only where criterion 1-3 in the policy are met. This	No mitigation required. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						could reduce the impact of planning obligations on this objective, however the extent to which is unknown.		
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy seeks to deliver new and enhanced infrastructure alongside development which could be located within the borough's centres, which will support their vitality. In line with other local plan policies this could include new or improved open spaces, health and education facilities, affordable housing or transport and highways infrastructure.	No mitigation required. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Cross-boundary	The policy will have an indirect positive contribution on this objective as, in line with other local plan policies, it could lead to new provision or the improvement of existing provision for open space and green infrastructure which can support sustainable tourism	No mitigation required. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						and leisure. However, this is an indirect contribution.		
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive contribution on this objective as it seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include education provision and social value, in line with other local plan policies, which can contribute to improved education attainment and skills levels.	No mitigation required. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy will have a positive contribution on this objective as it seeks to ensure that where development would increase the need or demand for	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing further address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	MT (5 – 10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
and tenures to meet local housing needs						infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. This could include affordable housing, in line with other local plan policies, which can contribute to meeting local housing needs.		
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Minerals Plan addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	The policy will have limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation required. The GM Waste Plan addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy will help promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities by ensuring the delivery of new or enhanced open spaces, including as part of new development,	No mitigation required. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (< 5 years)	**MT (5 – 10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
						which contribute to social interaction, health and wellbeing and community engagement, in line with other local plan policies.	address this objective further.	

The policy scores a mixture of positive, neutral and uncertain. It was noted where the policy seeks to improve and increase infrastructure provision but that it also includes a viability exception for providing the full amount of planning obligations in site specific circumstances, as is required by National Planning Policy. This could reduce the impact of planning obligations on this objective, however the extent to which is unknown as it is dependent on site-specific circumstances and could vary from site to site. No negative scores were given and no mitigation or enhancement to the policy was required as a result of the IA.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Policy IN3 - Delivering Social Value and Inclusion

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place								
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include the consideration of requiring development to create inclusive places in accordance with Policy D1.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	None
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include the consideration of how to help reduce inequalities in Oldham, support vulnerable groups and the promotion of opportunities for good mental and physical health and wellbeing.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk							the Local Plan address flood risk.	
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
							include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	
14. To protect and improve air quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5 and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	None
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include the consideration of ensuring that access arrangements cater for all needs, including maximising opportunities for walking, wheeling and cycling.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include promoting on-site employment and training opportunities to Oldham residents and the utilisation of local supply chains. These requirements along with other policies in the plan will help promote accessibility to local job and training opportunities and reduce the need to travel.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include promoting on-site employment and training opportunities to Oldham residents. This will help reduce levels of deprivation and disparity in the borough.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include promoting on-site employment and training opportunities to Oldham residents. This will help promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	The policy has a positive impact on this objective through the use of planning conditions/ obligations on new development to prepare and implement a Social Value Strategy. This should include promoting on-site employment and training opportunities to Oldham residents. This will help improve the skills level of our residents.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the policy has a limited impact on this objective.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

The policy scored a mixture of significantly positives, positives and neutrals. The policy scored significantly positive against several objectives such as 5, 8, 18, 19 and 22. No mitigation or enhancements were required to the policy as a result of the IA.

No substantial changes were made to the policy between Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage. Therefore, the IA has remained the same in terms of scoring.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment
Appendix 16: IA of Monitoring Policy

January 2026

Oldham Council

Policy M1 - Monitoring

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators. The HRA has screened the policy out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	No mitigation needed. Local Plan policies N1 to N4 on nature address Green Infrastructure. In addition, PfE Greener Places chapter also addresses this objective.	None
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. Policies CO1 and CO2 of the Local Plan address open space. In addition, PfE Policies JP-G2 and JP-P7 address this objective.	None
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes,	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G1 and JP-P1 address this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place								
4. To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. Policies HE1 to HE5 of the Local Plan and PfE Policies JP-P1 and JP-P2 address the historic environment.	None
5. To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. Policies D1 to D4 of the Local Plan and PfE Policy JP-P1 address design.	None
6. To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. Policies H1 and H2 of the Local Plan and PfE policies JP-S1 and Policy JP- H4 address the efficient use of land.	None
7. To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a	There are several policies within PfE and the Local Plan that address infrastructure. Moreover, Local Plan	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						positive contribution to all IA indicators.	policy IN2 requires that planning conditions or obligations are used to mitigate the impact of development on provision.	
8. To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P6 and Local Plan policies CO6 and CO7 and policies on green infrastructure address health and well-being.	None
9. To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Policy CC2 and CC3 of the Local Plan address flood risk.	None
10. To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-S4 and Local Plan policies CC2 to CC5 address water quality.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
availability of water resources						positive contribution to all IA indicators.		
11. To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-G8 and Policy LE2 of the Local Plan address soil and contaminated land.	None
12. To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-S2, JP-S3 and JP-P1 address energy in addition to Local Plan policy CC1.	None
13. To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P1, JP-G2 and JP-S4 address this objective. Within the Local Plan policies that address this objective include Policies CC2, CC3 and N3.	None
14. To protect and improve air quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives,	No mitigation needed. PfE PfE Policy JP-S5	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
						therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	and Local Plan Policy LE3 address air quality.	
15. To protect and improve local environmental quality	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P1 and policies LE1 to LE3 of the Local Plan address environmental quality.	None
16. To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE 'Connected Places' chapter includes policies alongside Policies T1-5 and design policies in the Local Plan that address promoting sustainable transport choices.	None
17. To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-C1 and JP-S5 and Local Plan policies C4, H1, H2 and T2 can help achieve this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
18. To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. The Local Plan promotes regeneration in several ways. Reducing deprivation and disparity is a key aim of the Local Plan.	None
19. To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE policy JP-J1 and JP-J2 and policies within the Economy and Employment section of the Local Plan address economic growth.	None
20. To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE policies JP-P4, JP-H4, JP-P3 and JP-P2 and Local Plan Policies C1 to C4 as well as policies for Oldham Town centre and housing supports this objective.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	MT (5-10 years)	LT (10+ years)	T or P	Local or Cross-boundary			
21. To promote sustainable tourism and leisure	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policies JP-P3 and JP-P4 and Local Plan Policy C2 as well as other policies addresses tourism and leisure.	None
22. To improve education attainment and skill levels	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. PfE Policy JP-P5 and Local Plan policies CO4 and CO5 address this objective.	None
23. To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators.	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan on housing address this objective.	None
24. To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This plan does not address minerals. Monitoring of minerals is done published separately.	No mitigation needed. The Minerals DPD addresses this.	None

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST (<5 years)	**MT (5-10 years)**	**LT (10+ years)**	**T or P**	**Local or Cross-boundary**			
25. To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	This plan does not address minerals. Monitoring of minerals is done published separately.	No mitigation needed. The Waste DPD addresses this.	None
26. To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities	+	+	+	Permanent	Local	This policy monitors the success of the plan, which includes if the plan is achieving its objectives, therefore this policy makes a positive contribution to all IA indicators	No mitigation needed. Policies within PfE and the Local Plan such as those on housing mix and tenure, communities and design aim to address this objective.	None

This new policy scored mostly positives and a couple of neutrals. No mitigation or enhancements were identified.

In terms of the HRA the policy has been screened out. No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.

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Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment
Appendix 17 : Oldham Impact Assessment

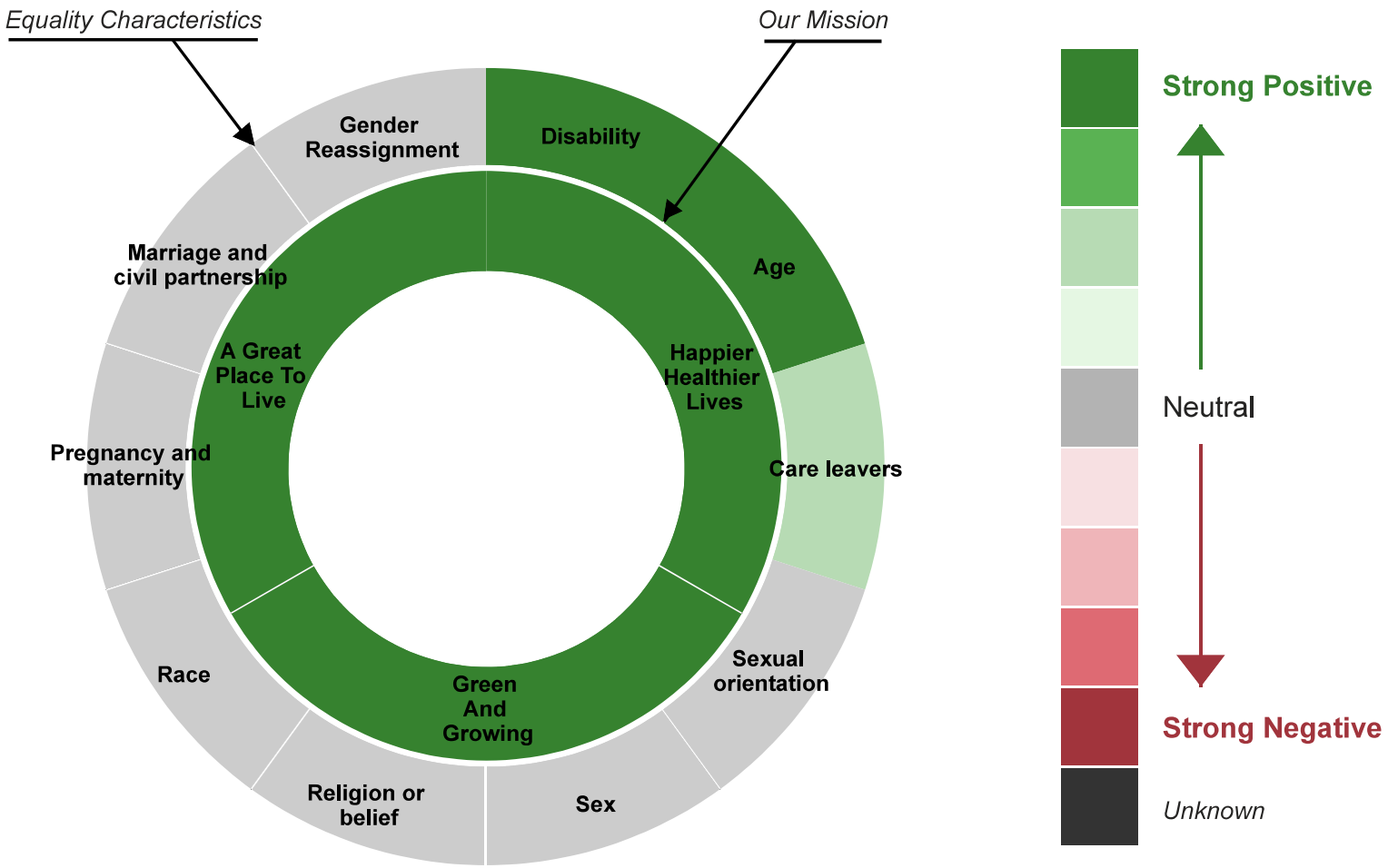
January 2026

Oldham Council

Oldham Local Plan - Publication Plan

Strategc Planning and Information : in progress

Portfolio	
Decent Homes	
Directorate	
Place	
Service/Team	
Economy	
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	**No**



Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
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	
Care leavers	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	2	Oldham's Local Plan will have a moderate positive effect on the borough's care leavers. The Plan seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents. Policy H4 - Providing for Local Housing Needs will support residential development for looked after children and care leavers, where the proposed development is compliant with other policies in PfE and the Local Plan. In deciding applications for new children's homes and semi-independent supported-living facilities, Policy H4 states that the council will seek to ensure that new provision: 1. Is in a sustainable and accessible location, with easy access to education facilities, public transport and open space, sport and recreation; 2. Provides appropriate accommodation for the number of proposed occupiers and their needs; and 3. Gives priority to children and young people from the Oldham area in the first instance, in line with local needs. With regards to criterion 2) for the development of all specialist housing provision, early discussions with the council through pre-application advice are encouraged to discuss local housing needs. Regard should be had to the evidence of housing need set out within the LHNA, and other local evidence, for specialist need groups. Applications for all children's residential care homes uses are required to provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment. Policy H1 - Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer further supports the borough's care leavers as it seeks to promote a diverse housing offer that ensures new homes are built in sustainable and accessible locations for all housing need groups. Policy CO3 - Community Facilities also seeks to maintain and improve access to a range of community (as defined in national planning policy) facilities in the borough, many of which support care leavers (for example youth centres and community centres).

Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Age	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Oldham's Local Plan will have a strong positive effect on all ages but specifically the borough's young people and ageing population in the following ways: Firstly, the Plan seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents. This includes supporting the development of homes suitable for older people through Policy H4 – Providing for Local Housing Needs, which seeks to ensure that housing choices are available for Oldham's growing older population so that they can find suitable homes with easy access to community facilities, local services and public transport, that are well integrated within the wider neighbourhood. This could be through the provision of age-restricted general market housing, extra-care housing, sheltered housing / assisted living and nursing and care homes. In addition, Policy H4 requires all provision for older people to meet the design standards as set out in Policy D1 and several key principles including ease of movement, being sustainably located and having an accessibly designed built environment. The Local Plan also seeks to ensure that new homes are energy efficient and adaptable to address changing needs. In addition, Places for Everyone (which forms part of Oldham's Local Plan) Policy JP-H3 requires all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations unless specific site conditions make this impracticable. In support of young adults and students, Policy H5 – Affordable Housing supports the attraction and retention of young professionals as in some parts of the borough there are not suitable affordable homes for people to live in the area in which they grew up, leading to an out-migration of these households to neighbouring boroughs. Policy H6 – Houses in Multiple Occupation also supports this demographic as HMOs can be a valuable source of housing to meet the local housing needs of students and young adults. With regards to other aspects of the Plan: All young people should get the education that they deserve and have access to a good school which is promoted through Policy CO4 – Education and Skills which supports development proposals for education where they are located within the community it is intended to serve, provides high-quality facilities and is designed to minimise the impacts of associated traffic. Policy CO5 – Securing Educational Places through New Residential Development also seeks to address the unmet need, proportionate to the number of people aged 0-19, that a development is likely to generate. Access to adequate, affordable, and high-quality childcare (pre-school and school-age) provisions can play a key role in children's development alongside determining where and how the additional capacity to support new growth should be provided for meeting the needs of existing and new communities across the borough (CO4, CO5). Ensuring young people lead healthy lives is also promoted by the Local Plan. For example, Policy CO7 Hot food takeaways and Fast-food Outlets states that planning permission will not be granted for such uses where they are within 400m of a primary or secondary school and from places where children and young people congregate to prevent the promotion of adverse impacts on local health, pollution, and anti-social behaviour. Policy CO3 Community Facilities also seeks to maintain and improve access to a range of community (as defined in national planning policy) facilities in the borough, many of which support younger populations (for example youth centres, childcare centres and children's nurseries) as well as ageing populations through providing a network of integrated health and community resources. In addition, where the demand resulting from a major residential development will create, or exacerbate, a shortfall in health provision the council will seek the provision of new or improved health facilities to address the unmet need generated by the development as appropriate as outlined by Policy CO6 – New Development and Health.

Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Disability	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Oldham's Local Plan will have a strong positive effect on the borough's disabled population. The Plan seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents. This includes supporting the development of homes suitable for disabled people through Policy H4 - Providing for Local Housing Needs, which seeks to ensure that appropriate provision of housing is provided for disabled people, including those with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health needs. This could be through the provision of supported housing (of various degrees) and accessible and adaptable homes. In addition, Policy H4 requires all provision for disabled people to meet the design standards as set out in Policy D1 and several key principles - Promoting ease of movement on foot and with mobility aids; Being sustainably located, with access to public transport, local services and facilities (including a hospital or GP practice) and accessible to the development via active travel means; Featuring parking spaces and setting down points in proximity to entrances; and having accessible and appropriately designed built environments, including seating areas, step free spaces and gentle approaches suitable for wheelchair users and people with visual or mobility impairments. With regards to other policy areas: Policy H1 - Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer further supports the borough's disabled population as it seeks to promote a diverse housing offer that ensures new homes are built in sustainable and accessible locations. This is supported through Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) which provide a detailed and accurate measure of accessibility reflecting the number of services (bus, Metrolink and Rail) available within the catchment; the level of service at the public transport access points - i.e. average waiting time; and the operating areas of Local Link (flexible transport) service. Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities also seeks to maintain safe and suitable access for all users by improving accessibility. This could be through making it easier for people to get to services they need for their personal well-being and the things that will help them live healthier lives and through designing a safer, more accessible and environmentally sustainable transport system. The Local Plan also seeks to ensure that new homes are energy efficient and adaptable to address changing needs. For example, Places for Everyone (which forms part of Oldham's Local Plan) Policy JP-H3 requires all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations unless specific site conditions make this impracticable. Policy CO3 – Community Facilities also seeks to maintain and improve access to a range of cultural, community (as defined in national planning policy) and health facilities in the borough. Policy CO6 - New Development and Health aims to improve the quality and accessibility of health and social care facilities. As such, where the demand resulting from a major residential development will create, or exacerbate, a shortfall in health provision the council will seek the provision of new or improved health facilities to address the unmet need generated by the development as appropriate. Finally, criterion 6 of Policy D1 - A Design-Led Approach for Residential & Residential-Led Mixed-Use Development, supports the creation of inclusive neighbourhoods by embedding inclusive design within them.

Our Mission / Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
A Great Place To Live	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	The Local Plan has a strong positive effect on residents' ability to feel proud of where they live, connected to their community and create a safer and fairer Oldham for people to live a good life. The vision of the Local Plan complements and provides the spatial expression of The Oldham Plan and the council's Corporate Plan and their vision to provide 'opportunities for all' and includes the aim that Oldham residents will have access to good, affordable homes, improved parks and green spaces and a more welcoming and redeveloped town centre enabling residents to gain a greater sense of community and pride for Oldham. Underneath the overarching theme of Building a Better Oldham the creation of connected and proud communities is a thread that weaves throughout the Local Plan. Policies contained within the Local Plan will encourage and facilitate development in the borough that provides opportunities for affordable homes, safer, more welcoming and more connected communities and sustainable models for culture. They will help to: • Promote neighbourhoods where residents are proud to live, and work with us to keep them safe and welcoming. • Support better housing across Oldham, with increased social and private rented sector housing standards for all residents. • Provide a diverse, and affordable, housing offer that addresses local housing needs with homes that are energy efficient and adaptable. • Improve transport connections and connectivity for Oldham residents and enhance opportunities for active travel. • Promote improvements to parks and green spaces so they are accessible and vibrant outdoor environments for everyone to enjoy. • Enhance the vitality and vibrancy of Oldham Town Centre and our other centres, by creating new jobs, homes and spaces for people to enjoy. • Support the arts and cultural sectors in Oldham through a more sustainable model for culture and theatre. • Preserve and enhance the historic character of Oldham through local character and distinctiveness. Specific Local Plan policies that relate to the mission of Great Place to Live include: Policies OTC1 – Oldham Town Centre, OTC2 – Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area, OTC3 – Creating a Better Public Realm for Oldham Town Centre and OTC4 – Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre seek to enhance, redevelop and regenerate Oldham Town Centre through division into several quarters, or zones, that will be the focus for certain types of development such as residential, culture and leisure, education, commercial or its core retail function. This is supported by the promotion of identity by ensuring the significance and appearance of the conservation area is preserved and its positive characteristics enhanced. The Local Plan has a strong positive effect on enhancing the town centre so that all residents and visitors feel welcome and safe by creating attractive gateways into the Town Centre, improving the experience around key public transport arrival points and introducing trees, soft planting and landscaping in appropriate locations. Policy D1 – Achieving High Quality Design: seeks to achieve a high standard of design, consistent with local design guides or design codes where available. This will ensure that developments will be inclusive to different users, promote appropriate greening where possible, promote health and well being through active design and minimise opportunities for anti-social behaviour and crime to promote safe and welcoming spaces. Policy H1 – Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer: supports the borough's population as it seeks to promote a diverse housing offer that ensures new homes are built in sustainable and accessible locations that are affordable for all local people. Policy IN3 – Delivering Social Value and Inclusion: ensures and identifies how development will support and deliver social value and inclusion throughout its lifetime. This will support Oldham residents into employment and/or training as new development can help to tackle deprivation by raising people out of poverty and reducing inequalities, whilst benefiting directly in terms of improved access to a larger, healthier and more highly skilled labour supply. Policies CO1 - The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision and CO2 New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision, together recognise that open space is an important part of the borough's green infrastructure network. Whilst it has a key role to play in the protection of the environment, enhancing the biodiversity of the borough and mitigating against climate change, access to quality open space is also essential to the health and well-being of communities, enabling increased physical activity and active travel, opportunities for social interaction and inclusion and contributing to improved mental health. Policies CO3 – Community Facilities, CO4 – Education and Skills and CO6 – New Development and Health seek to maintain and improve access to a range of cultural, community (as defined in national planning policy) and health facilities in the borough. The purpose of these policies allows for new cultural, community and health facilities and services in sustainable locations and to prevent the premature loss of important local facilities where their continued use is considered to remain a reasonable prospect. The Local Plan has a strong positive effect on how residents feel about the place and the people around them. Policy HE1 – The Historic Environment and Policy HE2 Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets together recognise the importance of preserving and enhancing Oldham's heritage assets. The rich and diverse heritage of Oldham plays a key role in helping to contribute to the quality of life and the growth of the area. Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities and Policy T2 - Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities recognise the importance of connectivity across the borough and encourages and enables the movement of people and goods in the most sustainable, efficient and safe manner. This policy also supports Oldham's Transport Strategy through the prioritisation of active travel and active design alongside maintaining safe and suitable access for all users. Sustainable models for transport will encourage improvements towards healthier and well-connected spaces across the borough.

Our Mission / Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Green And Growing	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	The Local Plan has a strong positive effect on resident's access to affordable homes, better quality jobs, opportunities for green investment and carbon neutrality across the borough. The vision of the Local Plan complements and provides the spatial expression of The Oldham Plan and the council's Corporate Plan with their vision to provide 'opportunities for all'. This also includes the aim that Oldham will be a place where economic growth benefits all residents, creating opportunities for businesses to succeed while ensuring our community and environment thrive. We will have responded to the need for new quality job opportunities, the Biodiversity Duty and the Climate Change emergency through the investment in green technologies and the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint to meet the council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Oldham will be a carbon neutral exemplar with a resilient and multifunctional Green Infrastructure network which brings multiple benefits to the natural and built environment as well as to the economic prosperity of its residents. Underneath the overarching theme of Building a Better Oldham providing opportunities to grow local businesses and create jobs, alongside embedding sustainability, energy efficiency and low (zero) carbon, are threads that weave throughout the Local Plan. Policies contained within the Local Plan provide a robust framework for ensuring that Green Infrastructure is enhanced whilst also attracting key economic sectors in tandem with ensuring diverse and sustainable housing development. They will: • Encourage the use of decentralised, renewable and low carbon energy in new developments and through their construction, design and layout minimise energy consumption. • Ensure the effective and efficient use of land, reusing existing buildings and materials where possible, including making the most of our mill legacy, and ensuring that housing developments meet minimum density requirements. • Provide a diverse, and affordable, housing offer that addresses local housing needs with homes that are energy efficient and adaptable. • Enhance the vitality and vibrancy of Oldham Town Centre and our other centres, by creating new jobs, homes and spaces for people to enjoy. • Use the benefits from Green Infrastructure creation, enhancement and protection to underpin our response to climate change and carbon reduction whilst providing connected and resilient networks. • Improve opportunities for active travel and enable development in sustainable and accessible locations. • Support the recovery and protection of species and habitats in line with The Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Specific Local Plan policies that relate to the mission of Green and Growing include: Policy N3 – Enhancing Green Infrastructure Through Development: will ensure that all development makes an appropriate contribution for green infrastructure provision to address local needs and opportunities for it. This supports the Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy and follows the key themes of thriving wildlife for Oldham; carbon neutral Oldham; healthy and active communities; green access for all; distinctive landscapes; slowing the flow and a quality water environment; and sustainable growth and green jobs. Policy CC1 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy: supports this by stimulating investment in new jobs and businesses, with a range of environmental and economic benefits, such as reduced air pollution and lower energy bills for residents and businesses. Policy E2 – Business and Employment Areas: seeks to ensure the borough has a range of sustainable employment areas to support the local economy. This policy enables the provision of new job opportunities as well as sustainable sites that support the local economy which helps uplift the population of the brough through more and better-quality jobs. Policy H1 – Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer supports the borough's population as it seeks to promote a diverse housing offer that ensures new homes are built in sustainable and accessible locations that are affordable for all local people. Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities recognises the importance of connectivity across the borough and encourages and enables the movement of people and goods in the most sustainable, efficient and safe manner. This policy also supports Oldham's Transport Strategy through the prioritisation of active travel and active design alongside maintaining safe and suitable access for all users. Sustainable models for transport will encourage improvements towards healthier and well-connected spaces across the borough. Policy N2 – Restoring Nature supports the net increase in biodiversity across the borough and ensures that existing habitats will be protected and enhanced whilst also restoring and creating habitats to improve the connectivity of the development site and beyond. This will also support the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy in delivering these priorities and actions for nature recovery. Our approach to tackling the climate change emergency and improving job opportunities has many benefits and outcomes that link to our economic and climate priorities in that it will help to ensure Oldham residents can afford to live comfortably in their homes; will increase access to an enhanced Green Infrastructure network; and attract new businesses and support existing ones to grow.

Our Mission / Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Happier Healthier Lives	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	The Local Plan has a strong positive effect on residents' ability to get together and access activities that will improve their physical or mental health to live a good life. The vision of the Local Plan complements and provides the spatial expression of The Oldham Plan and the council's Corporate Plan with their vision to provide 'opportunities for all' and includes the aim that Oldham residents will have access to the care, support, and opportunities they need to live a good and healthy life through the commitment to tackling poverty, improving health and well-being, providing high-quality social care, and promoting lifelong education. Underneath the overarching theme of Building a Better Oldham the creation of healthy and supported communities is a thread that weaves throughout the Local Plan. Policies contained within the Local Plan will encourage and facilitate development in the borough that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of long-term education programmes, and helps to provide high-quality social care. They will help to: • Create healthy, inclusive and safe places that are well connected to key services and facilities and high-quality open spaces. • Enhance the vitality and vibrancy of Oldham Town Centre and our other centres, by creating new jobs, homes and spaces for people to enjoy. • Support the improvement our parks and green spaces so they are accessible and vibrant outdoor environments for everyone to enjoy. • Support the children and young people in the borough so they can reach their full potential. • Create an environment where residents of all ages will see improvements in their mental health and wellbeing. Specific Local Plan policies that relate to the mission of Happier Healthier Lives include: Policies CO3 – Community Facilities, CO4 – Education and Skills and CO6 – New Development and Health seek to maintain and improve access to a range of cultural, community (as defined in national planning policy) and health facilities in the borough. The purpose of these policies allows for new cultural, community and health facilities and services in sustainable locations and to prevent the premature loss of important local facilities where their continued use is considered to remain a reasonable prospect. The Local Plan has a strong positive effect on how residents feel about the place and the people around them. Policies CO1 - The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision and CO2 New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision, together recognise that open space is an important part of the borough's green infrastructure network. Whilst it has a key role to play in the protection of the environment, enhancing the biodiversity of the borough and mitigating against climate change, access to quality open space is also essential to the health and well-being of communities, enabling increased physical activity and active travel, opportunities for social interaction and inclusion and contributing to improved mental health. Policy CO7 – Hot Food Takeaways and Fast-Food Outlets: seeks to prevent negative impacts to local health, pollution or anti-social behaviour alongside preventing these amenities from being within 400m of schools or areas where children congregate. This will help mitigate cases of unhealthy diets and health problems particularly among children as health problems and behaviours that are established early in life following through to adulthood. This also helps to maintain and support the economic vitality and communal sense of place and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres. Policy IN3 – Delivering Social Value and Inclusion: ensures and identifies how development will support and deliver social value and inclusion throughout its lifetime. This will support Oldham residents into employment and/or training as new development can help to tackle deprivation by raising people out of poverty and reducing inequalities, whilst benefiting directly in terms of improved access to a larger, healthier and more highly skilled labour supply. Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities: recognises the importance of connectivity across the borough and encourages and enables the movement of people and goods in the most sustainable, efficient and safe manner. This policy also supports Oldham's Transport Strategy through the prioritisation of active travel and active design alongside maintaining safe and suitable access for all users. Sustainable models for transport will encourage improvements towards healthier and well-connected spaces across the borough. Policy N3 – Enhancing Green Infrastructure Through Development: will ensure that all development makes an appropriate contribution for green infrastructure provision to address local needs and opportunities for it. This supports the Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy and follows the key themes of thriving wildlife for Oldham; carbon neutral Oldham; healthy and active communities; green access for all; distinctive landscapes; slowing the flow and a quality water environment; and sustainable growth and green jobs.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment
Appendix 18 : Health Impact Assessment

January 2026

Oldham Council

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1. Introduction

1.1 This Health Impact Assessment (HIA) assesses the potential health and wellbeing impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan. It forms part of an Integrated Assessment of the Local Plan that also addresses Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements through assessing the economic, social and economic performance of the Plan.

1.2 The HIA has been guided by the London Healthy Urban Design Unit (HUDU) Rapid Health Impact Assessment tool[1] and the Healthy Urban Planning Checklist[2].

2. What is the purpose of a Health Impact Assessment (HIA)?

2.1 The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines a HIA as a combination of processes and methods used by those planning, deciding, and shaping changes to the environment to evaluate the significance of health effects of a plan or project. A HIA helps decision-makers in local authorities and other stakeholders make choices and actions to best, prevent ill health, promote good health and reduce health inequalities. When applied in the planning system, a HIA puts people's health and wellbeing at the heart of the process.

2.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)[3] sets out the government's planning policies and how they should be applied. It requires planning policies and decisions to *'enable and support healthy lives, through both promoting good health and preventing ill-health, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs and reduce health inequalities between the most and least deprived communities – for example through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities, local shops, access to healthier food, allotments and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.'*.

2.3 It also emphasises that the level of detailed supporting information prepared to support the preparation of Local Plans and development proposals should be relevant, necessary and material, and that having the right information is crucial to good decision-making. The supporting national Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) on

[1] The London Healthy Urban Design Unit (HUDU) Rapid Health Impact Assessment tool can be found online at https://www.healthyurbandevelopment.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/HUDU-Rapid-HIA-Tool-October-2019.pdf

[2] The Healthy Urban Planning Checklist can be found online at https://www.healthyurbandevelopment.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Healthy-Urban-Planning-Checklist-3rd-edition-April-2017.pdf

[3] The National Planning Policy Framework can be found online at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aafe8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf

Healthy and Safe Communities[4], suggests the use of a HIA can be beneficial when considering the need for health facilities and other health and wellbeing impacts.

3. What is health and wellbeing?

What is a healthy person?

3.1 A healthy person has been defined by the Health Foundation as '*not as someone free from disease but as someone with the opportunity for meaningful work, secure housing, stable relationships, high self-esteem and healthy habits*.' This highlights the importance of factors in our environment and the impact they have on our health and wellbeing, rather than focusing on a bio-medical model of health. Therefore, planning has a significant role to play in improving the public's health and wellbeing.

What is a healthy community?

3.2 A healthy community is a good place to grow up and grow old in. It is one, which promotes healthy behaviours and supports reductions in health inequalities. It should enhance, improve and support physical and mental health of the community, through for example:

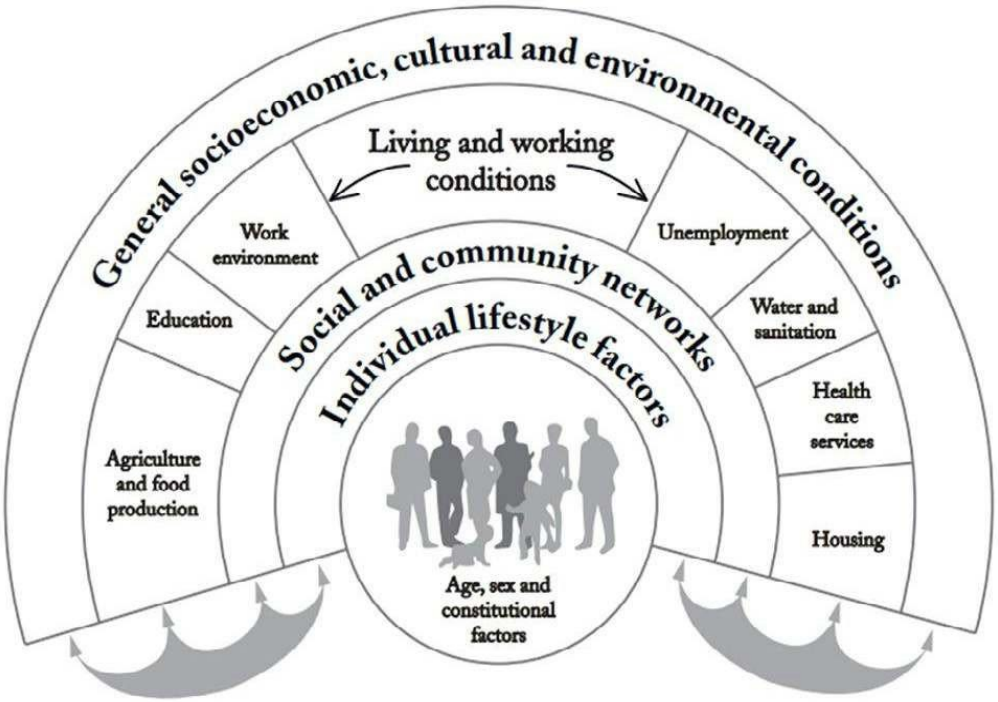
- Encouraging active and healthy lifestyles through good urban design, access to local services and facilities, providing green open space and safe places for active play, food growing and opportunities for walking and cycling.
- The creation of healthy living environments for people of all ages that support social interaction, providing opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise, and accessible and safe blue and green infrastructure.
- Making our town centres adaptable and accessible by way of layout and design for our elderly population and the increase of people living with dementia and other sensory or mobility impairment.

What are the wider determinants of health?

3.3 The health and wellbeing of people and communities is influenced by a wide range of factors. These are the wider determinants of health and are illustrated in Figure 1 below.

[4] National Planning Guidance on Healthy and Safe Communities can be found online at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing

Figure 1: Determinants of health and wellbeing in our neighbourhoods (Barton and Grant based on Dahlgren and Whitehead)

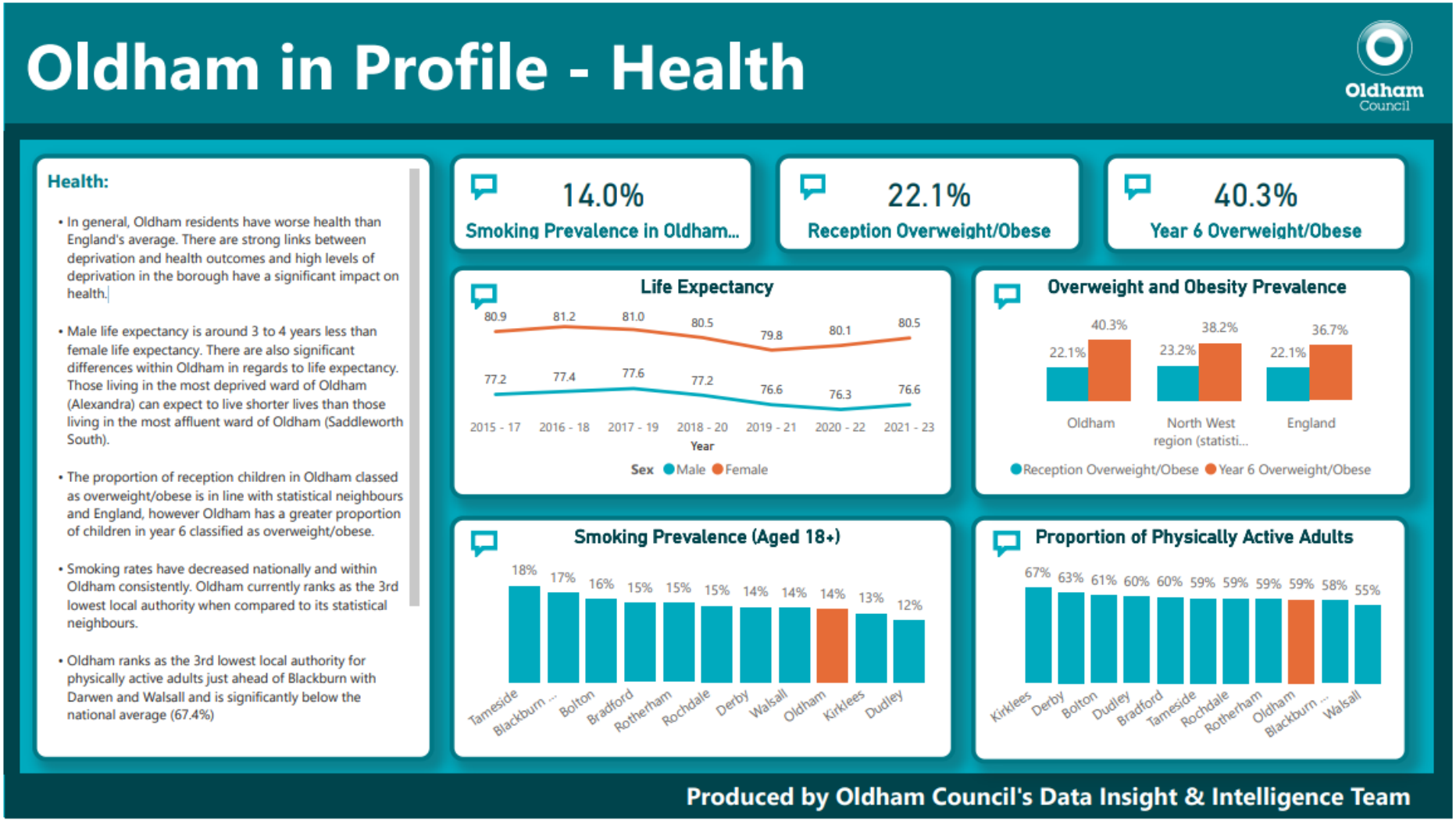


4. Health and wellbeing in Oldham

4.1 The latest evidence on health and wellbeing in Oldham can be found in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment[5] (JSNA). The JSNA is a suite of resources that describes the current and future health and social care needs of Oldham residents. It is produced by the Health and Wellbeing Board to inform decisions by the NHS, Oldham Council and other partners about providing services to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in our Borough. Information is also drawn from Oldham in Profile[6] which is produced by the Council and provides an overview of several key factors in Oldham. The JSNA and Oldham in Profile has informed the policies set out in the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan.

[5] The Oldham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment can be found online at https://www.jsnaoldham.co.uk/
[6] Oldham in Profile can be found online at https://www.jsnaoldham.co.uk/cms-data/depot/profile-depot/Oldham-in-Profile.pdf

Figure 2: Extract of Oldham in Profile in relation to key health statistics.



4.2 Some of the key statistics on the wider determinants of health, taken from the JSNA, are:

- The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England (7 out of 20 wards)
- Oldham has a relatively youthful population compared to the national average, with a higher proportion of residents aged under 18. However, in line with national trends, the population is ageing.
- The significant growth in the over-85 population will have a substantial impact on future demand for primary care, community health services, adult social care, urgent care and specialist services. This demographic change reinforces the importance of planning for health infrastructure that supports care closer to home and reduces pressure on acute hospital services.
- Unemployment currently stands at 7.0% (June 2025). Oldham has the highest claimant rate in GM and a rate higher than England (4.3%).
- Youth Unemployment currently stands at 9.2% (June 2025). Similarly to the general unemployment rate, Oldham is highest in GM and has a rate higher than the national average (5.5%).

4.3 Health outcomes in Oldham are influenced by a wide range of social, economic and environmental factors including housing, employment, transport, education, green space and community networks. To address this, Oldham and its partners adopt a whole system approach to health and wellbeing, recognising that improving health requires coordinated action across multiple sectors.

4.4 The Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022–2030[7] sets the overarching local priorities for improving health outcomes. These are:

- Supporting residents to make informed choices about their own health
- Giving children the best start in life
- Improving mental wellbeing and mental health
- Reducing smoking rates
- Increasing physical activity

4.5 Whilst the links between the environment, health and health inequalities cannot always be fully addressed through the planning system, the Council recognises the role of the Local Plan and that how places are planned and developed can have an impact on health and wellbeing. Some of the most pressing health challenges faced in Oldham, such as obesity, physical inactivity, deprivation and social inequality, fuel poverty and the needs of an ageing population, can all be affected by the quality of our built and natural environment. Tackling these 'wider determinants of health' through the planning system requires a holistic approach, ensuring that they are embedded throughout the Local Plan.

[7] The Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-203 can be found online at https://www.jsnaoldham.co.uk/cms-data/depot/profile-depot/HealthAndWellbeingStrategy_Approved210323.pdf

5. Oldham's new Local Plan

5.1 The aim of the new Local Plan is to plan how the borough will develop, look and grow for years to come. In developing the new Local Plan, the council has engaged with the Oldham residents, stakeholders and partners including health providers, environmental bodies/groups, sporting governing bodies and businesses. At the centre of the Local Plan is addressing climate change, improving health and wellbeing and reducing growing inequalities. Additionally, it looks to deliver wider improvements for the borough including delivering much needed genuine affordable homes, creating job and training opportunities, building resilience and strengthening growth of our town centres and areas of deprivation, protect, enhancing and improve access to our green and blue infrastructure.

5.2 The Local Plan has not been prepared in isolation. The Places for Everyone[8] (PfE) Joint Development Plan Document (DPD) provides the strategic framework for the Oldham Local Plan. PfE is a strategic plan that covers nine of the ten Greater Manchester districts - Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan. The Plan took effect and became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities on 21 March 2024. The Joint Plan:

- Sets out specific requirements to be taken forward through the plan in relation to housing, offices, and industry and warehousing;
- Identifies the main areas where growth will be focused as part of its spatial strategy;
- Identifies the important environmental assets which will be protected and enhanced;
- Allocates sites for employment and housing outside of the urban area to meet our growth needs, including several sites in Oldham;
- Supports the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities; and
- Defines a new Green Belt boundary.

Draft Local Plan stage

5.3 The HIA carried out on the Draft Local Plan is contained within Appendix 19[9] of the accompanying Integrated Assessment[10].

[8] The Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan can be found online at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/2drduk0t/places-for-everyone-joint-development-plan-dec24.pdf

[9] Appendix 19 Health Impact Assessment of the Draft Oldham Local Plan can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7836/appendix_19_health_impact_assessment_of_the_draft_oldham_local_plan

[10] The Oldham Draft Local Plan Integrated Assessment can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review/3098/draft_local_plan_integrated_assessment

5.4 The HIA assessed the potential health and wellbeing impacts of the Local Plan. Guided by the London Healthy Urban Design Unit (HUDU) Rapid Health Impact Assessment tool and the Healthy Urban Planning Checklist, the planning policy team carried out the HIA.

5.5 At this stage the HIA assessed the Draft Local Plan against the following themes:

- Housing design and affordability;
- Social infrastructure and accessibility;
- Access to open space and nature;
- Air Quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity;
- Accessibility and active travel;
- Crime reduction and community safety;
- Access to healthy food;
- Access to work and training;
- Social cohesion and inclusive design;
- Minimising the use of resources; and
- Climate Change.

5.6 The HIA concluded that there were no gaps where the Draft Local Plan has not addressed the above themes in some way. As such, it was found that the health impacts have been sufficiently addressed by the Draft Local Plan to support, and improve, health and well-being and reduce health inequalities across the borough.

Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan

5.7 The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan has been shaped by the Councils key priorities, ambitions and initiatives which the Plan will help to facilitate and deliver. The Oldham Plan 2024-2030[11], prepared by the Oldham Partnership, sets out a clear set of priorities for the borough that respond to the needs and aspirations of our communities. It recognises that no single organisation can tackle all our challenges alone and brings together leaders from across the Council, health services, housing, education, safety, and local businesses. The Partnership's vision for Oldham is '*a place where everyone can thrive, with great education, good jobs, safe homes and access to necessary services. We aim to build a greener, healthier borough focused on sustainability and well-being for all*'. This vision is translated into the three missions set out below:

- **A Great Place to Live** – through providing more affordable, quality homes, improving public spaces, and creating a strong economy with vibrant communities.
- **Healthier, Happier Lives** – through ensuring that everyone has access to the care, support, and opportunities they need to live a good life. With a commitment to

[11] The Oldham Plan 2024-2030 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201261/oldham_plan/3207/oldham_plan

tackling poverty, improving health and well-being, providing high-quality social care, and promoting lifelong education.

- **Green and Growing** – where economic growth benefits all residents, creating opportunities for businesses to succeed while ensuring our community and environment thrive. Through attracting new investment, supporting local business and leading in green technologies, quality job opportunities will be generated, and people will be equipped with the skills they need to succeed.

5.8 Oldham Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2027[12] reflects the Partnership's missions and sets out how the Council will support their delivery. In an ever-changing environment, where strategies must remain flexible and responsive, our cooperative ambition drives us forward, guided by a core set of values and behaviours. These principles form the foundation of Oldham Council's approach, ensuring that we stay true to our core purpose and direction.

5.9 The Local Plan represents the spatial expression of The Oldham Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan and is a key tool through which the Council can help to support the Partnership's missions and achieve its ambition. Delivery of these missions are the golden thread that runs through the Oldham Local Plan. In relation to health and wellbeing, policies contained within the Publication Plan aim to encourage and facilitate development in the borough that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities. These policies will help to:

- Create healthy, inclusive and safe places that are well connected to key services and facilities and high-quality open spaces.
- Provide a diverse, and affordable, housing offer that addresses local housing needs with homes that are energy efficient and adaptable.
- Promote sustainable and accessible transport that enables active travel, including walking, wheeling and cycling, and the maximises opportunities to enhance our green infrastructure.
- Support healthy eating and promote healthy food choices through, for example, increasing opportunities for community food growing spaces and setting a policy framework for the consideration of hot food takeaways.
- Support the delivery and improvement of access to healthcare facilities and education, employment and skills training.

5.10 The purpose and role of the Oldham Local Plan is to support delivery of PfE in Oldham. Providing more detailed local level 'development management' policies that support the strategic policies in PfE without duplicating their content but whilst ensuring that together they reflect, and support delivery of, the Council's priorities and those of our Building a Better Oldham regeneration ambitions. As such, when considering the

[12] Oldham Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2027 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200146/strategies_plans_and_policies/2888/corporate_plan

health and wellbeing impacts of the Publication Plan it is also necessary to draw upon relevant policies within PfE, as together they will provide our statutory development plan.

6. The Local Plan objectives and spatial vision

6.1 Amongst many ambitions, the Local Plan Vision for Oldham up to 2039 sets out that we will have a clean, green and healthy environment that responds to both the biodiversity and climate change emergencies; accessible and sustainable transport choices and active travel options linking to a multi-functional green infrastructure network. Importantly, it also states that Oldham residents will be healthy, safe and well-supported, having a great start from early years and with skills for life. They will have access to local community facilities and health and well-being provision and will have active and healthier lifestyles gained from access to active travel, green infrastructure and opportunities for sport and recreation.

6.2 The Oldham Local Plan vision is supported by a series of plan objectives relating to:

- PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer
- PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills
- PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses
- PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres
- PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes
- PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment
- PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change
- PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities
- PO9 Improving and valuing a better historic and built environment
- PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices

6.3 Each plan objective is then supported by related sub-plan objectives. In relation to PO8 the Local Plan seeks to uplift the health and well-being of Oldham residents and local communities by:

- facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision;
- protecting and enhancing access to, and providing for / or improved, open spaces, sports and recreation facilities, to meet the needs of new development and communities;
- supporting sport and recreation projects such as Oldham's SportsTown;
- providing spaces to grow food in new and existing communities, such as allotments and community gardens and connecting people to nature;
- supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities;
- reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment;

- improving air quality for the benefit of everyone; and
- providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.

6.4 Since the Draft Local Plan changes have been made to sub-plan objectives of PO8. These amendments are underlined above and reflect the importance we place on linking our communities to open space and nature.

7. Health impact assessment

7.1 This HIA forms part of a wider Integrated Assessment of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan. Preparation of the HIA has been guided by the London Healthy Urban Design Unit (HUDU) Rapid Health Impact Assessment tool and the Healthy Urban Planning Checklist.

Housing design and affordability

Table 1: Housing design and affordability assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal seek to meet all 16 design criteria of the Lifetime Homes Standard or Meet Building Regulation requirement M4 (2)?	Yes	PfE Policy JP-H3 Type, Size and Design of New Housing requires all new dwellings to: 1) Comply with the nationally described space standards; and 2) Be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations unless specific site conditions make this impracticable. Draft Local Plan policies H4 Homes for Older People and Policy H5 Homes for Disabled People have been merged into one overarching policy in the Publication Plan - Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs. The policy sets out how we will support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		housing suitable for older people, disabled people, looked after children and care leavers. Policy H4 sets out the ways in which the council will seek a range of housing options for older people and disabled people, this includes requiring all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations, as per PfE Policy H3. With regards to design, PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places requires new development to be consistent with various principles, including being adaptable, able to respond easily to varied and changing needs and technologies. Publication Plan Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design requires development proposals, where applicable, to: • provide adaptable and resilient buildings and places, that are easily maintainable and resistant to the effects of ageing, weather and climatic conditions; and • ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability).		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan address the housing needs of older people for example extra care housing, sheltered housing, lifetime homes and wheelchair accessible homes?	Yes	Draft Local Plan policies H4 Homes for Older People and Policy H5 Homes for Disabled People have been merged into one overarching policy in the Publication Plan - Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs. Policy H4 sets out how the Council will support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people and disabled people. It also includes a requirement for all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations, as per PfE Policy H3 (see above).	Positive	None
Does the plan include homes that can be adapted to support independent living for older and disabled people?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not allocate homes specifically for adaption to support independent living for older and disabled people. However, through Policy H1 Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer the council seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents and deliver the Borough's housing requirement set out in PfE Policy JP-H1 Scale, Distribution and Phasing of New Housing Development.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Draft Local Plan policies H4 Homes for Older People and Policy H5 Homes for Disabled People have been merged into one overarching policy in the Publication Plan - Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs. Policy H4 sets out how the Council will support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people and disabled people. Through Policy H4 the Council will seek to secure a range of housing options for older people and disabled people, by: • Requiring all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations, as per PfE Policy H3 (see above); • Supporting physical home adaptations and improvements, and the development of new specialist accommodation and supported housing.		
Does the plan promote good design through layout and	Yes	PfE Policy JP-H3 Type, Size and Design of New Housing requires all new dwellings to comply with the nationally described space standards.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
orientation, meeting internal space standards?		The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design sets out that development proposals, where applicable, should through their design: • ensure that site layout, orientation, design, and where applicable, common spaces provide privacy, adequate daylight and active frontages with the public realm. Noise from any common areas to individual dwellings should be reduced; • provide adaptable and resilient buildings and places, that are easily maintainable and resistant to the effects of ageing, weather and climatic conditions; and • ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability).		
Does the plan include a range of housing types and sizes, including affordable housing responding to local housing needs?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan includes several policies that seek to provide a range of housing types and sizes, and address the borough's local housing needs: • Policy H1 Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer • Policy H3 Housing Mix • Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• Policy H5 Affordable Housing • Policy H6 Houses in Multiple Occupation • Policy H7 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. The approach set out within the Publication Plan has been informed evidence, including Oldham's Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA) 2024[13].		
Does the plan support and seeks to delivery homes that are highly energy efficient?	Yes	PfE Policy JP-S2 Carbon and Energy: Promotes the retrofitting of existing buildings with measures to improve energy efficiency. Recognising that whilst retrofitting the existing building stock presents a significant opportunity to help meet the 2038 carbon neutrality target, it can also contribute to the reduction of fuel poverty when targeted appropriately. It also sets out the expectations in relation to new development and is further supported by PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places which promotes development that is resource-efficient with a low carbon footprint; efficient use of land; minimised use of new materials; and high levels of recycling.	Positive	None

[13] The Oldham Local Housing Needs Assessment 2024 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/5590/housing_strategy_needs_assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Whilst the Publication Plan does not include specific design requirements for the delivery of highly energy efficient homes this is considered adequately and appropriately covered through PfE, which forms part of the borough's development plan alongside the Oldham Local Plan.		

7.2 PfE sets out that Oldham is required to deliver 11,560 homes over the period of 2022-2039, which equates to an average of 680 homes per year. Policies set out in the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan seek to ensure that in meeting this requirement the right homes are delivered to meet Oldham's housing needs.

7.3 Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs seeks to support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people, disabled people, looked after children and care leavers. The policy recognises and supports the need for more adapted, or adaptable, accommodation so that people can be supported at home for as long as possible (51% of over 65s would prefer to be at home with support).

7.4 There is expected to be an increase in the number of households experiencing a disability in Oldham over the plan period. The Oldham Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA)[14] identified that around 48,800 people reported as experiencing a disability in 2022 - this represented 20% of households in Oldham. This is expected to increase by 14.7% by 2041, which represents an additional 7,200 people experiencing an illness or disability. Oldham Council's Adult Social Care Market Position Statement (MPS)[15] also identified that in 2023 there were estimated to be 795 adults with a moderate or severe learning disability in Oldham – this is

[14] The Oldham Local Housing Needs Assessment 2024 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/5590/housing_strategy_needs_assessment
[15] The Oldham Adult Social Care Market Position Statement can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/100010/health_and_social_care/1356/adult_social_care_market_position_statement

expected to increase by over 6% to 846 adults in 2040. There is also expected to be an increase over the plan period in the number of people with autism spectrum disorders and people experiencing a mental health disorder.

7.5 There is a need for more wheelchair accessible homes and appropriate housing for those with other physical disabilities, dementia, a learning disability and mental health disorders. The LHNA has identified a need for 5% of new dwellings to be built to the M4(3) wheelchair accessible standard (an average target of around 34 per year over the plan period). Policy H4 therefore supports the implementation of PfE policy JP-H3 Type, Size and Design of New Housing, which requires all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations. Recognising that accessible and adaptable housing enables people to live more independently, whilst also saving on health and social costs in the future.

7.6 Design-related policies in both PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan seek to ensure that new homes meet the highest design standards, which are sustainable, energy efficient and contribute positively to creating healthy, inclusive and safe neighbourhoods for all (including disabled people and older people).

7.7 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to housing design and affordability. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

Social infrastructure and accessibility

Table 2: Social infrastructure and accessibility

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan keep or re-supply existing social infrastructure?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan supports the retention and development of social infrastructure through several policies: Policy C4 Local Services and Facilities recognises that locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities by providing convenient facilities near people's homes, reducing the need to travel and providing a valuable service for less mobile members of the community. As such, through Policy C4 the Council will facilitate the need for local shops and services, where appropriate and in line with other Local Plan policies, by protecting existing clusters of these premises and by permitting new local services and facilities within existing built-up areas. Policies CO1 and CO2 seek the protection of, and provision of new and improved, open space, sport and recreation facilities respectively. Policy CO3 Community Facilities supports the development of proposals for new and improved	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		community facilities and sets out the circumstances in which the loss of such uses will be permitted. Policy CO5 Securing Educational places through New Residential Development seeks to secure the provision of new and/or improved education facilities on developments of 10 dwellings or more where it would create or exacerbate a shortfall in the number of local school places. Policy CO6 New Development and Health sets out the circumstances in which new health facilities will be supported and that the loss of such uses will only be supported where it has been formally declared surplus to the operational healthcare requirements of the NHS or identified as surplus as part of a published estates strategy or service transformation plan. Policy IN2 Planning Obligations sets out that where developments would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required.		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan assess the impact on health and social care services and has local NHS (National Health Service) organisations been contacted about existing and planned healthcare capacity?	Yes	In line with PfE Policy JP-P6 Health, Publication Plan Policy CO6 New Development and Health sets out that a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) will be required for all developments screened for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and other proposals which, due to their location, nature or proximity to sensitive receptors, are likely to have a notable impact on health and wellbeing. The policy goes on to set out what factors the HIA should consider, including access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure. Policy CO6 recognises that the health estate must be supported to develop and modernise, or be protected in line with integrated NHS strategies, and planning has a key role in helping to deliver these ambitions, through helping to secure quality and accessible health provision that meets the needs of our local communities. An Infrastructure Delivery Plan has been prepared to support preparation of the Oldham Local Plan. This provides a comprehensive assessment of infrastructure across the borough and sets out what is likely to be required to support new	Positive	The local planning authority (LPA) will continue to work with the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and Integrated Care Board to ensure that the capacity of health facilities in Oldham increases in line with growing and changing needs.

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		development over the plan period. It has involved collaborative work between the Council and a range of key partners involved in delivering infrastructure to support planned growth in the Borough, including colleagues in the health sector.		
Does the plan include the provision or replacement of a healthcare facility and does the facility meet NHS requirements?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not allocate sites for the provision of healthcare facilities specifically. However, through Policy CO6 New Development and Health sets out that proposals for new health facilities will be supported where they are: 1) Located in areas of identified need, as evidenced by the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and relevant NHS strategies; 2) Co-located with other community services where appropriate, to support integrated care delivery. The policy also sets out that improvements in the quality and accessibility of health and social care facilities will be supported; and that the loss of a healthcare facility will only be supported where it has been formally declared surplus to the	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		operational healthcare requirements of the NHS or identified as surplus as part of a published estates strategy or service transformation plan.		
Does the plan assess the capacity, location and accessibility of other social infrastructure, e.g., primary, secondary and post 19 education needs and community facilities?	Yes	As outlined in detail above, the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan supports the retention and development of social infrastructure through several policies: • Policy C4 Local Services and Facilities • Policy CO1 Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision • Policy CO2 New and Improved, Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision • Policy CO3 Community Facilities • Policy CO5 Securing Educational places through New Residential Development • Policy CO6 New Development and Health • Policy IN2 Planning Obligations	Positive	None
Does the plan explore opportunities for shared community	Yes	The Council is committed to place-based integration where public services work collaboratively in place to provide timely and effective support to our residents and communities. Through Policy CO3 Community	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
use and co-location of services?		Facilities, and the Local Plan generally, the establishment of Family Hubs across Oldham as a network of integrated health and community resources will be supported. These hubs will enable and support people in the local community to live independently and to access support at the earliest opportunity as part of the Oldham prevention framework to improve health and well-being and reduce escalation of demand within the public sector. Policy CO4 Education and Skills states that where opportunities arise through new built development and change of use, the shared use of facilities by the local community will be encouraged through planning conditions or planning obligations as appropriate and where such usage can be accommodated without compromising the quality and accessibility for new and/or existing users.		

7.8 The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan includes several policies that seek to deliver social infrastructure and improve accessibility, including that required to support new development coming forward across the plan period.

7.9 An Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has also been prepared that provides a comprehensive assessment of infrastructure across the borough and sets out what is likely to be required. It has involved collaborative work between the Council and a range of key

partners involved in delivering infrastructure to support planned growth in the Borough. It forms the framework for ongoing engagement with infrastructure providers as work continues on preparation, and implementation, of the new Local Plan and as providers progress their own strategies and plans in response to growth in the Borough.

7.10 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to social infrastructure and accessibility. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified. However, the local planning authority (LPA) will continue to work with the GM Integrated Care Partnership – Oldham Locality and Integrated Care Board to ensure that the capacity of health facilities in Oldham increases in line with growing and changing needs.

Access to open space and nature

Table 3: Access to open space and nature assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan keep and enhance existing open and natural spaces?	Yes	Supported by those in PfE, the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan supports the retention and enhancement of open and natural spaces through several policies as outlined below. Policy OL4 Local Green Spaces (LGS), protects such spaces (18 in total) from in appropriate development to ensure the significance of the LGS is protected and can be enhanced. LGS's are spaces that are important to local communities due to their proximity to the community and because they are demonstrably special and hold local significance due to beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, or richness of its wildlife. Policy N1 Protecting Nature sets out the borough's hierarchy for designated sites and wider ecological networks, and how these will be safeguarded. Policy N2 Restoring Nature sets out how a net increase in biodiversity will be achieved across the borough, and how development is required to have regard to the Greater Manchester Local Nature	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Recovery Strategy[16] (GMLNRS) and should seek to support and deliver its priorities and actions for nature recovery. Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure (GI) through development sets out how new development is expected to make an appropriate contribution to addressing local needs and opportunities for GI provision by retaining, enhancing and creating green spaces and corridors. Particular policy requirements are set out for developments of 20 homes or more, or non-residential development of 1,000sqm or more, where appropriate. Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design sets out design principles development will be required to meet where appropriate. In the case of residential development this includes making appropriate provision for gardens and / or outdoor amenity space that reflects the type and size of each dwelling.		

[16] The Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy can be found online at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/our-plan-for-nature-recovery/what-is-a-local-nature-recovery-strategy/

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Policies CO1 and CO2 seek the protection of, and provision of new and improved, open space, sport and recreation facilities respectively. These policies have been informed by a range of evidence, including: • The Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy 2022[17] • The Oldham Open Space Study 2022[18] • Local Green Space Assessment[19] • Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS) 2025[20]		
In areas of deficiency, does the plan supply new open or natural space, or improve access to existing spaces?	Yes	Policy CO2 New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision sets out how the Council will support the enhancement of existing, and the creation of new, open space, sport and recreation provision in the borough.	Positive	None

[17] The Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy 2022 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2183/oldham_green_infrastructure_strategy
[18] The Oldham Open Space Study 2022 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/download/2184/open_space_study_documents_2022
[19] The Local Green Space Assessment can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7043/local_green_space_assessment
[20] The Oldham Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy 2025 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/3270/playing_pitch_and_outdoor_sports_strategy_2025

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Residential developments of 10 homes and above are required to provide sufficient public open space, sport or recreation to meet the needs of the development. Preference is not onsite in the first instance. Onsite provision or contributions to offsite new/ replacement provision and enhanced existing provision, should be determined by local open space needs and deficiencies and accessibility to existing provision, as set out in local evidence (that is the Open Space Study and PPOSS). Open Space Standards have been developed to ensure that open space provision is of a high quality and contributes towards meeting local needs. These are set out in Policy CO2. Site-by-site needs and opportunities for outdoor sports provision are identified within the PPOS, which should be used when considering the development of new or improved outdoor sports provision, to ensure provision contributes to meeting local needs.		
Does the plan supply a range of play spaces for children and young people?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not allocate play spaces for children and young people. However, Policy CO2 New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision sets out how the Council will support the enhancement of	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		existing, and the creation of new, provision, as part of new residential development coming forward. The open space standards set out in Policy CO2 include quality, quantity and accessibility standards for children and young people provision. In the case of residential development Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design also includes a requirement to make appropriate provision for gardens and / or outdoor amenity space that reflects the type and size of each dwelling.		
Does the plan provide links between open and natural spaces and the public realm?	Yes	Policy N2 Restoring Nature sets out how development is required to have regard to the GM LNRS. The Strategy sets out a shared vision for nature recovery in Greater Manchester; shared priorities, targets and actions for different habitats and species we can all work towards to help deliver them. It identified a GM Nature Network made up of core local nature sites and nature recovery opportunity areas. Linking to the GM LNRS, Policy N3 sets out that all development will be required to make a proportionate contribution to GI, having regard to	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		the scale and nature of the development proposed. Opportunities include: • Protecting and improving the Green Infrastructure network, including the ecological network, on and around the site through providing or enhancing functional links or corridors between different Green Infrastructure assets. • Providing new Green Infrastructure and/or introduce multifunctional use of existing green spaces in response to a site-specific assessment of need and Green Infrastructure opportunity. Additional requirements are set out for developments of 20 homes or more, or non-residential development of 1,000sqm or more, which includes enhancing the landscape setting of the site by improving the character, appearance and condition of access corridors into the site, gateways, settlement edges and landscape features. In addition to the above, Policy D3 Creating a Better Public Realm sets out what development proposals		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		that include public realm should have regard to, including supporting biodiversity, and integrate green infrastructure and surface water management in line with policy N3.		
Are the open and natural spaces welcoming and safe and accessible for all?	Yes	Where open space is provided onsite as part of a residential development of 10 homes and above, Policy CO2 New and Enhanced Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision requires it to: • be appropriately located within the development proposed and accessible to all users, including those with mobility impairments; • deliver multi-functional benefits, where appropriate; • be of a high-quality design, in line with policy D1; and • be well connected to the existing green infrastructure network having regard to the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.	Positive	None
Does the plan set out how new open space	Yes	Policy IN2 Planning Obligations supports those policies, such as CO2, where new infrastructure is	Positive	None plan related.

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
will be managed and maintained?		required to meet the needs of a particular development. It sets out that where developments would increase the need or demand for infrastructure, services and facilities, beyond the capacity of existing provision, new provision and/or contributions towards enhancing existing provision will be required. In doing so, planning obligations will also be sought to secure the ongoing maintenance and management of provision where necessary. As part of the Open Space Study (see above) that was prepared to inform the Local Plan review 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 spaces) having regard to the findings of the open space assessment (and application of identified standards).		The existing Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper[21] will be updated as appropriate upon adoption of the Oldham Local Plan.

[21] The Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper can be found online here https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/8233/open_space_interim_planning_position_paper

7.11 Sport England's Active Design guidance[22] shows how the design of our environments can help people to lead more physically active and healthy lives. The guidance is built upon a foundation of 'Activity for all' and is supported by ten principles under the three themes of support active travel; active, high-quality places and spaces; and creating and maintaining activity. These principles, shown in figure 3 below, are wide-ranging and illustrate the various ways through which the Local Plan can help to plan for, and influence, opportunities for improved health and wellbeing across the borough.

Figure 3: Sport England's Active Design Principles



7.12 Sport England's Active Design principles are referenced throughout the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan across various policy areas such as Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development; Policy D1 Achieving Quality Design; Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities; and Policy CO1 The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision.

[22] Sport England's Active Design guidance can be found online at https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design

7.13 Generally, the Publication Plan includes several policies that seek to provide and improve access to open space and the natural environment. Recognising the benefits and importance of access to Green Infrastructure (GI) for improving physical and mental health and wellbeing, not only providing opportunities for play and recreation but also active travel, social interaction and peace and enjoyment.

7.14 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to open space and nature. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified. The Council will update the existing Open Space Interim Planning Position Paper as appropriate upon adoption of the Oldham Local Plan, to ensure that it reflects the latest policy position.

Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity

Table 4: Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan minimise construction impacts such as dust, noise, vibration and odours?	Yes	PfE Policy JP-C8: Transport Requirements of New Development requires the production of Construction Management Plans for developments, where appropriate, to mitigate construction logistics and environmental impacts including air quality and noise on the surrounding area and encourage sustainable deliveries. Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan policy LE1 Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development expects all development to provide and maintain a high standard of protection from noise pollution and vibration for all users and occupiers (both future and existing occupants, as well as users of neighbouring land and buildings). Where applicable proposals will be required to demonstrate that matters relating to noise and vibration, and traffic movements, have been adequately addressed in relation to both the construction and operational life of the development.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		In relation to odour, Policy L3 Air Quality sets out that development will not be supported where it: • introduces a significant new source of any air pollutant, including odour, fumes, smoke, dust and other sources; and • increases exposure to poor air quality, particularly where vulnerable people are located (such as health care facilities, care homes or schools).		
Does the plan minimise air pollution caused by traffic and energy facilities?	Yes	PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan together have several policies that seek to reduce the need for, and impact of, road travel which will in turn help to minimise air pollution caused by traffic: PfE Policy JP-C1: An Integrated Network sets out a range of measures to help deliver an accessible, low carbon GM including: • Delivering a pattern of development that minimises both the need to travel and the distance travelled by unsustainable modes to jobs, housing and other key services, including healthcare, education, retail, recreation and leisure facilities, green space and green infrastructure; and	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• Locating and designing development, to deliver a significant increase in the proportion of trips that can be made by walking, cycling and public transport. PfE Policy JP-C5: Streets for All sets out the measures through which the PfE authorities will seek to ensure the design and management of streets follow a Streets for All approach, including mitigating the impacts of air and noise pollution and carbon emissions from road transport. PfE Policy JP-C6: Walking and Cycling seeks to deliver a higher proportion of journeys made by walking and cycling. PfE Policy JP-C8; Transport Requirements of New Development sets out measures through which we will ensure new development located and designed to enable and encourage walking, cycling and public transport use, to reduce the negative effects of car dependency, and help deliver high quality, attractive, liveable and sustainable environments.		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan transport related policies include: Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities which supports delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy[23]. The Strategy, amongst several ither ambitions, seeks to improve our environment and air quality, recognising the importance of protecting the health of the borough's residents. Policy T5 Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessment and Travel Plans in New Development sets out that development proposals likely to generate significant travel demands should be designed in way that maximises the opportunity for walking, wheeling and cycling, and public transport trips, and requires the aforementioned statements / assessments when a development would generate significant amounts of movement. Policy LE3 Air Quality sets out that the Council will seek to improve air quality within the borough and contribute towards the achievement of national air quality objectives and Greater Manchester's Clean		

[23] The Oldham Transport Strategy can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201058/transport_parking_and_travel/3030/transport_strategy

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Air Plan. Development proposals will be supported that do not: 1) Impede the achievement of any air quality objective(s), particularly in locations declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs); 2) Introduce a significant new source of any air pollutant, including odour, fumes, smoke, dust and other sources; and 3) Increase exposure to poor air quality, particularly where vulnerable people are located (such as health care facilities, care homes or schools). The policy requires the completion of air quality assessment for residential development of over 100 dwellings or 10,000sqm floorspace.		
Does the plan minimise noise pollution caused by traffic and commercial uses?	Yes	As detailed above PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan together have several policies that seek to minimise noise pollutions caused by traffic and which apply to commercial uses. These include: • PfE Policy JP-C1: An Integrated Network • PfE Policy JP-C8; Transport Requirements of New Development	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities • Policy T5 Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessment • Policy LE1 Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development		

7.15 The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan includes several policies that relate to air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity. Policies LE1 and LE3 Air Quality seek to ensure a high standard of amenity in new development and to improve air quality and mitigate the impacts of air pollution. There are also several policies including green and blue infrastructure policies will play a role in reducing and mitigate against the exposure to poor air quality and other pollutants (including land contamination, noise and light), and those relating to design which outline steps to be taken to improve air quality by developers by way of design and layout. The potential health impacts of the Plan are considered positive in this regard.

7.16 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified. Where necessary, applicants will be expected to carry out additional assessments in relation to noise, air quality, odour and transport depending on the nature of the development proposed. This will enable consideration of the potential impacts of relevant development on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation measures to be identified / required.

Accessibility and active travel

Table 5: Accessibility and active travel assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the proposal address the ten Healthy Streets indicators?		Whilst the ten Healthy Streets indicators (of Everyone feels welcome; Easy to cross; Shade and shelter; Places to stop and rest; Not too noisy; People choose to walk and cycle; People feel safe; Things to see and do; People feel relaxed; and Clean air) are not explicitly referenced it is considered that these principles are met through the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan and PfE. Specifically, there are the following policies: • PfE Policy JP-S1: Sustainable Places • PfE Policy JP-C5: Streets for All • Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design • Policy D3 Creating a Better Public Realm in Oldham	Positive	None
Does the plan prioritise and encourage walking, for example using shared spaces?		PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan together have several policies that seek to prioritise and encourage walking. PfE Policy JP-C5: Streets for All embeds TfGM's Streets for All approach into planning policy. This approach is a new way of managing streets to help achieve the ambition for 50% of all journeys in	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Greater Manchester to be made by walking, cycling and public transport by 2040. Central to this is enabling people to switch more of the short journeys – that are currently made by car – to walking or cycling. PfE Policy JP-C6: Walking and Cycling then sets out a range of measures that will be supported to deliver a higher proportion of journeys made by walking and cycling. In addition to the policies in PfE, the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan includes the following: Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development requires where appropriate developments of 20 homes or more, or non-residential development of 1,000sqm or more, to enhance pedestrian and cycle connectivity between residential areas, town centres, schools and workplaces, outdoor sports, tourism and recreational facilities, public transport services and the countryside around the site. Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design which through their design requires development proposals to:		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes and promote wayfinding for all travel modes; and • be based on a clear street hierarchy, with clearly defined public and private environments. Policy D3 Creating a Beter Public Realm in Oldham states that developments including the creation of new public realm should: • ensure it is inclusive and fully accessible to all users, including people with disabilities, older people, and families with children; and • prioritise active travel through providing safe, legible and well-connected routes whilst discouraging travel by car and excessive on-street car parking. Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities supports delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy by ensuring new development:		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• Prioritises and promotes active travel to key points of interest by integrating Active Design principles into their design. • Maintains and improves the Public Rights of Way network, including by increasing the networks accessibility.		
Does the plan prioritise and encourage cycling, for example by providing secure cycle parking, showers and cycle lanes?		As outlined in detail above PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan together have several policies that seek to prioritise and encourage cycling: • PfE Policy JP-C5: Streets for All • Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development • Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design • Policy D3 Creating a Beter Public Realm in Oldham • Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities In addition to the above, the Publication Plan includes the following policies: Policy T2 Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities, which support schemes where the listed criteria	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		are met including the provision for secure non-motorised vehicles such as bicycles and scooters. Policy T3 Parking Provision, which sets out parking standards for cycle and motorcycle parking as well as general car parking. This policy also sets out that in relation to non-residential developments there is a need to increase the attractiveness of commuting to work by walking, wheeling and cycling. Appropriate facilities should therefore be provided for staff, including the provision for lockers and changing and showering facilities.		
Does the plan connect public realm and internal routes to local and strategic cycle and walking networks?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan has several policies that seek to connect public realm and internal routes to local and strategic cycle and walking networks. Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development requires developments of 20 homes or mor, or non-residential development of 1,000sqm or more, to enhance pedestrian and cycle connectivity between residential areas, town centres, schools and workplaces, outdoor sports, tourism and recreational facilities, public transport services and the countryside around the site.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design requires development proposals, where appropriate, to • encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes and promote wayfinding for all travel modes; • be based on a clear street hierarchy, with clearly defined public and private environments; and • promote health and wellbeing through active design. Policy D3 Creating a Better Public Realm in Oldham requires development including the creation of public realm to prioritise active travel through providing safe, legible and well-connected routes whilst discouraging travel by car and excessive on-street car parking.		
Does the plan include traffic management and calming measures to help reduce and	Yes	PfE Policy JP-C8: Transport Requirements of New Development requires new development to be located and designed to enable and encourage walking, cycling and public transport use, to reduce the negative effects of car dependency, and help deliver high quality, attractive, liveable and	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
minimise road injuries?		sustainable environments. The policy sets out various measures through which this will be achieved, including: • Ensuring that the layout, design and landscaping of development prioritises the provision of safe, secure and attractive access to local services and facilities for pedestrians, cyclists and people with a disability; and • Incorporating highway design at a human scale using street-based prescriptions such as those within Manual for Streets and/or any locally adopted design guidance, to ensure that highways do not dominate the development. The policy also requires planning applications to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment / Transport Statement and Travel Plan where appropriate, to assess impacts and determine the most appropriate mitigation on the SRN and local transport network. This may include traffic management and calming measures depending on the needs of the development proposed.		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Further detail on what would be required as part of vision-led transport statements, transport assessments and travel plans in new development is then set out in the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan policy T5.		
Is, the plan well connected to public transport, local services and facilities?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan supports delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy which sets the strategic direction for travel and mobility within Oldham, identifying transport requirements that align with our future growth needs and in response to changing travel technologies. This reflects the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040[24] which sets out the long-term vision for transport across Greater Manchester and the key priorities for achieving this, including reference to: • the "Right-Mix" ambition for at least 50% of all journeys to be made by active travel and public transport by 2040; and • details of the Greater Manchester Mayor's 'Our Network' plan to create an integrated, modern and accessible transport network. Through policies such as T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities and T2 Travels Hubs and Park	Positive	None

[24] The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 can be found online at https://tfgm.com/strategy

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		and Ride Facilities, the Local Plan will help deliver an integrated transport system that enables and encourages sustainable and active travel choices, provides good accessibility for the borough's population to jobs and services, and supports a healthy environment. Policies in both PfE and the Publication Plan also seek to ensure that new development is focus in sustainable and accessible locations, with good connectivity and access to key services, supporting infrastructure. Such as Policy H1 Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer, which sets out that the Council will support residential development proposals that are in sustainable and accessible locations and that promote and encourage use of public transport, walking, wheeling and cycling. All residential development should be accessible by active travel and achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level[25] (GMAL) 4 or above.		

[25] Information on the Greater Manchester Accessibility Level can be found online at https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/d9dfbf0a-3cd7-4b12-a39f-0ec717423ee4/gm-accessibility-levels

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan look to reduce, car use by reducing carparking provision, supported by the controlled parking zones, car clubs and travel plans measures?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan contains the following policies: Policy T3 Parking Provision sets out the Plan's approach to parking, setting out how consideration will be given to what is an appropriate level of parking for a proposed development. Policy T5 sets outs the requirements for Travel Plans, along with vision-led transport statements and assessments. Reference within this policy is made to Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements[26] and 'the Circular', which include further details and advice on Travel Plans.	Positive	None
Does the plan allow people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?	Yes	PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places sets out the design attributes that new development should be consistent with. This includes that they are: • Easy to move around for those of all mobility levels, particularly by walking and cycling, with enjoyable routes free from obstacles and disorienting stimuli, • and with places to rest;	Positive	None

[26] Guidance on Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements can be found online at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-plans-transport-assessments-and-statements

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• Socially inclusive – responding to the needs of all parts of society and enabling everyone to participate equally and independently. Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design adds further detail by setting out other design factors that should also be considered as part of new development, such as ensuring buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability).		

7.17 The Local Plan recognises that Oldham's transport network plays a vital role in connecting communities and enabling people to access homes, jobs, education, services and leisure activities and accommodating these travel needs creates several challenges for the transport network. Traffic volumes in Oldham have continued to increase over the last decade; this contributes towards road congestion, and cars dominating in many of Oldham's streets. Major roads that carry heavy and fast flows of traffic create a noisy and unpleasant environment. They can also act as barriers that physically separate communities and can be intimidating and potentially dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. Not forgetting that transport is also a major producer of the vehicular emissions that contribute towards climate change and poor air pollution.

7.18 Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM)[27] Streets for All places a strong emphasis on reducing traffic and road danger, as well as improving the street environment for those travelling on, spending time in, or living on them.

7.19 The approach looks to make our neighbourhoods a healthier, more sustainable, safer and more connected. The easiest way for most of us to stay active is by walking or cycling as part of our daily travel, as such there is a clear link between this and improving

[27] Information on TfGM's Streets for All can be found online at https://tfgm.com/strategy/streets-for-all

the borough's health and wellbeing. Several policies in the Local Plan reference the Streets for All approach, including Policy D1 Achieving Quality Design and Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities.

7.20 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to accessibility and active travel.

7.21 The transport policies aim to enable residents to make more active travel choices as part of their daily lives and seeks to improve their health and wellbeing. The policies promote and seeks to enable a shift to sustainable travel modes and lower emissions vehicles, by creating safer transport networks accessible for all, including walking and cycling. In addition, the transport policies seek to ensures that, new development is adequately managed and integrated with the transport network, including public transport, pedestrian and cycle networks in a sustainable manner which does not contribute further to air quality deterioration, increased noise and congestion.

7.22 No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified. Where appropriate, the Local Plan requires planning applications to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment / Transport Statement and Travel Plan, to assess impacts and determine the most appropriate mitigation on the SRN and local transport network. This will enable consideration of the potential impacts of relevant development on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation measures to be identified / required.

Crime reduction and community safety

Table 6: Crime reduction and community safety assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan incorporate elements to help Design Out Crime?	Yes	PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places sets out the design attributes that new development should be consistent with. This includes that they are safe. Designing out crime and terrorism, reducing opportunities for anti-social behaviour and by ensuring that developments make appropriate provision for response and evacuation in the case of an emergency or disaster. Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design lists design factors that should be considered as part of new development, such as ensuring that the design and layout minimises actual and perceived opportunities for crime, anti-social behaviour, disorder and terrorism.	Positive	None
Does, the plan incorporate design techniques to help people feel secure and avoid creating 'gated communities'?	N/A	Design techniques to help people feel secure and avoid creating 'gated communities' is considered a detailed matter and not appropriate for the Oldham Local Plan. Nevertheless, as outlined in detail above, PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan include design-related policies that look to design out crime in new development. These are:	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places • Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design		
Does the plan include attractive, multi-use public spaces and buildings?	N/A	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not allocate land multi-use public spaces and buildings. Nevertheless, there are several policies in the Plan that support such development coming forward. Policy OTC1 - Oldham Town Centre sets out how through the Local Plan we will support the Council's ambitions for the enhancement, redevelopment and regeneration of Oldham Town Centre. Specific reference is made to supporting delivery of Tommyfield Park and encouragement of mixed-use development. For example, key principles that are expected to form part of any development proposals in Oldham Town Centre include the incorporation of well-designed and integrated ground floor uses and environments to create an active street scene and enhance the residential offer. To create mixed-use neighbourhoods where residents can readily access amenities and day to day needs are met.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		In addition to the above there are the following policies in the Publication Plan: Policy N3 identifies opportunities for enhancing Green Infrastructure through development, including providing new GI and/or introduce multifunctional use of existing green spaces. Policy CO4 Education and Skills, sets out that where opportunities arise through new built development and change of use, the shared use of facilities by the local community will be encouraged through planning conditions or planning obligations as appropriate and where such usage can be accommodated without compromising the quality and accessibility for new and/or existing users.		
Has engagement and consultation been carried out with the local community and voluntary sector?	Yes	Consultation on the Local Plan has been carried out at various stages[28]: • Regulation 18 Notification took place between July and August 2017 • Issues and Options consultation took place between July and August 2021 • Draft Local Plan consultation took place between January and February 2024	Positive	None

[28] Details of previous consultations can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201233/local_plan_review

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Consultation for the Local Plan review has been carried out in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement[29].		

7.23 Together with PfE, the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan includes several policies that relate to crime reduction and community safety, primarily revolving around design. The Local Plan recognises how our streets, town centres, public spaces and neighbourhoods look, feel and function is important for our sense of wellbeing and safety. Developments in the borough will need to meet the highest standards of design, contribute to creating safe and accessible environment for all including women, children, disabled people and older people. The design policies seek to create well-designed places and buildings, improve accessibility of our environments and spaces, and create a strong sense of community.

7.24 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to crime reduction and community safety.

7.25 The absence of a safe and secure place in which to live can have an extremely negative impact on physical and emotional health and wellbeing. The policies set out within the Publication Plan have informed and been influenced by several design best practices for example TfGM's Streets for All, National Design Guide, Secured by Design principles, Sport's England Active Design principles and 20 Minute neighbourhood approaches.

7.26 No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

[29] The Council's Statement of Community Involvement 2021 can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201232/engagement/253/statement_of_community_involvement

Access to healthy food

Table 7: Access to healthy food assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan ease the supply of local food, for example allotments, community farms and farmers' markets?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan seeks to support the provision of allotments and community gardens through various policies. Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development states that developments of 20 homes or more, or non-residential development 1,000sqm or more, will be required (where appropriate) to facilitate for the production of food (e.g. allotments and community gardens) within residential or mixed-use developments. Policies CO1 and CO2 seek the protection of, and new and improved, open space, sport and recreation provision respectively. Policy CO2 includes open space standards, including allotments and community gardens for which an expected quality standard is set. Due to the characteristics of the type of provision, accessibility and quantity standards have not been set for allotments and community gardens. Nevertheless, the Council will ensure that this type of provision is protected and enhanced where appropriate.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Are there a range of retail uses, including food stores and smaller affordable shops for social enterprises?	Yes	Oldham's centres play a vital role in meeting the needs of people of all ages, through the provision of a range of shops, services, community, leisure, cultural and employment opportunities. The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan has several policies that relate to our centres and Oldham Town Centre. Policy C1 Our Centres sets out the borough's retail hierarchy. There is an emphasis on each centre providing a strong convenience retail function so they can continue to minimise the need for our residents to travel further. Policy C4 Local Services and Facilities recognises that locally available services contribute towards vibrant communities by providing convenient facilities near people's homes, reducing the need to travel and providing a valuable service for less mobile members of the community. Through policy CO4 the Council will facilitate the need for local shops and services, where appropriate and in line with other Local Plan policies, by protecting existing clusters of these premises and by permitting new local services and facilities within existing built-up areas.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan avoid contributing towards an over-concentration of hot food takeaways in the local area?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan includes policy CO7 on Hot Food Takeaways and Fast-Food Outlets. Policy CO7 sets out that: Within Oldham Town Centre planning permission for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets may be permitted provided it is demonstrated it would not result in an unacceptable concentration of uses. Outside of Oldham Town Centre planning permission for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets will not be granted where: 1) They are within 400m of a primary or secondary school; or 2) They are within 400m of places where children and young people congregate. In addition, the policy sets out the factors that will be considered when assessing proposals for hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets, and requires them to be	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		supported by a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) that is proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed.		

7.27 Several policies in the Local Plan including the health and wellbeing, town centres and green infrastructure policies, recognise the importance of access to local food, shops and healthy food options, and providing opportunities to grow your own food. Local food growing can help to create healthier food environments, improve food security, promote healthy and active lifestyles, help to improve social, and community cohesion. Allotments not only offer biodiversity and nature conservation value but also bring recreational, health and social benefits, by allowing residents to grow fresh produce. Our approach to restricting the use of hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets outside of Oldham Town Centre will also play an importance role in how planning can help influence the health and wellbeing of our population.

7.28 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to access to healthy food. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

Access to work and training

Table 8: Access to work and training assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan provide access to local employment and training opportunities, including temporary construction and permanent 'end-use' jobs?	Yes	Policies contained within the Economy and Employment chapter of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan set out how we will deliver the borough's employment floorspace requirements set out in PfE, and protect / support development within our Business Employment Areas. Policy IN3 Delivering Social Value and Inclusion sets out that all development shall be located, designed, constructed and operated in such a way as to maximise its social value. All planning applications for major developments shall be supported by a Social Value Strategy which depending on the nature of the proposed development should consider the promotion of economic inclusion, through (but not exclusively) the following: a) Ensuring that access arrangements cater for all needs, including maximising opportunities for walking, wheeling and cycling; b) Promoting on-site employment opportunities to Oldham residents;	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		c) Providing training opportunities for Oldham residents; d) Utilising local supply chains; and e) Signing up to Greater Manchester's Good Employment Charter.		
Does the plan provide childcare facilities?	Yes	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not specifically allocate childcare facilities. However, there are policies within the Plan that support to provision of childcare facilities. Policy CO3 Community Facilities includes children's nurseries and creches and childcare centres within its definition and supports development proposals for new and improved facilities where certain criteria are met. It also sets out the circumstances in which the loss of such facilities would be supported. Policy CO7 Education and Skills does however seek to support development proposals for early years, as well as schools and post-16 facilities. Nevertheless, there are several policies in the Plan that support such development coming forward.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan include managed and affordable workspace for local businesses?	Yes - in part	The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan does not specifically allocate provision for managed workspace. However, policies contained within the Economy and Employment chapter of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan set out how we will deliver the borough's employment floorspace requirements set out in PfE and protect / support development within our Business Employment Areas to ensure there is a range of sustainable employment areas to support the local economy. Policy OTC1 Oldham Town Centre also cites opportunities for the re-use of existing buildings to provide for innovative and flexible office space. Policy E1 – Business and Employment Areas Policy E2 - Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas and other existing employment sites Policy E3 – Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings Policy OTC1 – Oldham Town Centre	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan include opportunities for work for local people via local procurement arrangements?	Yes	As detailed above Policy IN3 Delivering Social Value and Inclusion sets out that all development shall be located, designed, constructed and operated in such a way as to maximise its social value.	Positive	None

7.29 Several policies in the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan support access to work and training. Policies within the Economy and Employment chapter look to optimise employment opportunities for residents by supporting new development of business premise and protection of employment land. The policies also direct new employment opportunities to the most 'appropriate and sustainable locations'. As well as, seeking to maximise employment, business and other economic development opportunities the policies seek to support the transition to a low carbon economy and a green economy. In addition, Policy IN3 Delivering Social Value ensures that residents and local businesses are, supported within the borough through local employment, business retention and inward investment opportunities, which will lead to greater local economic growth. Moreover, the Local Plan recognises the opportunities offered by new development, in both the construction and operational phases, to improve residents' access to skills, training and employment. Importantly, securing job placements within the end use of a development, rather than solely in the construction phase will be important to ensure residents fully benefit in the long term from the diverse opportunities economic growth brings.

7.30 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to access to work and training. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

Social cohesion and inclusive design

Table 9: Social cohesion and inclusive design assessment

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan consider health inequalities by addressing local needs?	Yes	Through the policies contained within the Plan the Council will encourage and facilitate development in the borough that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities. Publication Plan Policy CO6 New Development and Health sets out the circumstances in which proposals for new health facilities will be supported. It also provides further guidance to PfE Policy JP-P6: Health by setting out what would be required as part of a Health Impact Assessment. Further detail on this is provided in Section 8. Other relevant policies include: • Policy H1 Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer • Policy H3 Housing Mix • Policy H4 Providing for Local Housing Needs • Policy H5 Affordable Housing	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		• Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development • Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design • Policy T1 Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities • Policy CO1 The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision • Policy CO2 New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision • Policy CO3 Community Facilities • Policy IN2 Planning Obligations		
Does the plan connect with existing communities, i.e., layout and movement which avoids physical barriers and severance, and land uses and spaces which encourage social interaction?	Yes	There are several policies in PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan that seek to improve connectivity between new development and existing communities and encourage social interaction. With regards to PfE, Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places sets out a range of attributes that all development, wherever appropriate, should be consistent with. This includes being social inclusive through: a) Responding to the needs of all parts of society;	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		b) Enabling everyone to participate equally and independently; c) Providing opportunities for social contact and support; and d) Promoting a sense of community. With regards to the Publication Plan, Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design states that where applicable development proposals, should through their design: • encourage and facilitate active travel with convenient, safe and inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes and promote wayfinding for all travel modes; • be based on a clear street hierarchy, with clearly defined public and private environments; and • ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability).		
Does the plan include a mix of uses and a range	Yes	Alongside PfE, the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan covers a plan period up to 2039 and seeks to meet our development and growth needs over this time, not sure just for housing and	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
of community facilities?		employment but also supporting infrastructure. Policies within both plans therefore seek to deliver a mix of uses. In relation to community facilities, Publication Plan policy CO3 Community Facilities sets out that the Council will support development proposals for new and improved community facilities where appropriate. It also lists the factors that will be assessing when considering the loss of a community facilities, which are: • It is proved the existing use has insufficient demand to support it or is no longer needed; or • The loss is part of a wider proposal to improve service provision in the locality; or • It is demonstrated that existing facilities nearby can adequately serve identified needs, in an equally accessible manner. Policy CO3 reflects the priority the Council places on our community facilities and recognises that they provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational and leisure and cultural needs of the community.		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Community facilities are defined within Policy CO3 as including: • Public halls, (including community and youth centres) • Post Offices • Non-residential education and training facilities • Children's nurseries and creches, childcare centres • Doctors surgeries, dentists, health centres and clinics, chemists and hospitals • Residential care homes and nursing homes • Village shops and village pubs • Places of worship and church halls • Museums, libraries, art galleries and performance spaces		
Does the plan provide opportunities for the voluntary and community sectors?	Yes	As detailed above, Policy CO3 reflects the priority the Council places on our community facilities and recognises that they provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational and leisure and cultural needs of the community. When considering the loss of sites and premises for community facilities Policy CO3 also	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		states that the views of the local community, including existing users, and relevant parish Councils will be important to establish the significance of, and demand for, individual facilities and to develop solutions to enable their retention.		
Does the plan consider issues and principles of inclusive and age-friendly design?	Yes	PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan have several policies that consider inclusive and age friendly design. PfE Policy JP-P1 – Sustainable Places sets out a range of attributes that all development, wherever appropriate, should be consistent with. This includes being: • Socially inclusive through a) Responding to the needs of all parts of society; b) Enabling everyone to participate equally and independently; c) Providing opportunities for social contact and support; and d) Promoting a sense of community; and being • Adaptable and able to respond easily to varied and changing needs and technologies.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		With regards to the Oldham Local Plan it seeks to support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people, disabled people, looked after children and care leavers. In particular, Policy H4 Providing Local Housing Needs sets out that the council will seek a range of housing options for older people and disabled people. It also states that such housing should be guided by the following principles: a) Promote ease of movement on foot and with mobility aids; b) Be sustainably located, with access to public transport, local services and facilities (including a hospital or GP practice), accessible to the development via active travel means; c) Feature parking spaces and setting down points in proximity to entrances; and d) Have accessible and appropriately designed built environments, including seating areas, step free spaces and gentle approaches suitable for wheelchair users and people with visual or mobility impairments.		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Policy D1 – Achieving High Quality Design requires development proposals, where appropriate, to ensure buildings and spaces are designed in a way to be inclusive to different users (e.g. age, gender, mental and physical ability).		

7.31 The vision set out in the Oldham Plan 2024-2039, prepared by the Oldham Partnership's, is for 'a place where everyone can thrive, with great education, good jobs, safe homes and access to necessary services. We aim to build a greener, healthier borough focused on sustainability and well-being for all'. This vision is translated into the three missions which include 'Healthier, Happier Lives' – through ensuring that everyone has access to the care, support, and opportunities they need to live a good life. With a commitment to tackling poverty, improving health and well-being, providing high-quality social care, and promoting lifelong education. 3.5. The Local Plan represents the spatial expression of The Oldham Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan and is a key tool through which the Council can help to support the Partnership's missions and achieve its ambition. Delivery of these missions are the golden thread that runs through the Oldham Local Plan.

7.32 As shown above several policies in PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan support social cohesion and inclusive design, including:

- PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places
- Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design
- Policy CO3 Community Facilities
- Policy H4 Providing Local Housing Needs

7.33 Alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to social cohesion and inclusive design. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

Minimising the use of resources

Table 10: Minimising the use of resources

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan make best use of existing land?	Yes	PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan aim to make the best use of existing land. PfE policy JP-S1 Sustainable Development requires authorities, in preparing plans, to make much use as possible of suitable previously-developed (brownfield) land and vacant buildings to meet development needs. In terms of the Publication Plan: The redevelopment of brownfield land is central to achieving sustainable development and maximising our housing land supply. As such, Policy H1 Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer sets out that proposals for the development of previously developed land will be considered favourably. Our housing requirement set out in PfE, and reiterated in Policy H1, will be met through the delivery of our housing land supply. The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment[30] (SHLAA)	Positive	None

[30] The latest Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/2134/strategic_housing_land_availability_assessment_shlaa

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		and Brownfield Register[31] provide details of sites considered suitable, available and achievable for residential development, and should be used as a starting point to identify potential development sites. The majority of sites identified in the SHLAA are on brownfield land. Policy H3 also sets out our approach to housing density, to ensure that we are making the most efficient use of land when it is developed. This reflects PfE Policy JP-H4. Higher densities are sought in locations within and close to Oldham Town Centre, the borough's other centres and public transport stops / hubs, reflecting their sustainable and access location.		
Does the plan encourage recycling, including building materials?		PfE Policy JP-S6 Resource Efficiency sets out the measures that will help to achieve GM's ambition of becoming a leading green city region by 2038. These are: 1) Development and implementation of the Zero Waste Strategy for Greater Manchester which promotes overall reduction in the level of waste produced and supports	Positive	None

[31] The latest Brownfield Land Register can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/3318/oldham_council_brownfield_land_register_methodology_2025

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		resource efficiency within the Plan area in order to gain the maximum value from the things we produce; 2) Recognition of the role of existing infrastructure in managing our waste and protecting such facilities to ensure adequate waste management capacity is 3) maintained; and 4) Using sustainable design and construction techniques to reduce carbon emissions, adapt and future proof to the impact of climate change, reduce and recycle waste and minimise water use.		
Does the plan incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques?	Yes	Whilst the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan included design-related policies it is considered that in relation to sustainable design and construction this is adequately and appropriately covered through PfE. As set out in the introductory section to this HIA, the PfE forms part of Oldham's Local Plan. As such it is not necessary to repeat these policies where further local detail is not needed. PfE Policy JP-S2 Carbon and Energy sets out a range of measures through which GM's carbon neutral	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		ambitions will be supported. This includes measures such as: • Promoting the retrofitting of existing buildings with measures to improve energy efficiency and generate renewable and low carbon energy, heating and cooling. • An expectation that new development will be bet zero carbon from adoption (for regulated operational carbon emissions) and from 2028 (for all emissions 'in construction'). Development proposals will be expected to set out how this has been achieved in an energy statement in accordance with the following energy hierarchy: 1) Minimise energy demand; 2) Maximise energy efficiency; 3) Use renewable energy; 4) Use low carbon energy; and 5) Utilise other energy sources. Further Net Zero Design Guidance[32] has prepared and published to support implementation of JP-S2.		

[32] The Net Zero Design Guidance supporting Places for Everyone can be found online at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/net-zero-design-guidance/

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		As outlined above PfE Policy JP-S6 Resource Efficiency encourages the use of sustainable design and construction techniques to reduce carbon emissions, adapt and future proof to the impact of climate change, reduce and recycle waste and minimise water use. PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places also sets out that development, wherever appropriate, should be resource efficient with: a) A low carbon footprint; b) Efficient use of land; c) Minimised use of new materials; d) High levels of recycling		

7.34 Whilst the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan included design-related policies it is considered that in relation to sustainable design and construction this is adequately and appropriately covered through PfE. As set out in the introductory section to this HIA, the PfE forms part of Oldham's Local Plan. As such it is not necessary to repeat these policies where further local detail is not needed.

7.35 In light of the above alongside PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to minimising the use of resources. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

Climate change

Table 11: Climate change

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan incorporate renewable energy?	Yes	As detailed above, PfE Policy JP-S2 Carbon and Energy sets out a range of measures through which GM's carbon neutral ambitions will be supported. These include: • Taking a positive approach to renewable and low carbon energy schemes, particularly schemes that are led by, or meet the needs of local communities. • Where practicable, prioritising connection to a renewable energy/heating/cooling network in the first instance or a low carbon energy/heating/cooling network that is adaptable to non-fossil fuels at a later date. • In residential developments, achieving energy demand reductions in terms of space heat demand; hot water energy demand and the delivery of on-site renewable energy generation as outlined in the policy. Energy Statements are required how to demonstrate how relevant policy targets are being met.	Positive	None

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		PfE also includes Policy JP-S3 Heat and Energy Networks which states that the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy schemes will be supported with particular emphasis on the use of decentralised energy networks in areas identified as "Heat and Energy Network Opportunity Areas". Both PfE policies JP-S2 and JP-S3 are then supported by further Net Zero Design Guidance (see above). To further support PfE, the Publication Plan includes Policy CC1 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy which sets out the criteria by which such development proposals will be considered, having regard to the Oldham Local Area Energy Plan[33].		
Does the plan ensure that buildings and public spaces are designed to respond to winter and summer temperatures, for		Both PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan have design-related policies that seek to ensure buildings and public spaces are able to respond to seasonal climatic changes. PfE Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places lists key attributes that all development, wherever	Positive	None

[33] The Oldham Local Area Energy Plan can be found online at https://gmgreencity.com/resource_library/oldham-local-area-energy-plan/

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
example ventilation, shading and landscaping?		appropriate, should be consistent with. This includes comfortable and inviting, with indoor and outdoor environments: a) Offering a high level of amenity that minimises exposure to pollution; and b) Addressing microclimate issues such as sunlight, indoor air quality, overheating, shade, wind and shelter The Publication Plan Policy D1 Achieving High Quality Design requires development proposals, through their design, to: • ensure that site layout, orientation, design, and where applicable, common spaces provide privacy, adequate daylight and active frontages with the public realm. Noise from any common areas to individual dwellings should be reduced; and • provide adaptable and resilient buildings and places, that are easily maintainable and resistant to the effects of ageing, weather and climatic conditions.		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
Does the plan maintain or enhance biodiversity?		Both PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan have natural environment-related policies that seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity. PfE Policy JP-G8 A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity seeks to achieve a net enhancement of biodiversity. As part of this, development will be expected to: • Follow the identified mitigation hierarchy; and • Achieve a measurable net gain in biodiversity of no less than 10%. At a local level this is then supported by Publication Policy N2 Restoring Nature which again seeks a net increase in biodiversity having regard to the GM Local Nature Recovery Strategy[34] and the opportunity areas identified therein.	Positive	None
Does the plan incorporate sustainable urban drainage techniques?	Yes	Both PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan have policies that seek to incorporate sustainable urban drainage.	Positive	None

[34] The GM Local Nature Recovery Strategy can be found online at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/our-plan-for-nature-recovery/

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		PfE Policy JP-S4 Flood Risk and the Water Environment expects development to manage surface water run-off through the incorporation of sustainable drainage systems and as close to source as possible. At a local level this is then supported by Publication Plan Policy CC3 Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water. This policy sets out a hierarchy for the discharge of surface water, which moving from steps 1 to 5 is as follows: 1) Collected for non-portable use 2) An adequate soakaway or some other form of infiltration system. 3) An attenuated discharge to a surface water body. 4) An attenuated discharge to public surface water sewer, highway sewer or another drainage system. 5) An attenuated discharge to public combined sewer. Both PfE and the Oldham Local Plan are supported by Greater Manchester's Sustainable Drainage		

Assessment criteria	Relevant?	Policy that meets this requirement	Potential health impacts?	Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions
		Design Guide[35] which provides more advice on the techniques and measures that may be adopted.		

7.36 Mitigating climate change is one of the five challenges outlined in the Greater Manchester Five-Year Environment Plan[36]. It sets out an aim for our city region to be carbon neutral by 2038 and meet carbon budgets that comply with international commitments.

7.37 Oldham Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2020 and is committed to working towards becoming a carbon neutral borough by 2050 and a carbon neutral Council by 2030, in line with the national and regional targets. As part of the council's response the Oldham Green New Deal Strategy[37] was adopted by the council in March 2020. The Strategy's objective is to 'Future-proof the regeneration of the borough by establishing Oldham as an exemplar Green City on energy, carbon, water and green infrastructure'. It sets two challenging targets for carbon neutrality – 2025 for the council (council buildings and street lighting), and 2030 for the borough (through renewable energy generation, off set measures such as tree planting, developing a Local Energy Market, low carbon heat networks) and puts in place a framework to work with our residents and partners to make Oldham an even greener, smarter, more enterprising place.

7.38 Both PfE and the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan set out policies to tackle climate change. With policies relating to renewable energy; design, layout and orientation; biodiversity; and Sustainable drainage.

[35] The Greater Manchester Sustainable Drainage Design Guide can be found online at https://gmgreencity.com/resource_library/greater-manchesters-sustainable-drainage-design-guide/
[36] This document can be found at: https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/five-year-environment-plan/
[37] The Oldham Green New Deal Strategy can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201249/green_new_deal/3002/oldham_green_new_deal_strategy

7.39 In light of the above, alongside PfE the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive with regards to climate change. No Plan mitigation or enhancement actions are identified.

8. Conclusion

8.1 It is clear from the above assessment that the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan supports the health and wellbeing priorities of the council and will play an important role in improving health and wellbeing of Oldham. The Local Plan recognises the importance of working with communities, stakeholders and businesses to make Oldham a healthier, safer and greener place.

8.2 Going forward, Health Impact Assessments will be an important tool for assessing the impact of development proposals on health and wellbeing on a case-by-case basis.

8.3 PfE Policy JP-P6: Health requires all developments screened for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and other proposals which, due to their location, nature or proximity to sensitive receptors, are likely to have a notable impact on health and wellbeing, to be supported by a HIA. Stating that the submission of a HIA for development proposals will help ensure that the effects of development on both health and wellbeing are considered and responded to during the planning process. HIA's should aim to enhance the potential positive aspects of a proposal while avoiding or minimising any negative impacts, with particular emphasis on disadvantaged sections of communities that may be affected.

8.4 The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan further recognises the value of HIAs and the role they can play in shaping development proposals by promoting sustainable developments that support the creation of strong, vibrant and healthy communities.

8.5 Policy CO6 New Development and Health sets out that in line with PfE Policy JP-P6 a HIA will be required for all developments screened for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and other proposals which, due to their location, nature or proximity to sensitive receptors, are likely to have a notable impact on health and wellbeing.

8.6 The HIA should demonstrate how the development will impact on health and wellbeing through the consideration of the following, where relevant:

a) Housing standards and affordability;
b) Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure
c) Access to open space and the natural environment;
d) Air quality, noise and amenity;
e) Accessibility and active travel;
f) Crime reduction and community safety;
g) Adaptation to climate change;
h) Access to work and training; and
i) Access to healthy food choices.

8.7 Where a development is found to have significant negative impacts on health and wellbeing the Council may require applicants to provide for the mitigation of such impacts through the use of planning conditions and / or financial contributions secured via a planning obligation. Development that would have an unacceptable impact on health or wellbeing will not be permitted.

8.8 The approach taken in the Publication Plan has changed since the Draft Local Plan[38]. In the Draft Local Plan there was a separate policy (CO7) on Health Impact Assessments in New Development, which set out the circumstances in which HIA's would be required. To avoid repetition of PfE and the risk of ambiguity Policy CO7 has now been deleted. Instead, Policy CO6 New Development and Health, supports the implementation of PfE and sets out what HIA's are required to demonstrated.

8.9 In summary, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive, together with the strategic framework set by PfE. In the context of this HIA, the assessment concludes that the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan seeks to:

- Deliver good quality, well designed and affordable homes that meet our local housing needs, including those of older people and disabled people.
- Provide for social infrastructure and accessibility to meet future growth, including health facilities, school places, and open space, sport and recreation provision.
- Create healthier, greener and accessible neighbourhoods with easy access to green/blue infrastructure and opportunities for active travel.
- Ensure new development proposals minimise noise and odour pollution and impacts on air quality.
- Deliver sustainable and accessible development, improve connectivity across the borough and increase opportunities for walking and cycling.
- Incorporate design approaches that will assist in improving health and wellbeing, improving access and movement, design out crime and help people feel secure.
- Improve access to healthy food and restrict hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets within a set distance of schools and other places where children and young people congregate.
- Tackle health and income inequalities across the borough through providing access to work and training opportunities.
- Encourage social interaction and inclusive design that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities.

[38] The Draft Oldham Local Plan can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/downloads/file/7825/draft_local_plan_december_2023

- Ensure to best and most efficient use of previously developed land, including seeking higher densities in appropriate sustainable and accessible locations.
- Tackle climate change through the of renewable and low carbon energy and adopting natural flood mitigation such as sustainable drainage.

8.10 There are no gaps where the Publication Local Plan has not addressed the above themes and so it can be concluded that health impacts have been sufficiently addressed by the Local Plan to support the need to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.

9. Monitoring

9.1 The Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan sets out a Monitoring Framework that will enable the Council to assess the implementation and effectiveness of the policies contained within the Local Plan. Monitoring of the plan is essential to ensure that it delivers its vision and objectives, and to identify where policy intervention or review may be required.

9.2 Performance will be published annually through the Authority Monitoring Report[39].

9.3 Each policy in the Local Plan will be monitored using specific indicators as set out in the policy's linkages box found at the end of each chapter. Those relating to health and wellbeing are identified in Table 12 below.

Table 12: Health and Wellbeing related Local Plan Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates)	Natural England and GMEU	IA1
Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space	Oldham Council	IA2, IA8
Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision	Oldham Council	IA2, IA7, IA8
Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of	Oldham Council	IA7

[39] The latest and recent Authority Monitoring Reports can be found online at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/263/oldhams_monitoring_report

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend)		
Life Expectancy	Oldham JSNA	IA8
Proportion of physically active adults	Oldham JSNA	IA8
Childhood obesity rates	Oldham JSNA	IA8
The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate	Oldham Council	IA8, IA15
Number of new developments agreed with the Council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM)	Oldham Council	IA1, IA7, IA9, IA10, IA13
Percentage of households living in fuel poverty	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy	IA12
Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher	Oldham Council	IA14, IA15
Annual mean nitrogen dioxide	Oldham Council	IA14, IA15
Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors	Department of Energy Security & Net Zero	IA14, IA15, IA16, IA17
Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year	Reported Road Casualties, Great Britain	IA15
Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission	Oldham Council	IA16
The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England	IMD	IA8, IA18, IA19
Unemployment rate	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19
Youth unemployment rate	Oldham Council	IA18, IA19

Indicator	Source	IA Objective
New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land	Oldham Council	IA6, IA11, IA23
Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate	Oldham Council	IA6, IA23
Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size	Oldham Council	IA23, IA25
Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision	Oldham Council	IA23
Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation	Oldham Council	IA23
Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above	Oldham Council	IA17

10. Recommendations

10.1 The assessment concluded that alongside the strategic framework set by PfE, the potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive.

10.2 The Council recognises the importance of on-going dialogue with colleagues in Public Health, the NHS and other partners as we continue to progress the Local Plan and upon its adoption, to:

- Ensure that health and wellbeing impacts continue to be considered as part of policy formulation and the decision-making process;
- Input into the review of determine, at the earliest opportunity, the health care requirements associated with new development.
- Support appropriate consideration of HIAs submitted as part of the development proposals.

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan : Integrated Assessment Appendix 19 : Habitats Regulations Assessment

January 2026

Oldham Council

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Impact on European Protected Sites of the Oldham Council Draft Local Plan (Publication Stage)

November 2025

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For

Oldham Council

November 2025

V1.3

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Impact of the Oldham Local Plan (Publication Stage) on European Protected Sites

1. Introduction

1.1 The UK National Sites Network are sites of exceptional importance for the conservation of species and natural habitats. They are often referred to as 'European' protected sites because of their importance in a wider European context. The purpose of Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) of land use plans is to ensure that the protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at a regional and local level. European protected sites comprise Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites. Government guidance advises that potential SPAs (pSPA), candidate SACs (cSAC) and potential Ramsar (pRamsar) sites are also included in HRAs.

1.2 Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC transposed into UK law by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) dealing with the conservation of European protected sites states that:

'Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.'

1.3 The Draft Oldham Local Plan is regarded as a Plan which is considered likely to have significant effect on one or more European protected site and should therefore be subject to assessment.

1.4 It is noted that the Plan being assessed may be subject to further amendments. Further Appropriate Assessments may therefore be required if changes are made as a result of future consultations or a future Examination in Public.

1.5 Habitats Regulation Assessments can be seen as having a number of discrete stages -

- Stage 1 – Screening
- Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment
- Stage 3 – Derogation (compensation) where effects cannot be avoided or mitigated

1.6 This document forms Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) process and contributes to the fulfilment of the Council's statutory duty as regards Article 6(3). It is an Opinion and an Assessment of whether the Draft Oldham Local Plan (Publication Stage) may have a significant effect on the special interest of any European designated protected sites.

It is also an Opinion on, and an Assessment of, whether any of the identified effects (if any) can be avoided or mitigated or whether any of the actions proposed in the plan need adjustment.

1.7 Stage 1 – Screening

The purpose of the Screening stage of the HRA process is to initially identify the risk or the possibility of significant adverse effects on a European site which could undermine the achievement of a site's conservation objectives, and which therefore require further detailed examination through an appropriate assessment. If risks which might undermine a site's conservation objectives can clearly be ruled out (based on the consideration of objective information), a proposal will have no likely significant effect (LSE) and no appropriate assessment will be needed. In order for a policy or an allocation in a Plan to be screened out of the HRA process a conclusion must be made 'beyond reasonable scientific doubt' that the policy or allocation will not have an LSE on the European Protected site or its qualifying features. Case law has established in relation to screening that:

- An effect is likely if it 'cannot be excluded on the basis of objective information' (Waddenzee C127-02 ∞ 45). This requires consideration and a conclusion made against known and presented data/survey or results/scientific evidence (e.g. literature review).

- An effect is significant if it 'is likely to undermine the conservation objectives' [of the European protected site (Waddenzee (C127-02 ∞ 48)]. This excludes from consideration other impacts not related to the qualifying features and their conservation objectives.

- In undertaking a screening assessment for likely significant effects 'it is not that significant effects are probable, a risk is sufficient, but there must be credible evidence (see above) that there is 'a real, rather than a hypothetical, risk' Boggis v Natural England & Waveney District Council. This refines the understanding of the 'precautionary principle' as it applies to the Habitats Regulations.

- The Sweetman (case C258-11) also offers some simple guidance that the screening step 'operates merely as a trigger', in order to progress to further assessment stages through the process.

1.8 Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment

In 2017 the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union (People over Wind, case C323/17) concluded that it was not appropriate within the Screening Stage to consider measures that would mitigate for impacts on the qualifying or designated features of the European site. This ruling has resulted in an update to the Habitats Regulations 2017 as they have been translated into UK domestic legislation and updated Habitats Regulations (amendment)(EU Exit) 2019 to reflect the exit of the UK from the European Union. In a Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment, evidence and detail should be considered which can demonstrate that a Plan including any embedded measures or additional mitigation can result in a conclusion that there would be no 'adverse effect on integrity' (AEOI), when considering a European site conservation objectives. In applying the Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment the relevant competent Authority – in this case the Local Authority concerned - must also consider whether there is a relevant planning mechanism (which may apply at a different level of the planning hierarchy) which can secure the necessary mitigation via either conditions or obligations.

In the case of a Strategic Local Plan the level of detail in land use plans concerning developments that will be permitted under the Plan at some time in the future is rarely sufficient to allow the fullest quantification of potential adverse effects. It is therefore necessary to be cognisant of the fact that HRAs for plans can be tiered, with assessments being undertaken with increasing specificity at lower tiers. This is in line with DCLG guidance and court rulings that the level of detail of the assessment, whilst meeting the

relevant requirements of the Habitats Regulations, should be 'appropriate' to the level of plan or project that it addresses.

Government guidance says:

"*The scope and content of an appropriate assessment will depend on the nature, location, duration and scale of the proposed plan or project and the interest features of the relevant site. 'Appropriate' is not a technical term. It indicates that an assessment needs to be proportionate and sufficient to support the task of the competent authority in determining whether the plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site." That is, the Plan must make every effort to ensure that no Policies or Allocations will cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European sites. But where some doubt remains as to whether harm will occur the plan must show that sufficient safeguards will be in place in other levels of the planning hierarchy to ensure that no harm will be caused to the special interest of European sites. A precautionary approach should always be taken".*

The advice of Advocate-General Kokott to the European Court of Justice (9th June 2005, Case C-6/04) is relevant. She commented that:

"*It would …hardly be proper to require a greater level of detail in preceding plans [rather than planning applications] or the abolition of multi-stage planning and approval procedures so that the assessment of implications can be concentrated on one point in the procedure. Rather, adverse effects on areas of conservation must be assessed at every relevant stage of the procedure to the extent possible on the basis of the precision of the Plan. This assessment is to be updated with increasing specificity in subsequent stages of the procedure*"

1.9 In-Combination Assessment

The Habitats Regulations also include a requirement for an assessment not only for a Plan alone but also for consideration of any LSE in combination with other projects or plans. An 'in combination' assessment should be undertaken for any impact which is shown to have an effect even where it might be considered 'de minimis' for the plan in isolation. In the application of the in-combination test projects or plans are also considered to include reasonably foreseeable proposals (RFP), which may include projects, plans or schemes which have not concluded their passage through the development planning process, whether they are in full or outline or include other strategic planning documents.

Other plans which are also important in the context of the Oldham Local Plan which are considered here in the test of in-combination effects include:

- Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document (2024);
- Greater Manchester Joint Minerals DPD (2013);
- Greater Manchester Joint Waste DPD (2012);
- Other Supplementary Planning Documents and Local Plans.

These usually include their own Habitats Regulation Assessments and the conclusions of these HRAs have been taken into consideration when determining whether or not likely significant effects will occur.

1.10 The Competent Authority

The competent authority under the Habitat Regulations, is the body which undertakes the assessment of likely significant effects (LSE). This is usually the Local Planning Authority in relation to the preparation of Plans or the consideration of planning applications, but may also be another statutory body who has authority and powers to permit, consent or licence activities (e.g. the Environment Agency). Natural England as the statutory government advisor in these matters also has a role in the process to ensure that the Plan will not have any likely significant harmful effects on European sites. Natural England should therefore be consulted on the HRA.

A Judicial Review (R (Preston) v Cumbria County Council [2019] EWHC 1362) concerning a project level HRA ruled that a Local Planning Authority cannot rely on the future decisions and assessment of another permitting competent authority (in this instance the Environment Agency) within their own conclusions on the Screening (Stage 1) and must give consideration of sufficient securing measures (Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment) at the time of their own determination of an application for development.

Government guidance in this regard which seems relevant to plans, outline proposals or operations which might require an additional consent/permit from a third party indicates:
- a competent authority is permitted to grant a plan or project consent which leaves the applicant free to determine subsequently certain parameters relating to the construction phase, only if that authority is certain that the consent includes conditions that are strict enough to guarantee that those parameters will not adversely affect the integrity of the site.

While this Plan, and the HRA, are at a high tier of the planning process, this is important when considering any necessary mitigation for identified effects.

1.11 The Greater Manchester Ecology Unit

The Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU), as the specialist ecological adviser to Oldham Council has prepared this Screening Opinion and Appropriate Assessment. Information held by Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) was consulted for the qualifying features, the conservation objectives and favourable condition for the European Sites concerned (the information is summarised below).

GMEU ecologists familiar with the European sites concerned and their special interests reviewed the ecological information. The key vulnerabilities and sensitivities of the European sites concerned are well understood by GMEU allowing for an informed assessment of the possible effects of the Plan, and any specific aims, objectives and policies contained in the Plan.

GMEU has prepared a number of HRAs for Local Plans and Strategies, prepares HRAs for planning applications across Greater Manchester and Lancashire and is often consulted on HRAs prepared by others.

1.12 This report assesses the 'Draft Oldham Local Plan (Publication Stage)' (2025). It is recognised that as the name suggests the Plan provides a framework for all development in Oldham and that land currently not allocated may come forward for development during the period of the Plan. This HRA will therefore likely be subject to amendment as Plans and associated projects progress.

The assessment takes into account the likely cumulative impacts (in-combination effects) of other Plans, Strategies and Projects within the wider Greater Manchester city region and beyond.

2.0 Brief description of the Plan

2.1. The Plan being assessed is the Draft Oldham Local Plan (Publication Stage) 2025.

2.2. The primary purpose of the Local Plan is to guide development proposals within the Borough of Oldham up to 2039.

The overall Vision for the Plan for Oldham is that by 2039 -

Oldham will have a clean, green and healthy environment. We will have responded to both the Biodiversity and Climate Change emergencies through the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment and having a substantially reduced carbon footprint from meeting the council's ambition to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Oldham will be a carbon neutral exemplar with a resilient and multifunctional Green Infrastructure network which brings multiple benefits to the natural and built environment as well as to the health of its residents and visitors.

Through delivering at least 11,560 new homes of different sizes and types, including affordable housing, Oldham will have quality homes for everyone that meet the needs of Oldham's residents. New homes, delivered in sustainable and accessible locations, will contribute to inclusive and vibrant communities where everyone can live.

Oldham will be a key contributor to Greater Manchester's economy, with a strong reputation for clean growth and green innovation. It will be a place of dynamic businesses with better job opportunities, where those businesses local to Oldham are supported to thrive and grow, and those new to Oldham are attracted to invest. Every resident will be enabled to contribute to, and benefit from, economic growth of the city region providing significant progress in living standards, wages and skills for everyone in Oldham.

Oldham will have accessible and sustainable transport choices, providing improved connectivity across the borough, the city-region and beyond - for all. We will have an integrated transport system that enables the local economy to prosper and our residents to fully contribute to and benefit from job opportunities, and a comprehensive network of on and off-road walking, wheeling and cycling routes that encourage active travel, making it easier and safer for people to get to key local destinations.

Oldham Town Centre will be a place that thrives by combining a retail core with quality homes, opportunities to learn, develop new skills and gain employment, and a diverse culture, leisure and night-time offer that supports its local communities and attracts visitors. Our Town Centre will be supported by the borough's other centres – Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Shaw, Royton and Uppermill which will continue to provide a vital role in meeting the needs of the borough's communities, connecting our residents to local services and facilities in a way that fosters a sense of community and local identity.

Oldham residents will be healthy, safe and well-supported, having a great start from early years and with skills for life. They will have access to local community facilities and health and well-being provision and will have active and healthier lifestyles gained from access to active travel, green infrastructure and opportunities for sport and recreation.

Opportunities for excellent training and life-long education will be available to all Oldham residents, raising aspirations, reducing inequalities and tackling poverty. Providing residents with a great start and skills for life so that they can make the most of opportunities available to them, whilst meeting the needs for local businesses and helping to attract and retain new business opportunities.

New development will be net zero and in line with co-design expectations and design codes developed with Oldham's communities, whilst the key characteristics of Oldham's

townscape and landscape types and Oldham's historic environment and rich heritage will be conserved and enhanced

The key Objectives of the Plan are given as –

PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 11,560 new homes;
- delivering a diverse housing offer to meet the needs of all our residents including affordable housing and homes for families, older people and disabled people;
- ensuring the delivery of high-quality, sustainable and well-designed new homes; and
- ensuring appropriate densities and making the best and most effective use of brownfield land.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by:

- supporting the provision of suitable, modern services and facilities for the education and training of all age groups, including addressing the needs for primary and secondary school places; and
- encouraging employment and skills opportunities for local people as part of new developments.

PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses by:

- providing for, and supporting the delivery of, at least 57,481 sqm of office floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing floorspace;
- protecting designated sites that are suitable and attractive for existing and new businesses to locate to and expand on;
- encouraging and facilitating the development of the borough's key economic sectors with a focus on clean growth and green technologies;
- supporting the expansion of digital infrastructure to assist economic growth; and
- supporting a range of sustainable leisure and tourism activities.

PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres by:

- supporting the delivery of the Oldham Town Centre Development Framework and appropriate plans or projects that facilitate the regeneration of the borough's other centres; and
- promoting and enhancing the vitality and viability of the borough's centres to ensure their long-term sustainability.

PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes by:

- protecting and furthering the purposes of the Peak District National Park;
- promoting the positive use of the Green Belt;
- identifying Local Green Spaces and supporting their enhancement; and
- ensuring high quality new development makes a positive contribution to Oldham's landscape and townscape features and characteristics.

PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment by:

- protecting and restoring core areas of wildlife;
- promoting nature recovery networks and improving connectivity in areas of lower biodiversity;

- using nature-based solutions to mitigate against, and be resilient to, climate change;
- delivering on the priorities for nature recovery within the Local Nature Recovery Strategy; and
- implementing Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting projects such as Northern Roots.

PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change by:

- achieving high standards of sustainable design and construction;
- adopting a positive approach towards energy schemes and the identification of low carbon and renewable energy opportunities;
- reducing the risk of flooding to people and property taking into account climate change;
- managing flood risk using integrated water management and the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure;
- promoting the efficient use of water resources and water quality; and
- protecting and reinstating restorable peat, allowing it to act as an important carbon sink.

PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by:

- facilitating and encouraging local and accessible health and well-being provision;
- protecting and enhancing access to, and providing for / or improved open spaces, sports and recreation facilities, to meet the needs of new development and communities;
- providing spaces to grow food in new and existing communities, such as allotments and community gardens and connecting people to nature;
- supporting and protecting new and existing community facilities;
- reducing crime and fear of crime and promoting community safety, through good design of the built environment;
- improving air quality for the benefit of everyone; and
- providing and maintaining high standards of amenity and local environmental quality.

PO9 Improving and valuing a better historic and built environment, by:

- delivering high-quality design and placing greater emphasis on place-making, with buildings and spaces that respond positively to local distinctiveness and character;
- conserving and enhancing the borough's historic environment and heritage assets, including the borough's textile mills; and
- ensuring that proposals within Oldham Town Centre follows the recommendations set out in the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Management Plan with the aim of removing the Conservation Area from the 'at-risk' register.

PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices, by:

- supporting delivery of Oldham's Transport Strategy and the Right Mix approach to encourage active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) and an increase in travel by sustainable modes;
- reducing the need to travel by car through ensuring new development is located in areas with access to public transport, local services and facilities; and
- improving public transport connectivity for Oldham's residents to key areas of employment within the borough, the city region and beyond.

3.0 Identification of European designated sites concerned

3.1 This Assessment has first screened all European sites in the region to generate a long list and then assess which of these sites are likely to be affected by future development in Oldham. There are two European designated sites within the boundaries of Oldham, the Rochdale Canal Special Area of Conservation and the South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area; in addition when assessing the impact of a Plan on European protected sites it is important to consider the impact on sites not only within the administrative area covered by the Plan but also those which fall outside the Plan boundary, as these could still potentially be affected by the operation of the Plan.

The list of sites assessed and their proximity to Oldham are shown in Appendix 1.

The Screening Criteria

3.2 In carrying out the initial screening process, the Assessment has considered the main possible **sources** of effects on the European sites arising from the Plan, possible **pathways** to the European sites and the effects on possible sensitive **receptors** in the European sites. Only if there is an identifiable source, a pathway and a receptor is there likely to be a significant effect.

3.3 Possible sources and pathways for effects arising from development in Oldham on the identified Sites and used in the screening of European sites are considered to be:

- Water pollution and impacts on hydrology via watercourse, surface water and groundwater moving from sites in Oldham to European sites (habitat damage and species loss);
- Air pollution, primarily transport related via road traffic (habitat damage);
- Increased recreational disturbance of European sites and functionally linked land* (species disturbance and habitat damage);
- Risk of invasive non-native species introduction via waterways (habitat and species impacts);
- Loss of functionally linked land;
- Direct habitat loss within European sites;
- Noise and Visual Disturbance;
- Light spillage and/or shading.

** functionally linked land is land outside of designated sites but which is regularly used by key species associated with a designated site and which is considered to be key to the survival of the species concerned*

3.4 Guidance and precedence concerning distances at which significant effects on European sites are caused by water or air pollution has been taken into account during the screening of European sites. Recommended buffer zones for certain types of 'most damaging' operations (e.g. air pollution from vehicles and recreational disturbance) have been used in the screening of sites. The buffer zones are based on the distances before air pollution sources and recreational disturbance become so diffuse so as to be indiscernible or impossible to ascribe to particular source. Outside of these buffer zones significant effects on European sites arising from water and air pollution are considered unlikely to arise. The precautionary buffer used for this HRA is 20 km.

3.5 Natural England also publish SSSI 'Impact Risk Zones' (IRZs) providing guidance on the types of development which should be considered for their possible impacts on SSSIs and which impacts should be considered. All European designated sites are also designated as

SSSIs. IRZs have also been taken into account when screening European sites that could be affected by the Plan.

3.6 The nine authorities involved for the Places for Everyone (PfE) strategic plan (including Manchester) have published a supplementary planning document (SPD) covering Holcroft Moss (part of the Manchester Mosses SAC). An SPD has also been published by Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside covering the South Pennines SAC/SPA. These documents have also been taken into account when Screening European sites that could be affected by the Plan.

3.7 Although guidance concerning buffer zones/risk zones has been taken into account when screening European protected sites, in the case of a Plan affecting the development of an entire metropolitan area, buffer/risk zones should be regarded as important but ***not*** as definitive; for example, this buffer zone may not be sufficient when assessing certain very large-scale developments, secondary impacts, or cumulative impacts where pathways to receptor sites are rivers, air pollution is a factor or the receptor site is sensitive to recreational pressure resulting from an increase in population.

3.8 Taking the above into account the following European sites are Screened In owing to proximity to Oldham or because there are likely pathways between Oldham and the designated sites -

- Manchester Mosses SAC (diffuse air pollution impacts),
- Rochdale Canal SAC (direct and indirect impacts),
- South Pennines Moors SAC/SPAs Parts 1 and 2 (direct and indirect impacts).

Other European sites initially considered but Screened-out of the assessment include:

- Liverpool Bay SPA– whilst hydrologically linked to Oldham the distance from Oldham (over 30km) and the volume of water in Liverpool Bay is such that any pollutants generated in Oldham could not be reasonably attributed to any likely significant effects owing to a reduction in water quality detected in Liverpool Bay SPA.

4.0 Initial Screening of potential Likely Significant Effects (LSE) -

Sources of potential impacts are described and considered in more detail below. The aim of this section is to provide reasoned justification for the decisions made later in the Screening.

4.1 Potential impacts of development managed by the Plan on European sites and therefore Screened In include -

- Water pollution and impacts on hydrology via watercourse, surface water and groundwater moving from sites in Oldham to European sites (habitat damage and species loss);
- Air pollution, primarily transport related via road traffic (habitat damage);
- Increased recreational disturbance of European sites and functionally linked land* (species disturbance and habitat damage);
- Risk of invasive non-native species introduction via waterways (habitat and species impacts);
- Loss of functionally linked land;
- Direct habitat loss within European sites;
- Noise and Visual Disturbance;
- Light spillage and/or shading.

The following brief discussion of these impacts is included to give an understanding of the rationale for the conclusions reached in the subsequent Screening process, summarised in Table 6.1.

4.2 Direct Habitat Loss

Direct Habitat Loss could affect the Rochdale Canal SAC and the South Pennine SPA/SAC, since parts of these designated sites are location within Oldham.

4.3 Water Quality

4.3.1 Negative effects on distant European sites, both habitats and qualifying species, can occur through increases in water pollution and sediment load such as nutrient enrichment from diffuse pollution discharged from waste water treatment works, agricultural run-off and/or industrial processes.

4.3.2 Of the list of designated sites considered, diffuse water pollution could have an effect on the Rochdale Canal Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

The Rochdale Canal SAC has been designated because it supports important populations of aquatic plant communities. These plant communities could be harmed by increased water pollution.

4.4 Air Quality

Air can transport pollution, dust and odours over significant distances and air pollution can cause significant harm to habitats and species. The main types of air pollutants likely to have an adverse effect on an ecologically important site are:

- Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x);
- Ammonia (NH_3);
- Dust;
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2);

- Low level Ozone (O_3);
- Acid deposition caused from chemical reactions to NO_x, SO_2 and CO_2.

4.4.1 Of these NOx (nitrates) are the most likely to arise as a result of development controlled by the Plan under consideration here. Dust and low-level ozone only have effects very close to the source. Ammonia emissions are most closely associated with certain types of intensive agricultural production not identified as a significant land-use within Oldham. SO_2 emissions are associated with certain industrial operations such as paper pulp, cement and smelting and burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil.

The main sources of these pollutants are road traffic. The greatest damage caused by nitrates occurs within 200 - 250m of the source. Development within Oldham could cause increases in localised traffic pollution and could also generate road traffic over a much wider area. Where proposed developments within Oldham are likely to result in increases of these pollutants arising, they have been screened into this Assessment.

4.4.3 The issue of diffuse air pollution is complicated by the fact that the South Pennines and the Manchester Mosses European sites are already exceeding nitrate levels in some places which would be considered harmful to sensitive habitats on these sites (*source* Natural England and Air Pollution Information System (APIS)), so any level of increased nitrate pollution no matter how small could be considered to be harmful.

4.4.4 A joint Supplementary Planning Document has been produced by the nine Places for Everyone authorities providing guidance on when levels of traffic generation are likely to require mitigation with regards to Holcroft Moss, part of the Manchester Mosses SAC. The current guidance is that any development that generates more than 100 vehicle movements along the M62 or 20 HGV's will exceed the threshold. This includes development within Oldham.

4.4.5 For the South Pennines SAC/SPA and other parts of the Manchester Mosses SAC no guidance is currently available. They have therefore been screened-in using the precautionary principle. However, it is noted that the HRA of the Places for Everyone Strategic Plan concluded that there would be no discernable impacts arising on the South Pennine Moors designated sites arising from increases in air pollution.

4.5 Recreational Pressure

The effects of significantly increased populations and associated recreational pressures on the Regions' European protected sites has been considered in this Assessment because it is recognised that this could have a negative effect on the special interest of some European sites.

Recreational use of an internationally designated site has potential to:

- Cause damage through excessive erosion (trampling, wear and tear);
- Cause nutrient enrichment;
- Cause disturbance to sensitive species,
- Prevent appropriate management or exacerbate existing management difficulties.

4.5.1 The European protected sites considered to be potentially most at risk from increased recreational pressures are the Rochdale Canal SAC, the Manchester Mosses SAC, and the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA.

4.5.2 The Rochdale Canal SAC has been designated because it supports important populations of aquatic plants. Increases in recreational canal boat use along the Canal

could cause harm to aquatic plants. Boat movements along the Canal, and populations of notable aquatic plant species, are monitored and controlled by the Canal and Rivers Trust.

4.5.3 The South Pennines SPA and SAC are in part promoted as recreation destinations and are therefore potentially vulnerable to an increase in population in Oldham.

4.5.4 However, Natural England have advised that there is no available evidence that recreational disturbance of the South Pennines SPA or SAC will result in any likely significant effects. (*ref. letter dated 7th August 2024 from Natural England to the GMCA, South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Joint Supplementary Planning Document*). the South Pennines SPA/SAC can therefore effectively be screened out of this HRA.

4.6 Functionally Linked Land

For an area to be considered as functionally linked to a European site it must be shown to regularly support significant numbers of species for which a European site has been designated. 'Regularly' is taken to mean over a number of years, but there is no accepted standard definition of what may constitute 'significant numbers' because this will depend on the species concerned.

The concept has been most often studied in relation to birds, bats and marine species, because these species are highly mobile in their habits and can rely on sites very far apart to complete their life cycles.

4.6.1 There is a risk of land in Oldham being functionally linked to the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA as the qualifying species are primarily mobile bird species that can regularly use land outside the designated areas. For this reason, risk to functionally linked land associated with the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA has been Screened-in.

4.7 Light Spillage and Shading

These effects could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC.

4.8 Noise and Visual Disturbance

These effects could affect notable bird species associated with the South Pennine Moors, if development encroaches within or close to the boundaries of the designated sites.

4.9 Introduction of invasive species

This could potentially affect the Rochdale Canal SAC through mobilisation of contaminated land associated with development close to the Canal.

4.10 Summary Results of Screening of Sites

From the Screening process, the following European designated sites have been identified as having some potential to be affected by development proposed and planned for within the Oldham Draft Local Plan (publication stage):

- Manchester Mosses SAC;
- Rochdale Canal SAC
- South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC (Parts 1 and 2);

5.0 The Nature Conservation Interest of the "Screened In" European Sites

The following information is derived from information available from Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and from information held by GMEU.

5.1 Manchester Mosses SAC

5.1.1 Description of the Manchester Mosses SAC

Mossland formerly covered a large part of low-lying Greater Manchester, Merseyside and southern Lancashire, and provided an obstacle to industrial and agricultural expansion. While most has now been converted to agriculture or lost to development, several examples have survived as degraded raised bog, such as Astley & Bedford Mosses (Manchester), Risley Moss (Warrington) and Holcroft Moss (Warrington). Their surfaces are now elevated above surrounding land due to shrinkage of the surrounding tilled land, and all except Holcroft Moss have been cut for peat at some time in the past. While historic drainage has resulted in purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea)*, bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum)* and birch (*Betula)* spp. scrub or woodland colonising the lowland bog habitat, wetter pockets have enabled the peat-forming species to survive. Habitat management including rewetting and reintroduction of appropriate lowland bog species has started to reverse the degradation of these sites.

5.1.2 Primary Reason for Designation of the Manchester Mosses SAC

The site supports degraded bog still capable of natural regeneration (JNCC code 7120), which has the potential to be restored to active raised bog (JNCC code 7110).

5.1.3 Conservation Objectives of the Manchester Mosses

The conservation objectives (Natural England 2018) for this site are:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats;
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and;
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely.

5.1.4 Supplementary Advice on Conserving and Restoring

On this site, favourable condition requires the maintenance of the extent of each designated habitat type. A series of site-specific targets, which will contribute to favourable condition, have been produced by Natural England. However, many of these relate to management of the habitats on the site and are not particularly applicable to assessing the effects of development proposals on the SAC whilst others relate to direct impacts. Therefore, the operations that may damage the special interest of the SAC resulting from development in Oldham have been restricted to:

- Pollution including atmospheric pollutants and NOxs;
- Hydrological impacts and;
- Recreational activities.

5.2 Rochdale Canal SAC

The Rochdale Canal SAC contains important habitats for submerged aquatic plants and emergent vegetation, including extensive colonies of the nationally scarce floating water-plantain *Luronium natans*. The site also supports a diverse assemblage of aquatic flora, in particular nine species of pondweed *Potomogeton* spp. The plant communities found in the Rochdale Canal are characteristic of mesotrophic water bodies, i.e. those which are moderately nutrient-rich.

Conservation Objectives

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring –

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of the qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of the qualifying species within the site

List of operations that could potentially damage the special interests of the European Site include from the JNCC standard data sheet and Natural England advice on operations:

- Human induced changes in hydrological conditions
- Invasive non-native species;
- Changes in abiotic conditions;
- Water pollution
- Air pollution, air-borne pollutants;
- Biocenotic evolution, succession.
- Recreational disturbance, especially increases in canal boat traffic

5.3 South Pennines Moors (Phase 1 and Phase 2) SPA

5.3.1 Description

The site is an extensive tract of moorland and moorland-fringe habitat. It includes most of the unenclosed moorland areas of the north, eastern and south-western Peak District, where it also extends into enclosed farmland of wet rushy pasture, hay meadows and small wetlands in the valley bottoms. The moorland habitats include extensive tracts of blanket bog and dry heath, which together with wet heath, acid grassland, small flushes, gritstone edges and boulder slopes, streams and moorland reservoirs, fringing semi-natural woodland and enclosed farmland, represents the full range of upland vegetation characteristic of the South Pennines. The site supports several important species assemblages, including higher plants, lower plants and insects, as well as breeding birds. Many physical features are of geological interest.

5.3.2 Primary Reason for Designation

Qualifying species

This site qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) as it is used regularly by 1% or more of the Great Britain population of species listed in Annex I

In any season:

Merlin (*Falco columbarius)* 30 – 36 breeding pairs representing 2.3-2.8% of the breeding population in Great Britain (period 1990/1998)

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*) 435 - 445 breeding pairs representing 1.9-2.0% of the breeding population in Great Britain (period 1990/1998)

Short-eared Owl *(Asio flammeus)* 22 - 25 breeding pairs representing 2.2 -2.5% of the breeding population in Great Britain (period 1990/1998)

Non-qualifying species of interest:

The site supports a rich upland breeding bird assemblage which, as well as the qualifying species listed above, includes important numbers of Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus),* Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus)*, Dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii),* Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago)*, Curlew (*Numenius arquata)*, Redshank (*Tringa tetanus)*, Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos),* Whinchat (*Saxicola rubetra*,) Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe),* Ring Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus)* and Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris).*

5.3.3 Conservation Objectives

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely;
- The population of each of the qualifying features and;
- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

5.3.4 List of operations that could potentially damage the special interests of the European Site include:

- Hunting and collection of Wild Animals;
- Fire and Fire Prevention;
- Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions;
- Outdoor sports, leisure and Recreational Activities;
- Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities to functionally linked land; *and*
- Reduced fecundity and genetic suppression.

5.4 South Pennine Moors SAC

5.4.1 Description

This site covers the key moorland blocks of the Southern Pennines from Ilkley Moor in the north to the Peak District in the south. The moorlands are on a rolling dissected plateau formed from rocks of Millstone Grit at altitudes of between 300m – 600m and a high point of over 630m at Kinder Scout. The greater part of the gritstone is overlain by blanket peat with the coarse gravely mineral soils occurring only on the lower slopes. The moorlands as a whole support a breeding bird community of national and international importance. The site is representative of upland dry heath, which covers extensive areas, occupies the lower slopes of the moors on mineral soils or where peat is thin, and occurs in transitions to acid grassland, wet heath and blanket bogs. The upland heath of the South Pennines is strongly dominated by *Calluna vulgaris – Deschampsia flexuosa* heath and *C. vulgaris – Vaccinium myrtillus* heath. More rarely *C. vulgaris – Ulex gallii* heath and *C. vulgaris –*

Erica cinerea heath are found. On the higher, more exposed ground *V. myrtillus – D. flexuosa* heath becomes more prominent. The smaller area of wet heath is characterised by cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix* and purple moor grass *Molinia careulea*. The site also supports extensive areas of acid grassland largely derived from dry and wet heath. In the cloughs, or valleys, which extend into the heather moorlands, a greater mix of dwarf shrubs can be found together with more lichens and mosses. The moors support a rich invertebrate fauna, especially moths, and important bird assemblages. This site also contains areas of blanket bog, although the bog vegetation communities are botanically poor. Hare's-tail cotton-grass *Eriophorum vaginatum* is often overwhelmingly dominant and the usual bog-building Sphagnum mosses are scarce. Where the blanket peats are slightly drier, heather *C. vulgaris,* crowberry *Empetrum nigrum* and bilberry *V. myrtillus* become more prominent. The cranberry *Vaccinium oxycoccus* and the uncommon cloudberry *Rubus chamaemorus* is locally abundant in bog vegetation. Bog pools provide diversity and are often characterised by common cotton-grass *E. angustifolium*. Substantial areas of the bog surface are eroding, and there are extensive areas of bare peat. In some areas, erosion may be a natural process reflecting the great age (up to 9000 years) of the South Pennine peats. Around the fringes of the upland heath and areas of bog are blocks of old sessile oak woods, usually on slopes. These tend to be dryer than those further north and west, such that the bryophyte communities are less developed (although this lowered diversity may in some instances have been exaggerated by the effects of 19th century air pollution). Other components of the ground flora such as grasses, dwarf shrubs and ferns are common. Small areas of alder woodland along stream-sides add to the overall richness of the woods. The moorland also supports a range of flush and fen habitats associated with bogs, cloughs, rivers and streams. Although generally small scale features they have a specialised flora and fauna, which makes a great contribution to the overall biodiversity of the moors. Acid flushes are the most common type and these include transition mires and quaking bogs characterised by a luxuriant carpet of bog mosses Sphagnum spp., rushes and sedges.

5.4.2 Qualifying Features

Under Article 4(4) of the Council Directive (92/43/EEC) on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:

- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix; Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath (JNCC Habitat code H4010);
- European dry heaths (JNCC Habitat code H4030);
- Blanket bogs* (JNCC Habitat code H7130);
- Transition mires and quaking bogs; Very wet mires often identified by an unstable `quaking` surface (JNCC Habitat code H7140) and;
- Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles (JNCC Habitat code H91A0).

5.4.3 Conservation Objectives

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:

- The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats;
- The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats and;
- The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely.

5.4.4 List of operations that could potentially damage the special interests of the European Site include:

- Agricultural activities;
- Fire and Fire Prevention;
- Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions;
- Outdoor sports, Leisure and Recreational Activities; *and*
- Air Pollution and air borne pollutants.

6.0 Initial Screening Opinion

6.1 The Screening Criteria

The first stage of an HRA is a test of Likely Significant Effect (Screening of Effects). This is essentially a risk assessment to decide whether a particular Policy or site can be effectively 'Screened out' from further, more detailed assessment or needs to go forward for more detailed Assessment. The essential question to ask is:

"Is the Policy or the Site, either alone or in combination with other relevant Policies and Plans, likely to result in a significant effect upon the integrity of European sites?"

In carrying out this Screening process the Assessment has considered the main possible sources of effects on the European sites arising from the implementation of the Plan, possible pathways to the European sites and the effects on possible sensitive receptors in the European sites. Where:

- The source is the direct or indirect changes (land take, emissions to air or water, hydrological changes) potentially occurring as a result of the development at an identified site.

- The pathway is the route or mechanism by which any likely significant effect would manifest in the environment and would reach the receptor.

- The receptor is the European Site and more specifically the qualifying features and conservation objectives for the site.

Only if there is an identifiable source, a pathway and a receptor is there likely to be a significant effect.

Possible sources and pathways for (unmitigated) effects used in the screening of potential policy impacts on European sites are considered to be:

- Water Pollution;
- Direct land Take;
- Air pollution resulting from increased vehicular emissions and industry;
- Increased recreational pressure;
- Loss and disturbance of functionally linked land;
- Introduction of invasive species;
- Noise and visual disturbance;
- Shading and light spillage

6.2 The results of the Screening are shown in the 'Screening Summary' tables below.

6.3 Each of the Policies has been assessed to determine whether they are:

- Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site – Screened Out;
- Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site – Screened Out;
- Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site – Screened In;
- Would be likely to have a significant negative effect on a European Site – Screened In.

Only Policies with potential negative effects or significant effects have been "Screened In" for further Assessment. This assessment has been made based on the content and type of each Policy and the HRA must be read together with the Plan.

6.4 The timescales over which effects (both stand-alone and in-combination) have been considered are the lifetime of the Plan and the lifetime of any proposals (including operational and restoration timescales) that may come forward during the Plan.

Table 6.1 Initial Screening Summary of impacts of the Draft Oldham Local Plan (publication stage) on European sites

Policies and site allocations screened into this Assessment identified in red text. Note appendices referred to under Policy description are not included.

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
Homes				
H1	Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer The council will promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents. Oldham is required to deliver at least 11,560 homes over the period of 2022-2039, which equates to an average of 680 homes per year.	**Homes / Housing**	Possible impacts from – • Direct land take • Increases in diffuse air and water pollution • Increases in recreational impacts	**Screened In**
H2	Density of new Housing New residential developments should achieve the minimum densities set out in the Plan	**Homes / Housing**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
H3	Housing Mix New residential developments should contribute to a diverse housing mix across the borough, ensuring that Oldham's housing needs can be met.	**Homes / Housing**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
H4	Providing for Local Housing Needs The Local Plan will support the delivery of housing, which is suitable for residents with specialist housing needs, including housing suitable for older people, disabled people, looked after children and care leavers.	**Homes / Housing**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
H5	Affordable Housing The Local Plan will ensure that a diverse type and tenure of affordable housing is provided to accommodate all households in need.	**Homes / Housing**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
Homes				
H6	Homes in multiple occupation Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) will be supported, subject to set criteria	**Homes / Housing**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
H7	Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Proposals for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites will be supported where they are consistent with national and local guidance and policies and meet certain criteria:	**Homes / Housing**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Economy and Employment				
E1	Employment floorspace requirements At least 57,481 sqm of office (E(g)(i)) floorspace and at least 240,656 sqm of industrial and warehousing (B2 and B8) floorspace will be provided in Oldham over the period of 2022-2039.	**Economy / Employment**	Possible impacts from – • Direct land take • Increases in diffuse air and water pollution	**Screened In**
E2	Business and Employment Areas Promotes a range of sustainable employment areas to support the local economy. There is a strong emphasis on protecting and enhancing our existing employment areas	**Economy / Employment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
E3	Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas Manages uses within business and employment areas	**Economy / Employment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
E4	Employment sites outside of Business and Employment Areas Outside designated BEAs, the council will seek to retain existing employment sites in employment generating uses1 to help to create a sustainable and competitive local economy, to ensure a diverse supply of employment sites and to maintain accessible employment opportunities for our residents.	**Economy / Employment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
E5	Reuse and redevelopment of Mill buildings	**Economy / Employment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Centres				
C1	Our Centres Aims to promote and enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres, to ensure their long-term success. The centres hierarchy in Oldham is as follows: 1. Oldham Town Centre; 2. The borough's other centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill; and 3. Local Shopping Parades	**Centres**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
C2	Protecting the vitality of our centres Uses for main town centre development outside of our existing centres will be resisted.	**Centres**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

[1] Employment generating uses are set out in Policy E2.

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
C3	Changes of use and redevelopment within the boroughs centres The role of centres in meeting a wide range of local needs will be protected and enhanced. A strong retail function will be retained for each centre and will be complemented by a broad range of other services and facilities, including leisure and community uses.	**Centres**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
C4	Local Services and Facilities Aims to facilitate the need for local shops and services, where appropriate and in line with other Local Plan policies, by protecting existing clusters of these premises and by permitting new local services and facilities within existing built-up areas.	**Centres**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Oldham Town Centre				
OTC1	Oldham Town Centre Proposals for the continued enhancement, redevelopment and regeneration of Oldham Town Centre will be supported where they align with and reflect local character areas:	**Oldham Town Centre**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
OTC2	Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	**Oldham Town Centre**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
OTC3	Creating a Better Public Realm for Oldham Town Centre	**Oldham Town Centre**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
OTC4	Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre	**Oldham Town Centre**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
OTC5	Parking in Oldham Town Centre	**Oldham Town Centre**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Addressing Climate Change				
CC1	Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Proposals for renewable and low carbon energy development including supporting infrastructure, will be supported where the following criteria have been appropriately addressed:	**Climate Change**	Potential impacts from direct land take (wind farms and solar farms), indirect disturbance and loss of functionally linked land	**Screened In**
Flood Risk and Water Quality				
CC2	Managing Flood Risk Development proposals will be determined in line with national planning policy and guidance on Flood Risk, applying a sequential approach to all forms of current and future flood risk.	**Flood Risk and Water Quality**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CC3	Sustainable Drainage - Foul and Surface Water	**Foul and Surface Water**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CC4	Water efficiency and climate change Aims to require all new residential developments to achieve as a minimum, the optional requirement set through Building Regulations Requirement G2: Water Efficiency or any future updates. Non-residential development will be required to achieve five credits for category Wat 01 of BREEAM unless demonstrated impracticable.	**Water Efficiency**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
CC5	Groundwater source protection zones Where necessary, development proposals must include measures to reduce any risk to the water environment and aim to protect and improve water quality.	**Protection of groundwater**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Natural Environment and Open Land				
0L1	Consideration for the Peak District National Park Development within the planning boundary of Oldham Borough will be permitted where it does not conflict with the purposes of the Peak District National Park. Where possible, opportunities to further the purposes of the Peak District National Park will be sought.	**Natural Environment and Open Land**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
0L2	Protecting Oldham's Green Belt The openness and permanence of Oldham's Green Belt will be preserved, in line with national planning policy. Within the Green Belt, national planning policy will be applied including the refusal against inappropriate development except in very special circumstances	**Green Belt**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
0L3	Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt	**Green Belt**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
0L4	Local Green Spaces	**Local Green Spaces**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
0L5	Protecting dark skies and tranquillity	**Dark Skies**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency				
N1	Protecting Nature The borough's hierarchy for designated sites and wider ecological networks is identified and will be safeguarded in line with national policy	**Biodiversity**	Likely positive effects on European sites	**Screened Out**
N2	Restoring Nature A net increase in biodiversity will be achieved across the borough. Development will have regard to the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy and should seek to support and deliver on the priorities and actions for nature recovery within the strategy.	**Biodiversity**	Likely positive effects on European sites	**Screened Out**
N3	Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development New development is expected to make an appropriate contribution to addressing local needs and opportunities for Green Infrastructure provision by retaining, enhancing and creating green spaces and corridors.	**Green Infrastructure**	Likely positive effects on European sites	**Screened Out**
N4	Trees Development proposals are required to aim to protect and retain tree cover within a development site.	**Trees**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Oldham's Historic Environment				
HE1	The Historic Environment Development proposals that positively conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting, will be supported	**Historic Environment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
HE2	Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets	**Historic Environment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
HE3	Development proposals affecting Conservation Areas Proposals affecting a conservation area should preserve or enhance those elements which contribute to its character and appearance especially any elements identified in Conservation Area Appraisals as making a positive contribution to the significance of that area	**Historic Environment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
HE4	Oldham's Mills The council will proactively support, through planning decisions and in fulfilling its wider functions, proposals that establish a positive future for Oldham's Textile Mills through their reuse and repair	**Historic Environment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
HE5	Canals The Huddersfield Narrow Canal and Rochdale Canal will be protected as heritage assets (designated and non-designated heritage), which contribute to the borough's sense of place. To ensure that the future restoration of the canals is enabled, development alongside the line of the canal and towpath shall not prevent its restoration, conservation and enhancement of the waterway's heritage and built environment.	**Historic Environment**	Potential impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC during any restoration	**Screened In**
High Quality Design				
D1	Achieving High Quality Design	**Design**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
D2	Advertisements, Signage and Shop Fronts	**Design**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
D3	Creating a Better Public Realm	**Design**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
D4	Extensions and alterations to, and development within the curtilage of, a dwellinghouse	**Design**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Sustainable, Active and Accessible Networks				
T1	Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities Promotes sustainable transport in the Borough	**Sustainable, Active and Accessible Network**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
T2	Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities	**Sustainable, Active and Accessible Network**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
T3	Parking Provision	**Sustainable, Active and Accessible Network**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
T4	Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	**Sustainable, Active and Accessible Network**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Sustainable, Active and Accessible Networks				
T5	Vison-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Development	**Sustainable, Active and Accessible Network**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Communities				

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
CO1	The Protection of Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CO2	New and Improved Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CO3	Community Facilities	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CO4	Education and Skills	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CO5	Securing Educational Places through New Residential Development	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CO6	New Development and Health	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
CO7	Hot food takeaways and fast food outlets	**Communities**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
Protecting Our Local Environment				
LE1	Ensuring a high standard of amenity in new development	**Local Environment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
LE2	Ground conditions and contaminated land	**Local Environment**	No likely significant effects	**Screened Out**
LE3	Air quality The council will seek to improve air quality within the borough and contribute towards the achievement of national air quality objectives and Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan.	**Local Environment**	No likely significant effects – possible positive effects	**Screened Out**

POLICY	POLICY DESCRIPTION	POLICY TYPE*	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham				
IN1	Digital infrastructure and telecommunications	**Infrastructure and Delivery**	No likely significant effects – possible positive effects	**Screened Out**
IN2	Planning obligations	**Infrastructure and Delivery**	No likely significant effects – possible positive effects	**Screened Out**
IN3	Delivering social value and inclusion	**Infrastructure and Delivery**	No likely significant effects – possible positive effects	**Screened Out**
Monitoring				
M1	Monitoring Framework	**Monitoring**	No likely significant effects – possible positive effects	**Screened Out**

6.0 Summary of Policies Screened In

6.1 The following Policies have been provisionally 'Screened In' to the Assessment because it is considered that the implementation of these Policies may have harmful effects on the special interest of one or more European protected sites -

- H1 – Delivery of a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer
- E1 – Provision of Employment Floorspace Requirements
- CC1 – Renewable and Low-Carbon Energy
- HE5 - Canals

The Policies 'Screened In' relate to

- the aspiration for the Plan to deliver significant numbers of new homes within the Borough,
- the aspiration for the Plan to deliver economic growth within the Borough,
- renewable and low-carbon energy developments in the Borough, including wind and solar energy developments
- potential restoration and development of the Rochdale Canal SAC

The Policies have been Screened In because they are considered to have some potential to cause effects through –

- direct habitat losses,
- increased habitat and species disturbance,
- increases in diffuse air pollution,
- increases in diffuse water pollution,
- increases in recreational pressures,
- disturbance to functionally linked land,
- visual and noise disturbance,
- introduction of invasive plant species.

6.2 The details of the potential effects of the above impacts and the consequent effects on European sites are difficult to empirically determine at this time and at this stage of Plan production. Rather, it is the *broad principle* of whether the scale and type of development planned for Oldham can be implemented without harming the special interest of any European Protected Sites that is being tested in this Assessment.

When preparing HRAs for projects it is normally anticipated that where developments are 'Screened In' to the appraisal they will then be subject to more detailed Assessment and consideration of detailed available mitigation measures. This approach is often not possible for Strategic Plans, at least at this draft stage of Plan production, because full details of particular developments and details of the effects of potential mitigation measures are not yet available. Rather, the Screening exercise provides indications of where future Assessments may need to be considered, whether Policies need to be added or removed

from the Plan or substantially amended, and also indicates areas where future Assessments can be ruled out.

In addition, recommendations can be made at this stage about further necessary safeguards that should be incorporated into the Plan to ensure that no harm will result to European sites from the scale and type of development planned.

Taking the precautionary approach recommended in the legislation, further Screening and Assessment will be required as further stages of the Plan and as details of plan implementation become available.

6.3 There are also significant integrated safeguards in other Policies in the Plan such that the special interest of the European sites concerned should be able to be protected and enhanced. This is a Plan with strong 'green' credentials and with sustainability at its heart.

6.3.1 Policies that have in-built measure to potentially mitigate negative effects or are Generally positive to European Sites include:

- N1 Protecting Nature
- N2 Restoring Nature
- N5 Enhancing Green Infrastructure
- CC2 and CC3 – aim to improve water quality
- LE3 – Aims to improve air quality

6.4 The following impact pathways that could affect the integrity of European sites arising from the Plan have however been identified.

- Recreational pressure – pathways to Rochdale Canal SAC (boat traffic), South Pennines SPA/SAC,
- Air quality – vehicular pathway to Manchester Mosses SAC (primarily to Holcroft Moss which is adjacent to the M62 motorway) and the South Pennines SPA/SAC,
- Water quality – pathways to the Rochdale Canal SAC,
- Impacts on functionally linked land – South Pennines SPA/SAC,
- Direct habitat losses – South Pennines SPA/SAC and Rochdale Canal SAC,
- Habitat and Species disturbance – South Pennines SPA/SAC and Rochdale Canal SAC
- Light spillage and shading – Rochdale Canal SAC
- Spread of invasive species – Rochdale Canal SAC

6.5 A stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is therefore required of the potential LSE identified.

7.0 Appropriate Assessment

7.1 The screening process has identified the following sources of likely significant effect on European sites and functionally linked land:

- Recreational pressure – pathways to Rochdale Canal SAC (boat traffic), South Pennines SPA/SAC,
- Air quality – vehicular pathway to Manchester Mosses SAC (primarily to Holcroft Moss which is adjacent to the M62 motorway) and the South Pennines SPA/SAC,
- Water quality – pathways to the Rochdale Canal SAC,
- Impacts on functionally linked land – South Pennines SPA/SAC,
- Direct habitat losses – South Pennines SPA/SAC and Rochdale Canal SAC,
- Habitat and Species disturbance – South Pennines SPA/SAC and Rochdale Canal SAC
- Light spillage and shading – Rochdale Canal SAC
- Spread of invasive species – Rochdale Canal SAC

7.2 Air Quality

7.2.1 The air pollutants most likely to have a significant effect on European sites are the oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) resulting from traffic emissions. Modern regulation of commercial emissions makes any other form of air pollutant extremely unlikely.

7.2.2 NO_x deposition results in an increase in nitrates and can have a significant impact on certain habitats including lowland mosses and upland blanket bogs. Open water habitats can also be susceptible where the importance is linked to low nutrient levels in the water.

7.2.3 NO_x can also impact existing vegetation by lowering the pH *i.e.* acidification analogous to the acidification caused by high levels of SO_2 to the South Pennines from coal fires.

7.2.4 Studies indicate that the main impact of NO_x is when within 200m of a pollution source *i.e.* road or major transport depot.

Manchester Mosses SAC

7.2.5 This habitat type is considered sensitive to changes in air quality, especially acidity and nitrogen. Critical values are currently being exceeded at this SAC (APIS, 2016).

Exceedance of these critical values for air pollutants may modify the chemical status of its substrate, accelerating or damaging plant growth, altering its vegetation structure and composition and causing the loss of sensitive typical species associated with it.

7.2.6 The part of this SAC most at risk is Holcroft Moss as it lies immediately adjacent to the M62 with an estimated 129,000 vehicle movement per day between the M6 and M60 in 2024. As the critical nitrogen and NO_x levels are already regarded as above the critical load for the Manchester Mosses, theoretically any increase in road traffic along the M62 as a result of the operation of the Oldham Local Plan could have a negative impact on this part of the SAC. Both Risley Moss and Bedford Moss are located at significant distance

from any trunk road and are unlikely to be impacted upon by traffic issues originating as a result of the Plan.

7.2.7 Policies promoting the economic growth of Oldham and housing growth could theoretically increase traffic levels on this section of the M62 to and from Oldham.

7.2.8 Air quality modelling was undertaken for the Places for Everyone large scale strategic plan for Greater Manchester. This modelling concluded that developments within Greater Manchester (including Oldham) when acting in combination with developments in Warrington could cause LSE on Holcroft Moss by increasing emissions from traffic flow along the M62. In response to this identified LSE mitigation for air quality impacts was proposed in the form of the Supplementary Planning Document *"Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint Supplementary Planning Document – May 2025"* adopted by the nine Places for Everyone authorities in consultation with Natural England. Mitigation for potential air pollution effects is also provided through Places for Everyone Policy JP-C8 (in particular criterion 17).

7.2.9 This SPD provides guidance on when mitigation in the form of developer contributions to the positive management of the Manchester Mosses SAC will be required for Holcroft Moss as a result of additional vehicle movements along the M62 corridor past Holcroft Moss. (between junction 11 Birchwood and Junction 12 Worsley). The triggers are 100 vehicles or 20 HGV's per day.

7.2.10 As Oldham has already adopted this SPD, and the PfE plan has already accounted for the quantum of development anticipated for Oldham up to 2039, it is reasonable to use the same criteria to assess housing and employment figures set out in the Oldham Local Plan. Any development likely to increase traffic in excess of 100 vehicles or 20 HGV's should therefore provide mitigation as agreed in the SPD. Taking this into account, the adopted SPD and Policies integral both to the Local Plan and to PfE will effectively mitigate air pollution effects.

7.2.11 Integral Policies in the Plan including Policies N1, N2 and LE3 will also act to protect European sites from air pollution effects.

South Pennine Moors SPA & SAC

7.2.12 As with the Manchester Mosses SAC habitats within the above SAC are known to be particularly susceptible to nitrogen inputs, and in places on the Moors nitrate loads are known to exceed critical thresholds for harm (given as 5-10 kg N/ha/yr for blanket bog, *source* – Apis).

7.2.13 The M62 and other routes crossing the Pennines running close to sensitive habitats and takes a significant amount of traffic from Greater Manchester. Traffic modelling (screening) undertaken to inform the Places for Everyone Plan has identified that the Plan may cause effects on the South Pennine Moors Phase 1 European site from increased traffic flows.

7.2.14 Development in Oldham will be contributing towards this, particularly employment sites, reliant on freight transport using HGV's to source materials and distribute their products.

7.2.15 However Places for Everyone has not identified any strategic allocations within Oldham as having likely significant effects on the South Pennines SAC/SPA and concluded that the overall Plan would not have any likely significant effects on the SAC/SPA.

7.2.16 Integral Policies in the Plan including Policies N1, N2 and LE3 will also act to protect European sites from air pollution effects.

It is therefore reasonable to conclude no likely significant effect will occur to South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC from any reduction in air quality resulting from the Plan in isolation.

7.3 Recreational Pressure

7.3.1 The impact of recreational pressure varies dependent on the habitat and the qualifying species, some habitats being quickly physically damaged by trampling, other sensitive to nutrient inputs from dog fouling and other holding qualifying species sensitive to disturbance.

7.3.2 The likelihood of recreational pressure also varies depending on the nature of the site, with upland habitats likely to attract recreational visits from a greater distance than other habitats and sites promoted as recreational destination, likely to attract visitors from even greater distance Those with no official public access or deemed as potentially dangerous are only likely to attract local residents and naturalists.

South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC

7.3.3 Natural England have stated that there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that recreational activities are having any effect on the special interest of the South Pennine Moors designated sites (*ref. letter dated 7th August 2024 from Natural England to the GMCA, South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Joint Supplementary Planning Document*).

Manchester Mosses SAC

7.3.4 Mosslands are habitats that do not normally attract significant recreational visits owing to being waterlogged and difficult to walk over. There is also the public perception that such sites are dangerous. Currently there is no public access to Astley and Bedford Mosses or Holcroft Moss, with Risley Moss managed by rangers employed by Warrington Borough Council.

7.3.5 Of the distinct parts to the Manchester Mosses SAC, Astley and Bedford Mosses is more than 20km from the boundary with Oldham, with Holcroft Moss and Risley Moss located more than 20km respectively as the crow flies to the nearest point of the Oldham borough.

7.3.6 Given the above factors it is considered that no Likely Significant Effects will be caused to the Manchester Mosses SAC by increased recreational development arising from development in Oldham.

Rochdale Canal SAC

7.3.7 The Rochdale Canal SAC supports important populations of aquatic plants which can be harmed by increases in boat traffic. Development within Oldham, particularly proposals to restore or develop the Canal, could attract more boat movements along the Canal. However, the Canal and River Trust own and manage the Canal and control boat movements along the Canal. The Canal is managed with its important nature conservation value borne in mind. Populations of important plants are regularly monitored and measures can be implemented to restrict boat movements should harm be recorded.

7.3.8 Given the above factors it is considered that no Likely Significant Effects will be caused by increased recreational development arising from development in Oldham.

7.4 Water Quality

7.4.1 Negative effects on European sites can be due to a lowering of water quality i.e. pollution leading to higher mortality of qualifying species, food sources they are reliant on or through accumulation of pollutants; changes in nutrient status such as raised levels of nitrate or phosphate, leading to a change in the vegetation structure of the European site and potentially any qualifying species and; changes in water clarity through increase sediment load or increase levels of algae in the water.

7.4.2 Generally for such an impact to occur there needs to be a hydrological pathway such as a water course or ground water. European sites with direct hydrological connectivity to Oldham include the Rochdale Canal SAC and the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA.

7.4.3 In the case of the Rochdale Canal SAC Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm to the Canal.

7.4.4 In the case of the South Pennine Moors, it is noted that water flow is from the Moors down into more urban areas. There is no possibility of contaminated water flowing into the designated site from new developments, and currently no new development in planned for within the designated sites.

7.4.5 Should any development be proposed in future within the designated site, Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm which could arise from water pollution effects.

7.5 Direct Habitat Losses

7.5.1 Currently no new significant development is planned within Oldham which could lead to direct habitat losses to European sites.

7.5.2 Should any development be proposed in future within designated sites leading to direct habitat losses, Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm which could arise.

7.6 Direct loss and disturbance of Functionally Linked Land within Oldham.

7.6.1 Functionally linked land is land utilised by significant numbers of the qualifying species associated with a European site on a regular basis that is not part of the European site.

7.6.2 This most often applies to sites where birds are the qualifying species and forage or roost off-site. It could also apply to great crested newts that may move off-site in the winter to hibernate or to forage.

7.6.3 With regards to the Draft Oldham Local Plan (publication stage), only birds are screened in as mobile species most likely associated with designated sites (most particularly the South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC

7.6.4 Currently there is no definitive map of potential functionally linked land within Oldham Borough. However, given the ecology of the notable bird species most likely to be involved it is reasonable to assume that functionally linked land will be close to the boundary of designated sites and will not be close to significant settlements or substantive built development. The South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Joint Supplementary Planning Document prepared and adopted by Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Tameside Council in 2025 provides safeguards for developments within 2.5 km of the Moors and requires development within this area to carry out project-based surveys and assessments. In

addition, Policy JP-G5 (criterion 7) of the Places for Everyone Plan will act to mitigate effects on functionally linked land.

7.6.5 Policy N1 will also serve to mitigate for any potential impacts on functionally linked land.

7.6.6 It is concluded that sufficient mitigation is in place to avoid any likely significant effects on functionally linked land within Oldham.

7.7 Habitat and Species Disturbance

7.7.1 This impact which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

7.7.2 Spread of invasive species

This impact which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

7.8 Light spillage and shading

7.8.1 This impact which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

8.0 Consideration of 'In Combination' Effects with Other Plans and Proposals

8.1 The Habitats Regulation Assessment must consider the likely significant effect of the Plan in relation to other proposals and plans current or planned within the relevant administrative area, other administrative authorities and prepared by other statutory organisations (e.g. Environment Agency, United Utilities) and in combination with the identified effects of those Plans.

Cumulative effects for air quality, recreational pressure, water quality, hydrology and in-direct effects on functionally linked land have been considered. There are unlikely to be cumulative effects for direct loss of functionally linked land, light spillage and shading, spread of invasive species or disturbance.

8.2 Air Quality

South Pennines SPA/SAC

8.2.1 Places for Everyone concluded that the cumulative impact of the Plan could result in slight increases in airborne pollution to parts of this extensive site along the A6024, A627 and A57. The A57 and A6024 are the Snake and Woodhead Passes across the Pennines. However, the PfE HRA also concluded that the increases in airborne pollutants would not affect any notable habitats and species associated with European sites.

8.2.2 Integrated Policies N1 and LE3 within the Plan will also mitigate any possible air pollution effects.

8.2.3 I am therefore satisfied that there are no likely significant in-combination to the South Pennines SAC/SPA as a resulting from traffic generated by the Publication Oldham Local Plan.

Manchester Mosses SAC

8.2.4 Places for Everyone screened in air quality for the Manchester Mosses SAC, accepting that critical loads were already breached for Holcroft Moss and that the additional development across the nine PfE and Warrington Districts would add to this. The Warrington Local Plan also screened in the Manchester Mosses SAC because of additional traffic movements past Holcroft Moss. The Publication Oldham Local Plan will add further traffic movements. There is therefore the potential for a likely significant effect in-combination with the development proposals within Places for Everyone and the Warrington Local Plan as well as other local plans in preparation across Greater Manchester.

8.2.5 However an SPD has been produced by the nine local authorities involved in PfE, including Oldham Council, which provides measures to mitigate for the increased traffic movements resulting from development proposals in Places for Everyone and the Warrington Local Plan. As Oldham Council has adopted this SPD, which has been agreed with Natural England, providing that the agreed measures in the SPD are applied to development in Oldham no likely significant effects on the Manchester Mosses SAC will occur in-combination.

8.3 Recreational Pressure

8.3.1 Whilst increased recreational pressure due to visitors from Oldham has been screened out as having no likely significant effects on any Europeans sites in isolation, this does not necessarily mean that in combination with other plans a significant effects could not occur.

8.3.2 The relevant sites with pathways for recreational disturbance effects from Oldham are the South Pennines SPA/SAC and the Rochdale Canal SAC. As previously discussed, Natural England have stated that there is currently no empirical evidence that recreational disturbance is having significant effects on the South Pennines, and recreational pressures on the Rochdale Canal SAC are tightly controlled by the Canal and River Trust.

8.3.3 It is concluded that in-combination effects resulting from recreational pressure will not occur.

8.4 Water Quality

8.4.1 Whilst deterioration due to water pollutants originating from Oldham has been screened out as having no likely significant effects on any Europeans sites, this does not mean that in combination with other plans could not result in significant effects occurring.

8.4.2 The sites with pathways from Oldham include the Rochdale Canal SAC and the South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.

8.4.3 Integrated Policies CC2, CC3 and N1 will serve to control water pollution in the Rochdale Canal SAC. There will therefore be no cumulative effects.

8.4.4 Given the remoteness of the South Pennine moors designated sites, the fact that water flows are generally away from the Moors, and the operation of integrated Policies CC2, CC3 and N1, I would conclude that no cumulative effects will occur.

8.6 Indirect effects on Functionally Linked Land

8.6.1 The South Pennine Moors Joint SPD prepared by Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Tameside Council will effectively mitigate for any potential in-combination indirect effects on functionally linked land.

8.6.2 I am therefore satisfied that there are no likely significant in-combination effect to functionally linked land as a result of in-combination disturbance with the Publication Oldham Local Plan

9.0 Summary and Recommendations

9.1 Stage 1 of the HRA of effects of the Oldham Local Plan (publication stage) on European designated sites established that there were pathways to the following European sites that could potentially cause Likely Significant Effects from the operation of certain Policies in the Plan -

- Manchester Mosses SAC
- Rochdale Canal SAC
- South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC

9.3 A number of the Policies within the Plan were initially identified (Screened In) as potentially having a likely significant effect (LSE) on European Sites due to one or more of the following:

- Water Pollution
- Air pollution resulting from vehicular emissions and industry;
- Increased recreational pressure,
- Direct habitat loss,
- Indirect disturbance,
- Loss of functionally linked land,
- Light spillage and shading,
- Spread of invasive species,

9.2 Further, more detailed Assessment of the possible effects of the operation of these Policies on the European Sites identified in the Screening process has been undertaken, both alone and in combination with other relevant plans and policies.

9.5 It was concluded that development managed by the Draft Oldham Local Plan (publication stage) has the potential to cause likely significant effects on European sites in the absence of mitigation.

9.6 Mitigation for identified LSE is available, comprising –

- Holcroft Moss SPD
- South Pennine Moors SPD
- Integrated Plan Policies N1, N2, N3, CC2, CC3 and LE3
- Places for Everyone Policies including JP-G5 and JP-C8

9.7 Following consideration of the available mitigation it has been concluded that, providing the available mitigation is applied appropriately, the operation of the Draft Oldham Local Plan (publication stage) will not have any effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

9.8 It is recommended that if any changes are made to the Policies in the Plan as a result of either the public consultation or during the Examination in Public, then the HRA will need to be revisited and revised to ensure that these changes would not result in effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

9.9 It is recommended that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA.

References

1. Warrington Borough Council Updated Proposed Submission version Local Plan: Amended HRA – August 2021 AECOM

2. Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (submission) – February 2022 – GMEU

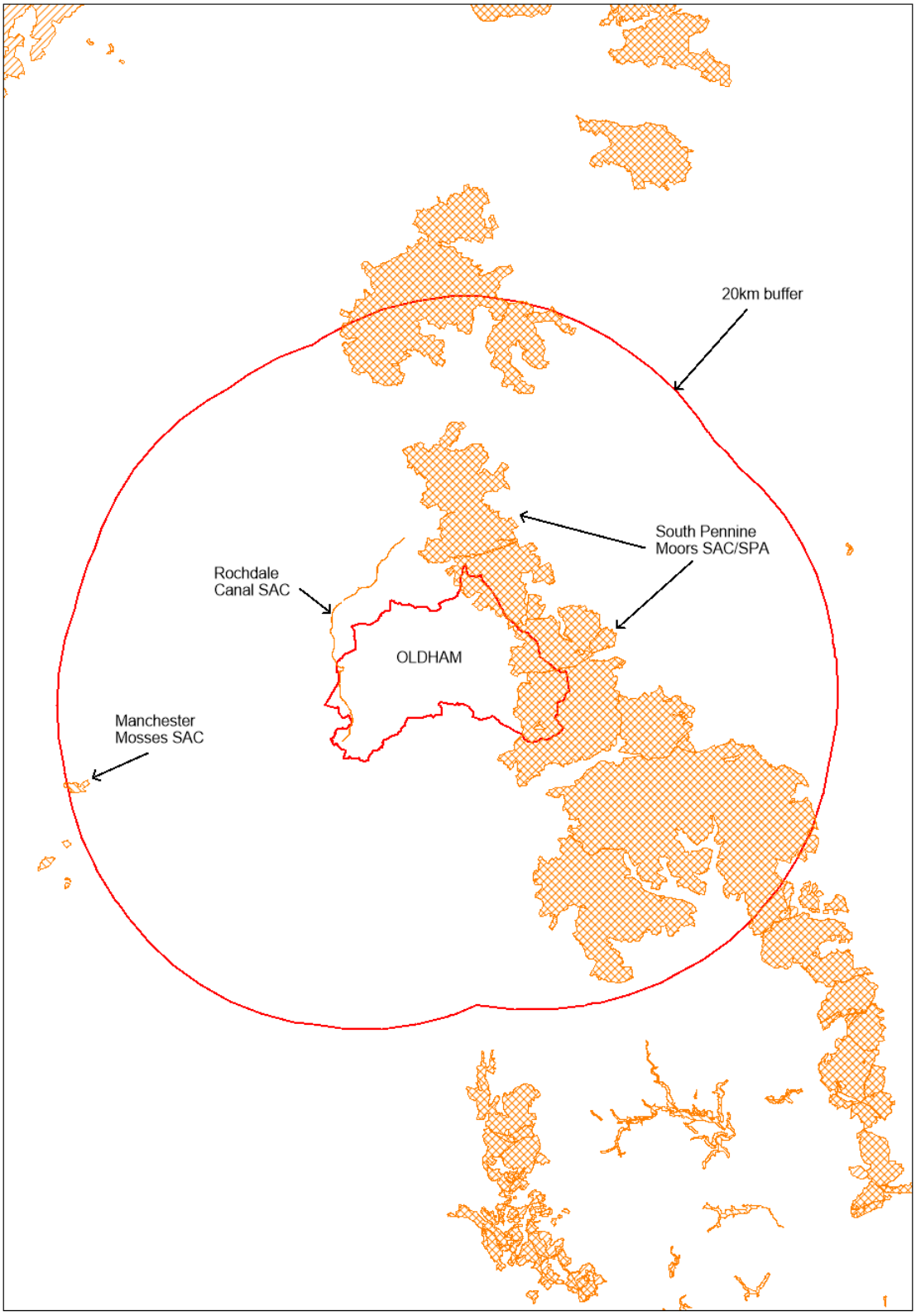
3. Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint Supplementary Planning Document May 2025

4. South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA Joint Supplementary Planning Document May 2025

5. Annual Lockage Report 2024 - Canal & River Trust 2025

Appendix 1 – Location of European Sites

Figure 1 – Location of European Sites within 20 km of Oldham



Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan: Integrated Assessment

January 2026

Oldham Council

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Availability

If you would like to receive this information in another format, such as large print, Braille, audio or alternative languages, please call us on telephone number 0161 770 4151.

1 ABBREVIATIONS

1.1 The following is a list of abbreviations used in this IA report.

BEA – Business and Employment Areas

BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain

DLUHC – Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

DPD - Development Plan Document

EIA - Equality Impact Assessment

GMCA - Greater Manchester Combined Authority

GMEU - Greater Manchester Ecology Unit

HIA - Health Impact Assessment

Ha – Hectare

IA - Integrated Assessment

HMOs – Houses in Multiple Occupation

HRA - Habitats Regulations Assessment

LACW - Local Authority Collected Waste

LGS – Local Green Space

LNRS – Local Nature Recovery Strategy

LSE – Likely Significant Effect

NEET - Not in Education, Employment or Training

Nox – Oxides of Nitrogen

ODPM - Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (now DCLG)

PDNP – Peak District National Park

PfE – Places for Everyone

PROW - Public Rights of Way

S106 – Section 106

SA - Sustainability Appraisal

SAC - Special Area of Conservation

SBI - Site of Biological Importance

SEA - Strategic Environmental Assessment

SHLAA – Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

SPA - Special Protection Areas

SPD – Supplementary Planning Document

SQM – Square Metres

SUDS - Sustainable Drainage Systems

2 INTRODUCTION

Local Plan Review

2.1 This report is the Integrated Assessment (IA) for the Local Plan review: Publication Plan. A separate non-technical summary has also been prepared.

2.2 Oldham's Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) was adopted on 9 November 2011.

2.3 Since then work started on Places for Everyone (PfE). Places for Everyone is the joint development plan of nine Greater Manchester local authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford, and Wigan) dealing with strategic planning issues including jobs, homes, transport, and natural environment.

2.4 All nine authorities adopted the PfE Plan and PfE became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities, on 21 March 2024.

2.5 PfE does not cover everything that a Local Plan would cover and therefore there is still a need to produce a Local Plan for Oldham. This gives us the opportunity to ensure that we address issues that are specific to Oldham, that matter to our residents and businesses and provide a positive local planning framework to address those issues. The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with PfE.

2.6 The focus on Oldham's Local Plan is on development management policies that will support PfE and guide development in the borough up to 2039. Upon adoption it will replace the Core Strategy and any saved Unitary Development Plan (UDP) planning policies that have not been superseded by PfE or the Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plans.

2.7 Underpinning the Local Plan will be the principles of sustainable development. It will meet the needs of Oldham and its residents while also achieving high-quality design, addressing climate change and increasing accessibility for all.

2.8 Oldham's Local Plan will apply to the whole borough, except for that part of the borough that is the planning responsibility of the Peak District National Park Authority.

Sustainable Development

2.9 Sustainable development is defined in NPPF as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

2.10 NPPF highlights that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives):

- **an economic objective** – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;
- **a social objective** – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and

- **an environmental role** – to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.

2.11 NPPF recognises that Local Plans should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements. This should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gains). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

2.12 The SA will be incorporated into an IA of the Local Plan review.

3 PURPOSE OF AN INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

3.1 In recognition that there will be linkages across the various assessments undertaken on the Local Plan, the SA, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA) will all form part of the 'Integrated Assessment' (IA). Each element of the IA is explained below. It will assess the economic, social and economic performance of the plan.

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.2 The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

3.3 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires the council to carry out a SA of each of the proposals in a Local Plan and to prepare a Local Plan with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development.

3.4 The council is also required under European Directive 2001/42/EC (the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive) and The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 to carry out an environmental assessment.

3.5 SAs incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 so that the potential environmental effects are given full consideration.

3.6 Therefore the IA for the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan will incorporate the requirements of the Directive and its Regulations.

3.7 An IA has been undertaken and developed for each stage of the Local Plan review. This report is the IA for the Publication Plan.

Environmental Outcomes Report

3.8 On 17 March 2023, the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) published a new approach to environmental assessment. The consultation sought views on a proposed new system of environmental assessment (‘Environmental Outcomes Reports’) to replace the current EU-derived environmental assessment processes of Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment.

3.9 Through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, government are seeking to secure the necessary powers to bring forward a new domestic framework for all the environmental assessment regimes which originate from the EU Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (EIA) and Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA) Directive. These reforms will ensure the value and rigour of environmental assessment is retained whilst allowing us to push for better environmental outcomes.

3.10 However at present the current system remains unchanged.

Equalities Impact Assessment

3.11 As a local authority, we are required by the Equality Act 2010 to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (contained in section 149 of the Act). This means that we need to carry out an equality analysis of our services and any proposals for change. We need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, services and functions, both current and proposed, give proper consideration and due regard to the needs of diverse groups to:

- eliminate discrimination;
- advance equality of opportunity and access; and
- foster good relations between different groups in the community.

3.12 The Public Sector Equality Duty requires us to have due regard to several equality considerations when exercising our functions. This should be carried out prior to implementing a policy, with a view to identifying its potential impact on equality. Whilst they are not required by law, they are a way of facilitating and evidencing compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

3.13 The protected characteristics considered are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation.

3.14 The equality duty is addressed through the council's Impact Assessment Tool. In addition to the protected characteristics the tool also considers impacts on Care leavers.

3.15 The Oldham Impact Assessment Tool helps to ensure the decisions made within Oldham Council fit with the council's visions and priorities within the council's Corporate Plan 'Ready for the Future'.

3.16 The Impact Assessment Tool was completed by planning policy. The outcome of the assessment is summarised in section 8, and the full findings are contained within Appendix 18 of the IA.

3.17 The IA also includes an objective relating to inclusive communities.

Health Impact Assessment

3.18 The role of the HIA is to assess the potential health and well-being impacts of the Local Plan.

3.19 The HIA has been undertaken by the planning policy team at Oldham Council, making use of the London Healthy Urban Development Units (HUDU): Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool.

3.20 The HIA can be seen in Appendix 18, and a summary is contained within section 8 of this IA.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

3.21 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) requires that a Local Development Document must be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (to be taken at least through the screening stage). This includes a Local Plan.

3.22 The purpose of a HRA of land use plans is to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at the regional and local level.

3.23 The HRA of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan has been prepared by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU). The findings of the HRA have been integrated into the IA.

3.24 A summary of the HRA is contained within section 8 of this IA and the full HRA can be seen in Appendix 19.

4 INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT PROCESS

4.1 The council has undertaken the IA internally, with the exception of the HRA which was carried by GMEU. In the preparation of the IA the council has referred to guidance contained in A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (ODPM, 2005). Although this guidance was prepared some time ago it is still considered to be very useful in setting out the stages on IA and ensuring that the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive requirements are covered. The council has also referred to guidance in Planning Practice Guidance.

4.2 The stages of the IA are set out below.

DPD: EVIDENCE GATHERING AND ENGAGEMENT

STAGE A: SETTING THE CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES, ESTABLISHING THE BASELINE AND DECIDING ON THE SCOPE

1. Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
2. Collect baseline information
3. Identify sustainability issues and problems
4. Develop the IA appraisal framework
5. Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the IA report

DPD: PRODUCTION AND CONSULTATION IA STAGES AND TASKS

STAGE B: DEVELOPING AND REFINING OPTIONS AND ASSESSING EFFECTS

1. Test the DPD objectives against the IA framework
2. Develop the DPD options including reasonable alternatives
3. Evaluate the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives
4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

STAGE C: PREPARING THE IA REPORT AND THE PUBLICATION VERSION OF THE DPD
STAGE D: SEEK REPRESENTATIONS ON THE IA REPORT AND THE PUBLICATION DPD FROM CONSULTATION BODIES AND THE PUBLIC

DPD: SUBMIT DRAFT DPD AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION
DPD: OUTCOME OF EXAMINATION

1. Consider implications for SA/SEA compliance

DPD: LOCAL PLAN ADOPTED

STAGE E: POST ADOPTION REPORTING AND MONITORING

1. Prepare and publish post adoption statement
2. Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
3. Respond to adverse effects

4.3 This IA report is Stage C of the IA process. It has appraised the vision, plan objectives and policies in the Publication Plan stage of the Local Plan review.

4.4 A summary of the Scoping Report (Stage A) is included below.

Scoping Report

4.5 A Scoping Report has been produced as part of the Integrated Assessment (IA) of Oldham's Local Plan (stage A). It was first prepared in 2017 as part of the Regulation 18 consultation. It was then updated for the Issues and Options stage (Update 1) in July 2021 and Draft Plan stage (Update 2) in 2023. The Scoping Report has been updated a final time for the Publication Plan (Update 3) to ensure the IA framework is still appropriate.

4.6 The Scoping Report has:

- Identified other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
- Collected baseline information
- Identified sustainability issues and problems
- Developed the IA framework

4.7 Consultation has taken place on each version of the Scoping Report and amendments have been made in response to these comments, where appropriate. The comments made and changes to the Scoping Report are outlined in each update version of the Scoping Report.

Table 1: Key changes to the IA Scoping Report

Scoping Report Version	Date	Local Plan version	Key changes made to the Scoping Report
Original Scoping Report	2017	Regulation 18 Notification	In response to the original scoping report, update 1 was amended to respond to key points raised: In response to Historic England more information was added on the historic environment, the importance of local character and identity and cultural heritage within the issues section. Landscape was separated out from the historic environment. Landscape character types were added to the baseline and the IA objectives and indicators were updated. An advice note on Inland waterways was incorporated into appendix 1 to address the Canal and River Trust comments and the contribution that waterways network can make was noted. The improvement of footpaths and cycle routes was also incorporated. It was also made clear that the canal is a historic asset. An IA objective on transport was amended and an indicator on sustainable transport modes added.

Scoping Report Version	Date	Local Plan version	Key changes made to the Scoping Report
			In response to Natural England an ecological map was added, and the issues were expanded on ensuring ecological networks are not compromised. IA objectives on contaminated land and soil and transport were reworded. Additional indicators relating to biodiversity were added. In relation to Environment Agency comments text was added regarding water quality, riparian development, green infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS). IA objectives on biodiversity and water resources were amended. An additional indicator was added on water quality and the SUDS indicator was amended. In relation to Lancashire Gardens Trust text was added regarding registered parks and gardens and preparation of a local list.
Scoping Report Update 1	July 2021	Local Plan Issues and Options	There were fewer comments requesting changes to the Scoping Report Update 1 as issues raised on the original Scoping Report had been addressed through Update 1. In relation to the main IA report the IA objectives have been numbered in the assessment tables for ease to address Historic England comments.
Scoping Report Update 2	December 2023	Draft Local Plan	Comments were made by Natural England. In response the Scoping Report Update 3 was updated to make reference to best and most versatile agricultural land; the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and irreplaceable habitats; the Peak District National Park (PDNP); Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Zones; the National Character Area; and analysis from the Green Infrastructure Strategy. Links between Biodiversity and other SEA topics were strengthened; reference to peat was added; links between climate change resilience and nature-based solutions offered from peatland; IA objectives 1 and 13 were amended; and presentational changes were made.
Scoping Report Update 3	December 2025	Publication Plan	This is the final Scoping Report for the Publication Plan and reflects the above changes.

4.8 A summary of each stage of the Scoping Report Update 3 is shown below.

Stage A1: Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives: Purpose of the task

4.9 The SEA Directive requires:

- The "relationship (of the plan or programme) with other relevant plans and programmes" (Annex I(a))
- "the environmental protection objectives, established at international, (European) Community or (national) level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation" (Annex I(e))

4.10 This stage is summarised in section 9 of the Scoping Report Update 3 and the review of plans and programmes is contained in Appendix 1 of the Scoping Report Update 3.

Stage A2: Collect baseline information

4.11 The SEA requires:

- the "relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme"; and
- "the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected" (Annex I (b), (c)).

4.12 The purpose of collecting baseline information is to provide a basis to predict and monitor environmental effects. It identifies environmental problems and alternative ways of dealing with them.

4.13 Annex I of the Directive lists aspects of the baseline to be considered. The IA focusses only on those where significant effects are likely. The aspects of the baseline to be considered are:

- Biodiversity;
- Population;
- Human health;
- Fauna;
- Flora;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; and
- Landscape.

4.14 Section 10 and Appendix 2 of the Scoping Report Update 3 covers this stage.

Stage A3: Identify sustainability issues and problems

4.15 The SEA requires:

- Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC (Annex I (d)).

4.16 By identifying the sustainability problems through the identification of other relevant objectives (Appendix 1 of the Scoping Report) and collection of baseline information (Appendix 2 of the Scoping Report) a range of key issues are identified which help to define the IA objectives.

4.17 This section is summarised in section 11 and 12 in Scoping Report Update 3. A summary of the issues and problems is outlined below.

BIODIOVERSITY / FAUNA / FLORA / SOIL

4.18 There is a need to:

- protect and enhance a multi-functional green infrastructure network including biodiversity, geodiversity and nature recovery networks
- protect and enhance soils and remediate contaminated land

LANDSCAPES (AND TOWNSCAPES / DESIGN)

4.19 There is a need to:

- ensure that development makes a positive contribution to landscape and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place
- ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land
- promote high-quality design

CULTURAL HERITAGE (HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT)

4.20 There is a need to:

- protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, including its wider setting and to preserve and conserve archaeological heritage

POPULATION

4.21 There is a need to:

- provide for a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs
- provide an appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs
- promote inclusive sustainable communities and community cohesion

4.22 There is a need to:

- improve education and skills attainment
- promote economic growth
- enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres
- promote sustainable tourism and recreation

HUMAN HEALTH

4.23 There is a need to:

- improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities across the borough
- promote quality and accessible open spaces
- protect and improve local environmental quality

WATER

4.24 There is a need to:

- avoid and mitigate against flood risk
- sustainably manage water resources and protect and enhance water quality
- adapt and be resilient to climate change

AIR / CLIMATIC FACTORS

4.25 There is a need to:

- continue improving air quality
- reduce energy use, promote energy efficiency, and promote renewable and low carbon energy
- promote access to key services to reduce the need to travel
- encourage walking and cycling
- promote a sustainable low emission, integrated, efficient transport system that supports growth in the borough

MATERIAL ASSETS

4.26 There is a need to:

- promote sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy
- manage minerals sustainably

Stage A4: Develop the Integrated Assessment Framework

4.27 The SEA requires:

- *"The environmental protection objectives, established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation (Annex I (e))"*

4.28 The guidance explains that the IA objectives are a way of considering effects of the Local Plan and comparing the effects of alternatives. They serve a different purpose than the Local Plan objectives although they are very likely to overlap. IA objectives help to show

whether the objectives of the plan are beneficial for the environment, to compare the environmental effects or alternatives or to suggest improvements.

4.29 The table in Appendix 3 of the Scoping Report Update 3 translates the identified issues into proposed IA objectives with corresponding indicators so that the issues and problems can be assessed and monitored.

4.30 The proposed IA objectives and indicators are set out below, which have been refined through consultation on the Scoping Report.

Proposed IA objectives and indicators

Table 2 IA Objectives and Indicators

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA1) To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates) % of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation Percentage of tree canopy cover In addition, Biodiversity Duty Reports will be prepared including information on Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
IA2) To promote quality and accessible open spaces.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision
IA3) To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local	Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds. Number and type of development permitted

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
distinctiveness and sense of place.	within Local Green Spaces Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt
IA4) To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting.	Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills. PfE - Increase percentage of buildings on the "at risk register" with a strategy for their repair and re-use
IA5) To promote high-quality design that meets local design expectations.	Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code
IA6) To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land.	Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt Number and type of developments permitted within Local Green Spaces Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm) gross New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Number of vacant properties
IA7) To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.	Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend). Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities
IA8) To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision Life Expectancy Proportion of physically active adults Childhood obesity rates

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England The number of new hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate (as defined in Policy CO7)
IA9) To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk.	PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds) Number of new developments agreed with the council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM).
IA10) To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources.	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds
IA11) To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land.	Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land.
IA12) To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	PfE: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B % of households living in fuel poverty
IA13) To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	Percentage of tree canopy cover PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds)

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA14) To protect and improve air quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA15) To protect and improve local environmental quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year The number of new hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate (as defined in Policy CO7)
IA16) To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection and enhancement of the PROW Network.	Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA17) To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel.	Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above
IA18) To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
disparity.	metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA19) To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross)

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA20) To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill.	Number of homes completed within the borough's centres Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA21) To promote sustainable tourism and leisure.	Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA22) To improve education attainment and skill levels.	State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	education related facilities PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA23) To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.	Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings -in previous years; Net additional dwellings -for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings -in future years; and Managed delivery target New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Total housing completions by size and type on major sites Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) PfE also includes indicators on housing.
IA24) To ensure the prudent use and	The GM Minerals Development Plan

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
sustainable management of minerals.	Document sets out indicators which are monitored by GMCA.
IA25) To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy.	The GM Waste Development Plan Document sets out indicators which are monitored by GMCA.
IA26) To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	It is considered that the plan as a whole and therefore all indicators will help achieve this objective.

4.31 Section 17 of the Scoping Report Update 3 outlines the IA assessment approach for the vision, plan objectives and plan policies incorporating the IA objectives.

4.32 Scores were expressed as:

Key:

++ = significantly positive

+ = positive

? = uncertain

-- = neutral

X = potentially negative

XX = potentially significantly negative

S = Short term (less than 5 years)

M = Medium Term (5 to 10 years)

L = Long term (over 10 years)

L = Local

CB = Cross boundary

P = Permanent

4.33 Each score is justified by commentary. The assessment also takes account of any significant environmental effects including secondary (indirect effects) and cumulative / synergistic (where effects interact to produce a total greater effect).

4.34 Any assumptions and uncertainties will also be expressed.

Stage A5: Consulting on the scope of the Integrated Assessment

4.35 The SEA requires:

- *"...The authorities...Which, by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programmes ...Shall be consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report" (Article 5.4 and 6.3)*

4.36 The council has consulted the following three consultation bodies on the scope and level of detail in each version of the IA Scoping Report. The consultation bodies are:

- Historic England;
- Natural England; and
- Environment Agency.

4.37 Scoping Report Update 1 (section 7) outlines the comments received on the original Scoping Report and how these have been considered.

4.38 Scoping Report Update 2 (section 8) outlines the comments received on the Scoping Report Update 1 and how these have been considered.

4.39 Scoping Report Update 3 (section 7) outlines the comments received on the Scoping Report Update 2 and how these have been considered.

4.40 Scoping Report Update 3 is available, alongside this IA and the Publication Plan as part of the Regulation 19 consultation on the Oldham Local Plan. Please see statement of availability for further details.

5 APPRAISAL OF THE OLDHAM LOCAL PLAN

5.1 This IA is now looking at Stage C of the IA process (preparing the IA report). In reaching this milestone some of the steps in Stage B are repeated, including evaluating the effects of the DPD (step 3); considering ways of mitigating effects and maximising beneficial effects (step 4) and proposing measures to monitor the significant effects (step 5), as outlined below.

DPD: Production and consultation
IA Stages and tasks
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects
1: Test the DPD objectives against the IA framework
2: Develop the DPD options including reasonable alternatives
3: Evaluate the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives
4: Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
5: Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

5.2 The SEA requires:

Stage B:

"…an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated" (Article 5.1). Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes "an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with" (Annex I (h));

Stage C:

"The environmental report shall include information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, (and) its stage in the decision-making process" (Article 5.2).

Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes:

"the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects" (Annex I (f) and footnote).

"an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with" (Annex I (h))

“the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme” (Annex I (g))

Integrated Assessment objectives

5.3 Stage A4 above outlines the IA objectives that have been used to assess the vision, plan objectives and policies of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan.

5.4 Section 17 of the Scoping Report Update 3 sets out the approach to carrying out the IA using the objectives and the scoring system.

5.5 Overall conclusions have been made highlighting any changes needed to mitigate significant effects or to enhance positive effects. The HRA screening has been incorporated.

5.6 This IA report includes the outcomes of the IA of the Issues and Options for completeness and the outcomes of the IA appraisal of the Draft Local Plan stage[1]. It then presents the outcomes of the IA appraisal at Publication Plan stage. This allows readers to see how the Local Pan has progressed over time informed by the IA in one report.

[1] Please note at Draft Plan stage site allocations were proposed. This IA report does not include a summary of the IA completed on the site allocations as site allocations are no longer proposed. Please see previous versions of the IA for the appraisal of site allocations.

6 IA APPRAISAL AT ISSUES AND OPTIONS STAGE

Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

1: Test the DPD objectives against the IA framework
2. Develop the DPD options including reasonable alternatives
3: Evaluate the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives
4: Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects

Vision and DPD objectives appraisal

6.1 An IA appraisal of the vision and each plan objective at Issues and Options was carried out.

6.2 The summary results of this are shown below. For the full appraisal please see the IA for the Issues and Options stage.

Vision

6.3 The vision in the Issues and Options scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores.

Table 3: IA of vision at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Vision score	9	12	5	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.4 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

6.5 The vision was enhanced through the IA process with the inclusion of references to education facilities; mitigating, adapting and being resilient to climate change; multi-functional Green Infrastructure and the Nature Recovery Network; historic environment; townscapes; and accessible open spaces.

Plan Objectives:

6.6 The top line of each plan objective is included to give an indication of its content. For the full plan objective wording please see the Issues and Options Plan document.

6.7 The scores were considered the same for short to long term. The appraisal also has identified direct and secondary (indirect effects).

Plan Objective 1 Building quality homes to meet the local need and diversify the housing offer by ….

Table 4: IA of plan objective 1 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Plan Objective 1 score	5	12	8 One neutral also had a ? giving a mixed score	2 One ? also had a neutral giving a mixed score	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.8 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

6.9 IA objective 1 scored an uncertain as the plan objective was screened in by the HRA and was therefore subject to further screening as the Local Plan developed through to Draft Plan stage. At this stage no mitigation was identified.

6.10 Another uncertain was the impact of the plan objective on economic growth, however the justification highlights that the objective is likely to have secondary indirect positive effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

6.11 No enhancements identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 17 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by…

Table 5: IA of plan objective 2 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Plan Objective 2 score	3	5	18 One of the neutral scores was a mixed	1 This ? is a mixed score with a neutral	0	0

			score with a ?.			

Mitigating adverse effects

6.12 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

6.13 IA objective 2 scored an uncertain as the plan objective was screened in by the HRA and was therefore subject to further screening as the Local Plan developed through to Draft Plan stage. At this stage no mitigation was identified.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.14 The plan objective was enhanced by making reference to high quality suitable developments in relation to IA5, IA12, IA13, IA15 and IA16. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 8 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO3 Providing opportunities to grow local businesses and create jobs by…

Table 6: IA of plan objective 3 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Plan Objective 3 score	3	9	14 One of the neutral scores was a mixed score with a ?	1 This ? is a mixed score with a neutral	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.15 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

6.16 IA objective 3 scored an uncertain as the plan objective was screened in by the HRA and was therefore subject to further screening as the Local Plan developed through to Draft Plan stage. At this stage no mitigation was identified.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.17 The plan objective was enhanced by making reference to supporting the expansion of green technologies in relation to IA12 and IA13 and connectivity to an integrated transport system in relation to IA16.

6.18 The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 12 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO4 Supporting thriving Town Centres by…

Table 7: IA of plan objective 4 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 4 score	10	9	7	1 This ? is a mixed score with a ++	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.19 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

6.20 IA objective 4 scored an uncertain as the plan objective was screened in by the HRA and was therefore subject to further screening as the Local Plan developed through to Draft Plan stage. At this stage no mitigation was identified.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.21 No enhancements were identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 19 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO5 Ensuring Oldham is a greener borough by…

Table 8: IA of plan objective 5 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 5 score	15	7	4	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.22 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.23 No enhancements were identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 22 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO6 Embedding sustainability, energy efficiency and low (zero) carbon by…

Table 9: IA of plan objective 6 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 6 score	7	10	9	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.24 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.25 No enhancements were identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 17 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO7 Improving life-chances and the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by…

Table 10: IA of plan objective 7 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 7 score	9 One of the ++ was a mixed score with a ?	6	11	1 This ? is a mixed score with a ++	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.26 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

6.27 IA objective 7 scored an uncertain as the plan objective was screened in by the HRA and was therefore subject to further screening as the Local Plan developed through to Draft Plan stage. At this stage no mitigation was identified.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.28 No enhancements were identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 15 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO8 Improving and valuing a better environment, including the borough's historic environment, by …

Table 11: IA of plan objective 8 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 8 score	5	14	7	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.29 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.30 No enhancements were identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 19 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

PO9 Ensuring our residents and workforce have fit for purpose, modern connectivity by…

Table 12: IA of plan objective 9 at Issues and Options stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 9 score	4	12	10	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

6.31 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

Maximising beneficial effects

6.32 No enhancements were identified. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 16 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

DPD Options: Spatial Options

6.33 At Issues and Options stage, several spatial options were assessed including reasonable alternatives.

6.34 The likely effects of each of these options / alternatives were assessed and any mitigation / enhancements to maximise beneficial effects were outlined.

6.35 The scores were considered the same for short to long term at this stage. The appraisal also has identified direct and secondary (indirect effects).

Affordable Housing

Table 13: IA of Affordable Housing Spatial Options at Issues and Options stage

Spatial option	Appraisal summary	Amendments made to option as a result of the IA
Affordable Housing Option A: Should an affordable housing requirement be applied borough-wide?	++ (2) + (4) --(20) ? (0) X (0) Xx (0)	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.
Affordable Housing Option B: Should there be a different affordable housing requirement for different parts of the borough, depending on their need?	++ (4) + (2) --(20) ? X Xx	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.

6.36 Spatial Option B (targeted approach to affordable housing) resulted in more significantly positive outcomes and therefore potentially greater beneficial effects overall than Spatial Option A (boroughwide approach).

6.37 No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

Homes in Multiple Occupation

Table 14: IA of Homes in Multiple Occupation Spatial Options at Issues and Options stage

Spatial option	Appraisal summary	Amendments made to option as a result of the IA
HMO Option A: If there is found to be a concentration of HMOs within a particular area, would you agree with the introduction of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights for HMOs in specific areas, as necessary?	++ (0) + (6) --(20) ? (0) X (0) Xx (0)	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.
HMO Option B: If there is found to be a concentration of HMOs within a particular area, would you agree with the introduction of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights for HMOs boroughwide?	++ (0) + (6) --(20) ? (0) X (0) Xx (0)	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.

6.38 The IA appraisal for HMO Spatial Options A and B both scored the same. No adverse effects were identified therefore no mitigation was required.

Housing Allocations:

Table 15: IA of Housing Allocations Spatial Options at Issues and Options stage

Spatial option	Appraisal summary	Amendments made to option as a result of the IA
Option A: Should Oldham focus the identification of housing allocations within the urban area – in Oldham Town Centre, the borough's other centres, key public transport corridors, on previously developed land, vacant and under-utilised buildings (including the re-use of employment sites and mills, where appropriate)?	++ (8) + (11) -(7) ? (2) X (0) Xx (0) Option scored a couple of uncertainties as townscape, distinctiveness and the historic environment will need to be managed in relation to scale of development.	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available to suggest mitigation.
Option B: Should Oldham focus the identification of housing allocations within the urban area as in Option A, but also include within the scope open spaces (where identified as surplus to requirements through the council's open space study), land currently designated as Other Protected Open Land where it does not meet Local Green Space (LGS) criteria, and previously developed land in the Green Belt where this meets national planning policy.	++ (2) + (14) -(8) ? (12) X (1) Xx (0) Option scored several uncertainties as townscape, distinctiveness and the historic environment and other considerations will need to be managed in relation to scale of development and any necessary mitigation. Health was a potentially negative score as open land may be used for recreation.	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available to suggest mitigation.

6.39 The IA of the housing allocation options showed at this stage generally there were more uncertainties around Option B, whilst Option A scored more positive overall.

6.40 Any uncertainties and potential adverse impacts would need to be further appraised and mitigated where required, for either option.

Employment Allocations

Table 16: IA of Employment Allocations Spatial Options at Issues and Options stage

Spatial Option	Appraisal summary	Amendments made to option as a result of the IA
Option A: To focus more on the connectivity to our existing employment sites and neighbouring districts key employment sites.	++ (5) + (15) -(5) ? (1) X (0) Xx (0) Option scored uncertain for local environmental quality as each site would need to be assessed.	The spatial option was enhanced in the Issues and Options Report as a result of the IA by making reference to sustainable connectivity. At this point draft policy wording was not available to identify further mitigation or enhancements.
Option B: A combination of providing some new employment land and improving connectivity to existing and neighbouring districts key employment sites.	++ (3) + (17) -(5) ? (10) X (0) Xx (0) Option scored several uncertainties as the location of development was not known to assess impacts on green infrastructure and the wider natural and built environment.	The spatial option was enhanced in the Issues and Options Report as a result of the IA by making reference to sustainable connectivity. At this point draft policy wording was not available to identify further mitigation or enhancements.

6.41 The IA of the employment allocation options shows that Option A scores more significantly positive scores. Whereas at this stage there are more uncertainties with Option B, which if taken forward would need further assessment and mitigation may be required.

6.42 The spatial options were enhanced by making reference to sustainable connectivity in relation to IA14.

Health and Well Being

Table 17: IA of Health and Well Being Spatial Options at Issues and Options stage

Spatial option	Appraisal summary	Amendments made to option as a result of the IA
Option A: Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways within 400m of a school?	++ (0) + (4) -(22) ? (0) X (0) Xx (0)	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.
Option B: Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways in areas with high levels of obesity?	++ (1) + (3) -(22) ? (0) X (0) Xx (0)	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.
Option C: Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways within 400m of a school and in areas with high levels of obesity?	++ (3) + (1) -(22) ? (0) X (0) Xx (0)	N/A. At this point draft policy wording was not available.

6.43 The IA of Option A, B and C scored neutral against most IA objectives. However, Option B and C scored a significantly positive impact against the IA objective 'To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities'. Option C scored significantly positive against a further two IA objectives relating to local environmental quality and centres and therefore results in potentially greater beneficial effects overall.

Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

6.44 The IA indicators have been established through Stage A of the IA process (Scoping Report) and have been amended in response to consultation responses. At Issues and Options stage these were set out within Section 15 of the Scoping Report Update 1.

Equalities Impact Assessment of Issues and Options Stage

6.45 The Equalities' Impact Assessment (EIA) that was carried out on the Issues and Options plan document is contained within Appendix 1 in the IA (2021).

6.46 The overall impact of the Issues and Options on groups and communities was 'None / Minimal'. It was concluded that a full EIA assessment was not required.

6.47 In coming to the decision, it was considered that the Local Plan Issues and Options should have a positive impact on members of public from different age groups, ethnic backgrounds and those on lower incomes as it draws on a large evidence base including Sustainability Appraisals, council statistics, public consultation and monitoring to identify the planning issues facing Oldham.

6.48 The Issues and Options seeks to provide options that aim to improve the lives of all residents and groups in Oldham. For example, the Local Plan may have a positive impact on different age groups and those on lower incomes by setting out how the council will provide a range of housing to meet their needs. It seeks to improve local public transport and walking and cycling connections and make sure there is a range of accessible employment opportunities. It also plans to safeguard and improve the local natural environment which would again benefit all people in Oldham through improved air quality for example.

Health Impact Assessment at Issues and Options Stage

6.49 The Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Screening that was carried out on the Issues and Options plan document is contained within Appendix 2 in the IA (2021).

6.50 An Assessment of each plan objective was carried out. The HIA showed a positive response overall in relation to the plan objectives.

Habitats Regulations Assessment at Issues and Options Stage

6.51 A separate Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) on the Issues and Options was prepared by GMEU. A summary was provided in Section 11 of the Issues and Options IA.

6.52 The HRA Screening of Issues and Options screened the plan including the vision and plan objectives.

6.53 The parts of the Plan which could cause harmful Effects, and which have been Screened in, were:

- Plan Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7.
- Issues and Options on Homes, Economy and Employment, Centres and Infrastructure.

6.54 The HRA noted the need to carry out further screening and possible assessment as the Local Plan progresses.

7 IA APPRAISAL OF DRAFT PLAN

7.1 The IA of the Draft Local Plan repeated Stage B. It:

1: Tested the DPD objectives against the IA framework

3: Evaluated the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives

4: Considered ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects

7.2 However, the developing DPD options including reasonable alternatives (task 2) task has already been completed as part of the Issues and Options stage, so this task is not repeated again.

7.3 Instead, the Draft Local Plan presented the preferred spatial options in the form of draft policies resulted from the spatial options.

Vision and DPD objectives appraisal

7.4 An IA appraisal of the vision and each plan objective at Draft Local Plan stage has been carried out.

7.5 The summary results of this are shown below. For the full appraisal please see Appendix 1 in the IA for the Draft Local Plan.

Vision

7.6 The vision in the Draft Local Plan scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores.

Table 18: IA of vision at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Vision score	17	7	2	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.7 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

7.8 No enhancements were identified to the vision. The vision scored positively / significantly positive against 24 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.9 In comparison to the vision at Issues and Option stage where the vision scored positively against 21 IA objectives and enhancements were made, the vision at draft plan stage has resulted in more positive scores.

Plan Objectives:

7.10 The top line of each plan objective (PO) is included to give an indication of the content of each plan objective. For the full plan objective wording please see the Draft Local Plan document or IA Appendix 2.

7.11 The scores were considered the same for short to long-term at this stage. The appraisal also has identified direct and secondary (indirect effects).

PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer by…

Table 19: IA of plan objective 1 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 1 score	5	12	9	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.12 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

7.13 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 1. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 17 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.14 In comparison to the housing plan objective at Issues and Option stage where the objective scored positively against 18 IA objectives, plan objective 1 at Draft Local Plan stage has resulted in one more neutral score. This is as a result of reflecting on the objective further.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by:

Table 20: IA of plan objective 2 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 2 score	4	4	18	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.15 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

7.16 The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 8 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact. The objective scored a lot of neutrals given its specific nature.

7.17 The plan objective was enhanced as a result of the IA process in relation to IA6 on the efficient use of land. This was to clarify that the plan objective applies to existing facilities and not just new facilities. Wording was amended from ‘new sites’ to ‘suitable sites’.

7.18 The plan objective is not comparable to the plan objective at Issues and Options stage due to the objective on education at Issues and Options stage being split between two plan objectives (PO2 and PO7) and merged with other plan objective aims.

PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses by:

Table 21: IA of plan objective 3 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Plan Objective 3 score	3	10	13	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.19 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

7.20 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 3. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 13 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.21 In comparison to plan objective 3 at Issues and Options stage the IA objective has scored one more positive.

PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres by:

Table 22: IA of plan objective 4 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 4 score	12	11	3	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.22 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

7.23 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 4. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 23 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.24 In comparison to plan objective 4 at Issues and Options stage the IA objective has scored four more positives.

PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes by:

Table 23: IA of plan objective 5 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 5 score	12	7	7	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.25 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

7.26 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 5. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 19 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.27 The plan objective is not comparable to the objective at Issues and Options stage as objective 5 regarding the borough's environment has been split into two so that the objectives are clearer and better defined. Objective 5 now deals with the borough's landscape and objective 6 deals with protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment.

PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment by:

Table 24: IA of plan objective 6 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 6 score	12	11	3	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.28 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

7.29 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 6. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 23 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.30 The plan objective is not comparable to the objective at Issues and Options stage as since the IA of the Issues and Options, Objective 5 regarding the borough's environment has been split into two, so that the objectives are clearer and better defined. Objective 5 now deals with the borough's landscape and objective 6 deals with protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment.

PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change by:

Table 25: IA of plan objective 7 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 7 score	9	8	9	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.31 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

7.32 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 7. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 17 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact. This is the same number of positive scores for the plan objective (PO6) at Issues and Options stage.

PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by:

Table 26: IA of plan objective 8 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 8 score	9	11	6	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.33 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

7.34 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 8. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 20 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.35 The revised plan objective scores five more positives than the plan objective (PO7) at Issues and Options stage.

PO9 Improving and valuing a better built environment, by:

Table 27: IA of plan objective 9 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 9 score	6	10	10	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.36 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

7.37 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 9. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 16 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.38 The revised plan objective scores three fewer positives than the plan objective (PO8) at Issues and Options stage. This may be due to the plan objectives at Issues and Options stage being more detailed. At Draft Local Plan stage they have been refined further.

PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices, by:

Table 28: IA of plan objective 10 at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 10 score	9	6	11	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

7.39 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

7.40 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 10. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 15 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

7.41 The revised plan objective scores one fewer positive than the plan objective (PO9) at Issues and Options stage. This may be due to further consideration.

Plan Policies Appraisal

7.42 Each plan policy in the Draft Local Plan was appraised. The full IA appraisal can be seen in Appendix 3 to 16 of the Draft Plan IA, which also shows whether effects are temporary or permanent and local or cross boundary (cross boundary was assumed to include local effects too).

7.43 A summary of the appraisal is given below. The long-term scores have been shown below for ease, however the ‘variation in scores’ notes where there may have been any differences in scores over the short to long-term. For short-and medium-term scores please see the full IA appraisal in the appendix. The variation in scores also notes any mixed scores.

7.44 Any mitigation and / or enhancements are also shown where the policy wording was amended as a result of the IA.

7.45 However, generally mitigation is provided through other plan policies either in Places for Everyone (PfE) or those in Draft Local Plan as the plan should be read as a whole.

7.46 Examples of the policies that would help provide mitigation have been expressed in the full IA in the relevant appendix.

Homes

Table 29: IA of Homes policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy H1: Delivering a Diverse Housing Offer	5	7	13	0	1	0	None	A negative score was given as sites in the housing land supply could include open spaces. Mitigation would be provided through Policy CO1. The policy has been screened in by the HRA as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy H2: Housing Mix	3	9	14	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	
Policy H3: Density of New Housing	4	10	12	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy H4: Homes for Older People	4	7	15	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy H5: Homes for Disabled People	4	6	16	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased	In relation to IA17 the IA identified that the policy reasoned justification could reference accessibility to key services and public transport to

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	improve effectiveness. Reference to accessibility and policies H1 and CO9 was added to the reasoned justification of the policy.
Policy H6: Homes for Children and Care Leavers	3	9	14	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy H7: Affordable Housing	4	4	18	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy H8: Vacant Building Credit	3	7	16	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy 9: Rural Exception Sites	2	1	17	6	1	0	There was a mixed score of +/? against IA 18 (regeneration)	A negative score was given as rural exception sites are likely to be in the Green Belt and possibly including greenfield sites. However, policy OL2 would need to be met. The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy H10: Houses in Multiple Occupation	3	8	15	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	
Policy H11: Custom / Self-Build and Community-led Housing	2	4	20	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy H12: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	3	4	19	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects	None
Policy H13: Housing and Mixed-Use Allocations	5	9	9	3	2	0	A X/? score was given against IA 1 (green	No mitigation required as Policies N1 to N3	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							infrastructure), and a +/? score was given for IA11 (soil) due to loss of soil / green infrastructure as some sites may include greenfield sites / open space.	and CO1 mitigates loss of open space. The HRA has screened the policy in as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	

Economy and Employment

Table 30: IA of Economy and Employment policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy E1 – Business and Employment Areas	5	4	17	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows). There may also be possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal. The HRA has also screened in Business Employment Areas (BEAs) (which this policy relates to) as they could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution. In addition, Hollinwood Business District; Wrigley Street and Greengate / Broadgate BEAs are close to the	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								Rochdale Canal SAC (within 200m) and development could result in direct impacts on the Canal. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	
Policy E2 – Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas and other existing employment sites	2	3	20	1	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows). There may also be possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy E3 – Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings	3	2	21	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows). There may also be possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	
Policy E4 – Office, Industry and Warehousing Allocations	4	1	20	1	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in due to possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects. There may also be possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								address likely significant effects.	

Tourism

Table 31: IA of Tourism policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy TM1 – Tourism	8	8	10	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in due to possible cause of increase in recreational disturbance, both to the Canal and to the South Pennine Moors. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address likely significant effects.	None
Policy TM2 – Farm Diversification	2	4	19	1	0	0	None	None	None

Centres

Table 32: IA of Centres policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy C1 – Our Centres	6	7	13	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy C2 – Local Services and Facilities	3	6	17	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy C3 – Retail and Leisure Impact Assessments and Sequential Tests	4	6	16	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy C4 – Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres	7	6	13	0	0	0	In relation to IA18 (regeneration) and IA19 (economic growth) the effects increase from + in the short term to ++ in the long term.	None	None

Oldham Town Centre

Table 33: IA of Oldham Town Centre policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy OTC1: Oldham Town Centre	14	9	3	0	0	0	IA6 (Efficient use of land); IA15 (local environmental quality); IA18 (regeneration); IA19 (economic growth); IA20 (centres); IA21 (tourism) and IA26 (inclusive communities) increased in effects over time from + in the short term to ++ in the long term.	None	None
Policy OTC2: Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	8	10	8	0	0	0	None	None	Policy amended from 'appropriate greening' to 'appropriate multi-functional green infrastructure' to ensure many benefits are delivered from greening against IA objectives 1 on green infrastructure, IA2 on open space and IA9 on flood risk.
Policy OTC3: Creating a Better Public Realm for	12	4	10	0	0	0	None	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Oldham Town Centre									
Policy OTC4 - Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre	11	9	6	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy OTC5 - Creating better vehicular parking and drop off facilities in Oldham Town Centre	7	2	17	0	0	0	None	None	None

Addressing Climate Change

Table 34: IA of Addressing Climate Change policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CC1 – Sustainable Construction, Energy Efficiency and Retrofitting	8	6	13	0	0	0	IA8 (health), IA14 (air quality) and IA18 (regeneration and disparity) scored + in the short term to ++ in the long time.	None	None
Policy CC2 Renewable & Low Carbon Energy	4	9	13	0	3	0	Mixed scores of --/x were given against IA2 (open space) and IA11 (soil) as the policy partially met the objective. IA18 also scored --/x as minerals is not included within the criteria. IA18 (energy) scored + in the short term to ++ in the long term.	For IA2 the policy was mitigated by ensuring that open space is included within the criteria. For IA11 the policy was mitigated by ensuring that loss of high-quality soil and agricultural land was included within the criteria. For IA24 a new criterion referring to Minerals Safeguarding Areas has been added.	None
Policy CC3 - Managing Flood Risk	5	7	14	0	0	0	None	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CC4 - Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water	4	7	15	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CC5 - Water Efficiency	2	7	17	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CC6 Groundwater Source Protection Zones	1	3	22	0	0	0	None	None	None

Open Land

Table 35: IA of Addressing Natural Environment and Open Land policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy OL1 Consideration for the Peak District National Park	0	8	17	0	1	0	None	IA12 scored negative as policy could constrain renewable energy, in particular wind energy, however mitigation is not required as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines and other plan policies address energy.	None
Policy OL2 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's Green Belt	3	14	8	2	1	0	IA12 (energy) scored a mixed score of X/? as the policy could constrain some types of low carbon energy in the Green Belt. IA16 scored a mixed score of +/? As the policy may enhance the Green Belt including walking and cycling routes but	For IA12 mitigation is not needed as it may not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits in line with plan policies. Other policies address energy including CC1 and CC2.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							specific improvements are not identified.		
Policy OL3 Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt	0	4	22	0	0	0	None	None	For clarity, in relation to IA4 design was mentioned twice in the policy criterions and therefore to remove repetition reference to design was removed from criterion 1.
Policy OL4 Local Green Space	6	12	8	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy OL5 Protecting dark skies and tranquillity	3	6	17	0	0	0	None	None	None

Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency

Table 36: IA of Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy N1 Protecting Nature	4	8	14	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy N2 Restoring Nature	8	5	12	1	0	0	None	None. Uncertainty was expressed as there may be overlap between BNG and minerals. Any offset sites would not be able to be worked for minerals but wouldn't necessarily sterilise as such. Therefore, no mitigation needed and Minerals DPD addresses minerals.	None
Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development	12	9	5	0	0	0	IA13 (resilience) scores + in the short term to ++ in the long term.	None	None
Policy N4 Tree Replacement	2	9	15	0	0	0	IA8 (health), IA9 (flood risk), IA11 (soil quality), IA13 (climate change) and IA14 (air quality) scored neutral in the short term to positive in the medium and long	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							term as in the short term, any tree loss that is compensated will not give significant benefits when first planted to health, flood risk mitigation, soil quality, climate change resilience and air quality.		

Oldham's Historic Environment

Table 37: IA of Oldham's Historic Environment policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy HE1 – The Historic Environment	7	10	9	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy HE2 Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets	6	10	10	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy HE3 Development proposals affecting conservation areas	6	6	14	0	0	0	IA20 (centres) scored + in the short term to ++ in the medium and long term as conservation areas should be enhanced over time).	None	None
Policy HE4 Oldham's Mills	7	6	13	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy HE5 Canals	6	9	11	0	0	0	None	None	In relation to IA1 (biodiversity and green infrastructure) and IA2 (open space) the policy wording was amended from open space to green infrastructure.

Creating a Better and Beautiful Oldham

Table 38: IA of Creating a Better and Beautiful Oldham policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy D1 – A Design-Led Approach for Residential & Residential-Led Mixed-Use Development	17	1	8	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA1 (green infrastructure); IA7 (infrastructure; IA8 (health); IA9 (flood risk); IA13 (climate change); IA17 infrastructure; IA20 (centres); and IA23 (housing).	None	None
Policy D2 – A Design Led Approach to Non-Residential, Commercial and Employment Developments	15	1	10	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA1 (green infrastructure); IA7 (infrastructure; IA8 (health); IA9 (flood risk); IA13 (climate change); IA17 infrastructure; and IA18 (regeneration);	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy D3 - Design Scrutiny	15	2	9	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA1 (green infrastructure); IA2 (open spaces); IA7 (infrastructure; IA12 (energy); IA13 (climate change); and IA16 (transport).	None	None
Policy D4 – Creating Better Views, Gateways and Taller Buildings	7	1	18	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA17 infrastructure; and IA18 (regeneration); IA 20 (centres); and IA26 (inclusive communities).	None	None
Policy D5 – Improving the Quality of Advertisements and Signage in Oldham	4	0	22	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA 20 (centres); and IA26.	None	None
Policy D6 – Creating a Better Public Realm in Oldham	12	4	10	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA9 (flood risk); IA13 (climate change); and IA14 (air quality).	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy D7 - Development within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse	5	1	20	0	0	0	None	None	None

Creating a Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham

Table 39: IA of Creating a Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities	11	3	12	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy T2 – Creating Sustainable Streets	15	2	9	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA1 (green infrastructure); IA2 (open space); IA9 (flood risk); IA13 (climate change); IA15 (environmental quality); IA18 (regeneration); IA19 (economic growth); IA20 (centres); and IA26 (inclusive communities).	None	None
Policy T3 – Car Parking Standards in Oldham	11	1	14	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA5 (design); IA6 (efficient use of land); IA7 (infrastructure); IA9 (flood risk); IA8 (health); IA14 (air	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							quality); IA17 (access to key services); IA20 (centres); IA21 (tourism); and IA26 (inclusive communities).		
Policy T4 – Providing for electric vehicle charging points	5	1	20	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA7 (infrastructure); IA15 (local environmental quality); and IA16 (sustainable transport).	None	None
Policy T5 – Transport Statements, Assessments and Travel Plans in New Development	9	1	16	0	0	0	None	None	None

Communities

Table 40: IA of Communities policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CO1 - Protection of Existing Open Spaces	9	10	7	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CO2 - New and Enhanced Open Spaces	9	10	7	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CO3 - Open Space Standards	10	8	8	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CO4 Cultural, Community and Health Facilities	10	0	16	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA3 (landscapes and townscapes); IA4 (heritage); IA8 (health); IA18 (regeneration); IA19 (economic growth); IA20 (centres); IA21 (tourism); IA22 (education); and IA26 (inclusive communities).	None	None
Policy CO5: Education and Skills	7	6	13	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CO6: Securing Educational Places	3	3	20	0	0	0	None	None	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
through New Residential Development									
Policy CO7 – Health Impact Assessments in New Development	2	6	18	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CO8 Hot Food Takeaways	1	4	21	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy CO9 Creating Sustainable and Accessible Communities	2	9	15	0	0	0	None	None	None

Protecting our Local Environment

Table 41: IA of Protecting our Local Environment policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy LE1 - Noise Pollution and Vibration in New Development	2	0	24	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA8 (health) and IA15 (environmental quality).	None	None
Policy LE2 - Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land	3	5	18	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA18 (regeneration);	None	None
Policy LE3 - Air Quality	4	5	17	0	0	0	Effects increase from + to ++ over time against IA7 (infrastructure).	None	None

Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham

Table 42: IA of Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham policies at Draft Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy IN1 Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications	1	3	22	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy IN2 – Planning Obligations	9	12	5	0	0	0	None	None	None
Policy IN3 - Delivering Social Value and Inclusion	6	1	19	0	0	0	None	None	None

8 IA Appraisal of Publication Plan

8.1 The IA of the Publication Local Plan repeats Stage B. It has:

1: Tested the DPD objectives against the IA framework

3: Evaluated the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives

4: Considered ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects

8.2 However, the developing DPD options including reasonable alternatives (task 2) task has already been completed as part of the Issues and Options stage, so this task is not repeated again.

8.3 Instead, the Publication Local Plan presents the preferred spatial options in the form of policies which have resulted from the spatial options. This was also the case with the Draft Plan. It should be noted that over time the plan has evolved, and site allocations are no longer being proposed as part of the Local Plan and therefore spatial options in relation to allocations have not been taken forward (see Table 68).

Vision and DPD objectives appraisal

8.4 An IA appraisal of the vision and each plan objective at Publication stage of the Local Plan has been carried out.

8.5 The summary results of this are shown below. For the full appraisal please see Appendix 1 in the IA for the Publication Local Plan.

Vision

8.6 The vision in the Publication Local Plan scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores.

Table 43: IA of vision at Publication Local Plan stage

Scoring system	**++**	**+**	**-**	**?**	**X**	**XX**
Vision score	17	7	2	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.7 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

8.8 The vision scored positively / significantly positive against 24 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact. Minor amendments had been made to the vision since Draft Plan stage, and it was considered that wording should be added back to the vision to link to local environmental quality (IA15) to support the score given. The vision has been amended to refer to a “clean, green and healthy environment”.

8.9 In comparison to the vision at Issues and Option stage where the vision scored positively against 21 IA objectives and enhancements were made, the vision at Publication plan stage has resulted in more positive scores and the same number of positive scores in comparison to Draft Plan stage.

Plan Objectives:

8.10 The top line of each plan objective (PO) is included to give an indication of the content of each plan objective. For the full plan objective wording please see the Publication Local Plan document or IA Appendix 2.

8.11 The scores were considered the same for short to long-term at this stage. The appraisal also has identified direct and secondary (indirect effects).

PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer by…

Table 44: IA of plan objective 1 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 1 score	5	12	9	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.12 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

8.13 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 1. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 17 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.14 In comparison to the housing plan objective at Issues and Option stage where the objective scored positively against 18 IA objectives, plan objective 1 at Draft Local Plan stage has resulted in one more neutral score. This is as a result of reflecting on the objective further. The scores at Publication Plan stage stayed the same.

PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills by:

Table 45: IA of plan objective 2 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 2 score	4	4	18	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.15 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

8.16 The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 8 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact. The objective scored mostly neutrals given its specific

nature. No enhancements were identified. Between Draft plan stage and Publication plan stage there were no changes to the scores.

PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses by:

Table 46: IA of plan objective 3 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 3 score	4	10	12	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.17 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

8.18 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 3. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 14 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.19 In comparison to plan objective 3 at Issues and Options stage the IA objective has scored one more positive and in comparison, to Draft Plan stage a further significant positive score.

PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres by:

Table 47: IA of plan objective 4 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 4 score	12	11	3	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.20 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

8.21 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 4. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 23 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.22 In comparison to plan objective 4 at Issues and Options stage the IA objective has scored four more positives and in comparison, to Draft Plan stage scored the same.

PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes by:

Table 48: IA of plan objective 5 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 5 score	12	7	7	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.23 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects:

8.24 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 5. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 19 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.25 The plan objective is not comparable to the objective at Issues and Options stage as objective 5 regarding the borough's environment was split into two at Draft Plan stage. In comparison to Draft Plan stage the plan objective scored the same.

PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment by:

Table 49: IA of plan objective 6 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 6 score	14	9	3	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.26 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

8.27 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 6 as a result of the IA. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 23 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.28 The plan objective is not comparable to the objective at Issues and Options stage as the objective was split into two at Draft Plan stage.

8.29 However, between Draft Plan stage and Publication stage the IA objective was amended to reflect the Local Nature Recovery Strategy more and as such IA15 and IA18 have increased from positive to significantly positive as the LNRS recognises the amenity benefits an enhanced nature network can bring such as noise regulation and its contribution towards reducing inequalities and tackling deprivation. Therefore, the IA of plan objective 6

at publication stage has scored two more significantly positives compared to Draft Plan stage.

PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change by:

Table 50: IA of plan objective 7 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 7 score	10	8	8	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.30 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

8.31 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 7. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 18 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact. This is one more positive score for PO7 in comparison to the relevant plan objective at Issues and Options stage and Draft Plan stage.

8.32 This is because between Draft Plan stage and Publication Plan stage the objective was amended to make reference to peat. As such:

- IA3 regarding landscapes has increased from – to + as the plan objective has been amended to include reinstating restorable peat and it seeks to manage flood risk using integrated water management; and
- IA11 regarding soil quality has increased from + to ++ as the plan objective now refers to protecting and reinstating restorable peat.

PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities by:

Table 51: IA of plan objective 8 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 8 score	9	11	6	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.33 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

8.34 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 8. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 20 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.35 At Draft plan stage the revised plan objective scored five more positives than the plan objective (PO7) at Issues and Options stage. Between Draft plan stage and Publication plan stage there were no changes to the scores.

PO9 Improving and valuing a better historic and built environment, by:

Table 52: IA of plan objective 9 in the publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 9 score	6	12	8	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.36 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

8.37 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 9. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 18 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.38 At Draft Plan stage the revised plan objective scored three fewer positives than the plan objective (PO8) at Issues and Options stage. This may be due to the plan objectives at Issues and Options stage being more detailed. At Draft Local Plan stage they were refined.

8.39 At Publication plan stage, only minor amendments were made referencing textile mills. However, PO9 scored two more positives than Draft Plan stage as:

- IA14 was amended regarding air quality from -- to + as on reflection high quality design should lead to buildings and places that encourage ventilation, active travel and green infrastructure therefore improving air quality.
- IA16 was amended from – to + as improved wayfinding in Oldham Town Centre, including its conservation area, and restoration of waterways such as canals which forms a sustainable transport route for walking, wheeling and cycling will therefore on reflection help achieve this.

PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices, by:

Table 53: IA of plan objective 10 in the Publication Local Plan

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX
Plan Objective 10 score	9	8	9	0	0	0

Mitigating adverse effects

8.40 No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.

Maximising beneficial effects

8.41 No enhancements were identified to plan objective 10. The plan objective scored positively / significantly positive against 17 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact.

8.42 The revised plan objective scores one fewer positive than the plan objective (PO9) at Issues and Options stage but two more positives compared to Draft Plan stage.

Plan Policies Appraisal

8.43 Each plan policy in the Publication Plan has been appraised. The full IA appraisal can be seen in Appendix 3 to 16, which also shows whether effects are temporary or permanent and local or cross boundary (cross boundary was assumed to include local effects too).

8.44 A summary of the appraisal is given below. The long-term scores have been shown below for ease, however the ‘variation in scores’ notes where there may have been any differences in scores over the short to long-term. For short-and medium-term scores please see the full IA appraisal in the appendix. The variation in scores also notes any mixed scores.

8.45 Any mitigation and / or enhancements are also shown where the policy wording was amended as a result of the IA. However, at this stage, amendments were minimal as more changes were made at previous stages of the Local Plan review.

8.46 However, generally mitigation is provided through other plan policies either in Places for Everyone (PfE) or those in the Publication Plan as the plan should be read as a whole.

8.47 Examples of the policies that would help provide mitigation have been expressed in the full IA in the relevant appendix.

Homes

Table 54: IA of Homes policies at Publication Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy H1: Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer	6	6	13	0	1	0	None	A negative score was given for IA2 as sites in the housing land supply could include open spaces. Mitigation would be provided through Policy CO1. The policy has been screened in by the HRA with possible impacts from direct land take; increases in diffuse air and water pollution and increases in recreational impacts. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy H2: Density of New Housing	4	10	12	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H3: Housing Mix	3	9	14	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H4: Providing for Local Housing Needs	4	7	15	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy H5: Affordable Housing	4	4	18	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H6: Houses in Multiple Occupation	3	9	14	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H7: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	3	5	18	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Economy and Employment

Table 55: IA of Economy and Employment policies at Publication Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy E1 – Employment Floorspace Requirements	2	4	20	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible impacts from direct land take and increases in diffuse air and water pollution. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy E2 – Business and Employment Areas	5	3	18	0	0	0	IA14 (air quality) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy E3 – Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas	2	4	19	1	0	0	None	The policy scored an uncertain against IA23 (housing) as non-employment uses may be permitted, including housing if policy exceptions are met. No mitigation is required for this as other plan	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								policies provide the decision-making framework. The HRA has screened the policy out.	
Policy E4 – Employment sites outside of Business and Employment Areas	2	3	20	1	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy E5 – Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings	3	3	20	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Our Centres

Table 56: IA of Centres policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy C1 – Our Centres	6	8	12	0	0	0	In relation to IA18 (regeneration) and IA19 (economic growth) the effects increase from positive in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy C2 – Protecting the vitality of our centres	4	6	16	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy C3 – Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres	7	6	13	0	0	0	In relation to IA18 (regeneration) and IA19 (economic growth) the effects increase from positive in the short term to significantly positive in the	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							medium and long term.		
Policy C4 – Local Services and Facilities	3	7	16	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Oldham Town Centre

Table 57: IA of Oldham Town Centre policies at Publication Local Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy OTC1: Oldham Town Centre	15	4	7	0	0	0	IA6 (Efficient use of land); IA15 (local environmental quality); IA18 (regeneration); IA19 (economic growth); IA20 (centres); IA21 (tourism) and IA26 (inclusive communities) increased in effects over time from positive in the short term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OTC2: Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	8	10	8	0	0	0	IA1 (biodiversity) increased in effects over time from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy OTC3: Creating a Better Public Realm for Oldham Town Centre	9	8	9	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OTC4 - Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre	11	9	6	0	0	0	IA14 (air quality) increased in effects over time from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	It was noted during the IA that the policy did not explicitly refer to 'multi-functional' Green Infrastructure and therefore the first sentence of the policy was amended to enhance it to refer to 'multi-functional'. This is reflected in IA1, IA9 and IA13. This amendment did not affect scoring.

Addressing Climate Change

Table 58: IA of Addressing Climate Change policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CC1 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	4	10	12	0	0	0	IA18 (energy) scored positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	The HRA has screened the policy in due to potential impacts from direct land take (wind farms and solar farms), indirect disturbance and loss of functionally linked land. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy CC2 - Managing Flood Risk	5	7	14	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CC3 - Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water	4	7	15	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out. However, the HRA recommends that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								sites should be subject to project-level HRA. This has been added to Policy CC3.	
Policy CC4 - Water Efficiency	2	7	17	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CC5 Groundwater Source Protection Zones	1	3	22	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Natural Environment and Open Land

Table 59: IA of Open Land policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy OL1 Consideration for the Peak District National Park	4	4	17	0	1	0	IA1, IA3, IA4 and IA21 scored positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term to reflect opportunities to further the national park purposes.	IA12 scored negative as policy could constrain renewable energy, in particular wind energy, however mitigation is not required as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines and other plan policies address energy. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OL2 Oldham's Green Belt	2	15	8	1	1	0	IA12 (energy) scored a mixed score of negative / uncertain as the policy could constrain some types of low carbon energy in the Green Belt.	For IA12 mitigation is not needed as it may not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits in line with plan policies. Other policies address energy including Local Plan policy CC2.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								The HRA has screened the policy out.	
Policy OL3 Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt	0	4	22	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OL4 Local Green Spaces	6	12	8	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OL5 Protecting dark skies and tranquillity	3	6	17	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency

Table 60: IA of Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy N1 Protecting Nature	4	8	14	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy N2 Restoring Nature	10	8	7	1	0	0	IA3 (landscapes) scores positive in the short term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. Uncertainty was expressed as there may be overlap between BNG and minerals. Any offset sites would not be able to be worked for minerals but wouldn't necessarily sterilise as such. Therefore, no mitigation needed and the Minerals DPD addresses minerals. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development	12	9	5	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy N4 Trees	9	3	14	0	0	0	IA8 (health) and IA9 (flood risk) scored neutral in the short term, positive in the medium term and significantly	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							positive in the long term. IA11 (soil quality), scored neutral in the short term to positive in the medium and long term. IA13 (climate change) scored neutral in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term. IA14 (air quality) scores positive in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term. IA20 (centres) scores positive in the short and medium term to significantly		

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
							positive in the long term.		

Oldham's Historic Environment

Table 61: IA of Oldham's Historic Environment policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy HE1 – The Historic Environment	7	10	9	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE2 Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets	6	10	10	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE3 Development proposals affecting conservation areas	6	6	14	0	0	0	IA20 (centres) scored positive in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term as conservation areas should be enhanced over time.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE4 Oldham's Mills	7	6	13	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE5 Canals	6	10	10	0	0	0	None	The HRA has screened the policy in due to potential impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC during any restoration. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
								address any likely significant effects.	

Achieving High Quality Design

Table 62: IA of Achieving high quality design policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	-	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy D1 Achieving high quality design	10	8	8	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy D2 – Advertisements, Signage and Shop Fronts	4	1	21	0	0	0	Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA 20 (centres).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy D3 – Creating a Better Public Realm in Oldham	9	7	10	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy D4 – Extensions and alternations to, and development within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse	3	3	20	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham

Table 63: IA of A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities	10	5	11	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T2 – Travel Hubs and Park and Ride Facilities	4	7	15	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T3 – Parking provision	3	8	15	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T4 – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	3	3	20	0	0	0	IA7 (infrastructure) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T5 – Vision-led Transport Statements, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans in New Development	3	11	12	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Communities

Table 64: IA of Communities policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CO1 -The Protection of Open Space, Sort and recreation Provision	9	10	7	0	0	0	IA13 (climate change) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO2 - New and Improved Open Space. Sport and Recreation Provision	9	10	7	0	0	0	IA13 (climate change) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO3 Community Facilities	2	13	11	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO4: Education and Skills	7	7	12	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO5: Securing Educational Places through New Residential Development	2	3	21	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO6 – New development and health	3	10	13	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CO7 Hot Food Takeaways and fast-food outlets	3	3	20	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Protecting Our Local Environment

Table 65: IA of Protecting Our Local Environment policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy LE1 – Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development	2	0	24	0	0	0	Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA8 (health) and IA15 (environmental quality).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy LE2 - Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land	3	5	18	0	0	0	Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA18 (regeneration).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy LE3 - Air Quality	4	5	17	0	0	0	Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA7 (infrastructure).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Infrastructure and Delivery

Table 66: IA of Infrastructure and Delivery policies at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy IN1 Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications	0	7	19	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy IN2 – Planning Obligations	9	12	5	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy IN3 - Delivering Social Value and Inclusion	6	1	19	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Monitoring

Table 67: IA of Monitoring policy at Publication Plan stage

Scoring system	++	+	--	?	X	XX	Variations in score	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy M1 – Monitoring Framework	0	24	2	0	0	0	None	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Difference the IA has made to the Publication Local Plan

8.48 Scoping Report Update 1, Update 2 and Update 3 all include details of the comments received on the previous Scoping Report and the council's response to those comments and any amendments made.

8.49 The IA at Issues and Options Stage outlines what enhancements to maximise positive benefits were made to the vision, plan objectives 2 and 3 and the spatial option on employment allocations within the Issues and Options Report.

8.50 The IA process has considered options and reasonable alternatives (spatial options).

8.51 The options that were presented were in relation to policy areas and allocations and these were the reasonable alternatives to the approach taken in the Draft Local Plan. Comments received on the Issues and Options were taken into account when drafting the preferred policies. No other reasonable alternatives were proposed.

8.52 The Draft Plan was appraised by the IA framework and enhancements were made to plan objective 2 and policies H5 Homes for Disabled People, OTC2 Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area, CC2 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and HE5 Canals.

8.53 Since the Draft Plan was published, the decision has been taken to not include site allocations as the Oldham Local Plan has been amended to focus on development management policies that support PfE. The housing requirement and employment needs set out in PfE will be met through the boroughs employment and housing land supply.

8.54 The Publication Plan therefore does not include site allocations. The IA framework has been used to assess the vision, plan objectives and plan policies. Enhancements were made to the Vision and OTC4 'Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre' at Publication Plan stage.

8.55 Below is a summary of the options, the outcome of the IA process and how the options informed the preferred approach at Publication Plan stage.

Table 68: Assessment of options (including reasonable alternatives) and how this has led to the preferred option

Spatial Option	IA results from Issues and Options stage of options and reasonable alternatives	How this has informed the Publication Local Plan
Affordable Housing Option A: Should an affordable housing requirement be applied borough-wide? **Affordable Housing Option B:** Should there be a different affordable housing requirement for different parts of the	Option B (targeted approach to affordable housing) results in more positive outcomes overall than Option A (boroughwide approach).	The preferred approach is outlined in the Publication Plan in Policy H5 Affordable Housing. The policy requires all residential developments of 10 homes or more to provide at least 20% of the site capacity as affordable housing. Whilst Option B scored higher the policy has evolved and has been informed by the Local Housing Needs Assessment. The 20% is a minimum and it may be

Spatial Option	IA results from Issues and Options stage of options and reasonable alternatives	How this has informed the Publication Local Plan
borough, depending on their need?		that as part of some schemes more affordable housing is provided in some parts of the borough. In the IA of the Publication Local Plan Policy H5 has scored neutral, positives and significantly positives scores.
Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMO) If there is found to be a concentration of HMOs within a particular area, would you agree with the introduction of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights for HMO: **Option A** in specific areas, as necessary?; or **Option B:** boroughwide?	The IA appraisal for Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Spatial Options A and B both scored the same.	The approach to HMOs is outlined in Policy H6 Houses in Multiple Occupation. The IA did not indicate a stronger performing option. The policy sets out criteria for HMOs to meet. In addition, permission will not be granted where the proportion of HMOs result in them representing 10% or more of residential properties within a 50m radius measured from the centre of the application site. This boroughwide approach would reflect Spatial Option B. There is further policy stated for Oldham Town Centre, which recognises that HMOs are best suited to locations that are well-connected to services, facilities and public transport. In relation to the Article 4 Direction, the council introduced a boroughwide non-immediate Article 4 Direction removing the permitted development right to convert a dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) into a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Use Class C4) for up to six residents (small HMO). Representations were sought between 6 October until 16 November 2025. The Article 4 Direction came into effect on 1 January 2026. Policy H6 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores.
Housing allocations: **Option A:** Should Oldham focus the identification of	The IA of the housing allocation spatial options showed at that stage there were more uncertainties around Option B (brownfield /	The Local Plan no longer includes site allocations and so this option is not relevant. However, the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

Spatial Option	IA results from Issues and Options stage of options and reasonable alternatives	How this has informed the Publication Local Plan
housing allocations within the urban area – in Oldham Town Centre, the borough's other centres, key public transport corridors, on previously developed land, vacant and under-utilised buildings (including the re-use of employment sites and mills, where appropriate)? **Option B:** Should Oldham focus the identification of housing allocations within the urban area as in Option A, but also include within the scope open spaces (where identified as surplus to requirements through the council's open space study), land currently designated as Other Protected Open Land where it does not meet LGS criteria, and previously developed land in the Green Belt where this meets national planning policy.	urban area plus greenfield) than Option A (brownfield / urban area), which would need to be further appraised and mitigated where required, if this option was selected.	outlines the housing land supply. The majority of sites identified within the SHLAA are brownfield, however there are also a number of sites which are made up of both brownfield and greenfield land, and also some greenfield sites. It is important in meeting our housing requirement and addressing local needs, that we deliver all sites within our housing land supply. In this context Option B has been applied. It incorporates Option A and makes the most of sites in the urban areas, whilst ensuring that we are identifying a sufficient variety of sites through the inclusion of some greenfield sites where appropriate.
Employment Allocations **Option A:** To focus more on the connectivity to our existing employment sites and neighbouring	The IA of the employment allocation options shows that at that stage there were more uncertainties with Option B, which if taken forward as an option would need further assessment and	The Local Plan no longer includes site allocations and so this option is not relevant. The employment land supply is made up of land designated for employment in PfE, sites with planning permission and come sites that were previously

Spatial Option	IA results from Issues and Options stage of options and reasonable alternatives	How this has informed the Publication Local Plan
districts key employment sites. **Employment Allocations** **Option B:** A combination of providing some new employment land and improving connectivity to existing and neighbouring districts key employment sites.	mitigation if required in comparison to Option A. The spatial options were enhanced by making reference to sustainable connectivity.	allocated in the joint DPD for employment. The majority of sites identified within the employment land supply are brownfield, however there are also a small number of sites which are greenfield land. To contribute towards achieving the overall employment floorspace requirements set out in PfE, it is important that we deliver all sites within our employment land supply. In this context Option A has been applied as we are focussing on making the best use of our existing employment land supply.
Health and Wellbeing – Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways: **Option a**. within 400m of a school; or **Option b.** in areas with high levels of obesity; or **Option c.** both?	Option A, B and C scored neutral against most IA objectives. However, Option B and C scored a significantly positive impact against the IA objective 'To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities'. Option C scored significantly positive against a further two IA objectives relating to local environmental quality and centres and therefore higher overall.	The preferred approach is outlined in Policy CO7 Hot Food Takeaways and fast-food outlets. The policy sets out the parameters for approving hot food takeaways. Outside of Oldham Town Centre permission for such uses will not be granted where they are within 400m of a primary or secondary school; or they are within 400m of places where children and young people congregate. The policy also requires that applications for hot-food takeaways must be supported by a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). Since preparation of the Draft Plan, an updated version of NPPF was published in December 2024. The approach to hot-food takeaways and fast-food outlets is set out in paragraph 97 of NPPF. It states that applications should be refused for such uses where they are: a) within walking distance of schools and other places where children and young people congregate, unless the location is within a designated town centre; or b) in locations where there is evidence that a concentration of such uses is

Spatial Option	IA results from Issues and Options stage of options and reasonable alternatives	How this has informed the Publication Local Plan
		having an adverse impact on local health, pollution or anti-social-behaviour. Evidence shows that outside of Oldham Town Centre much of the borough is within walking distance (defined through the Local Plan as being 400m) of schools and other places where children and young people congregate. As such and given that it is either a) or b), those locations where there is evidence that a concentration of such uses having an adverse impact on local health, pollution or anti-social-behaviour have not been identified. The approach taken in the Publication Plan is considered a reasonable alternatives options A, B and C considered at Issues and Options stage. The IA undertaken on this preferred approach has scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores.

8.56 Section 8 also outlines outcomes form the HRA, HIA and EIA.

Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

8.57 The IA indicators were established at Stage A of the IA process (Scoping Report). They have been amended over time in response to consultation responses and through reviewing any new indicators available.

8.58 These can be seen within Section 15 of the Scoping Report Update 3 alongside the IA objective that they help to monitor. For ease the indicators are outlined below.

Table 69 IA Objectives and Indicators

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA1) To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates) % of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation Percentage of tree canopy cover In addition, Biodiversity Duty Reports will be prepared including information on BNG.
IA2) To promote quality and accessible open spaces.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision
IA3) To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and	Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds. Number and type of development permitted within Local Green Spaces

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
sense of place.	Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt
IA4) To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting.	Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills. PfE - Increase percentage of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use
IA5) To promote high-quality design that meets local design expectations.	Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code
IA6) To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land.	Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt Number and type of developments permitted within Local Green Spaces Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm) gross New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Number of vacant properties
IA7) To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.	Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend). Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities
IA8) To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision Life Expectancy Proportion of physically active adults Childhood obesity rates

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England The number of new hot food takeaways or fast-food outlets approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate
IA9) To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk.	PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds) Number of new developments agreed with the council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM).
IA10) To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources.	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds
IA11) To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land.	Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land.
IA12) To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	PfE: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B % of households living in fuel poverty
IA13) To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	Percentage of tree canopy cover PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	grounds)
IA14) To protect and improve air quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA15) To protect and improve local environmental quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year The number of new hot food takeaways or fast-food outlet approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate
IA16) To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection and enhancement of the PROW Network.	Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA17) To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel.	Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above
IA18) To promote regeneration and reduce	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
levels of deprivation and disparity.	(square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA19) To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross)

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA20) To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill.	Number of homes completed within the borough's centres Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA21) To promote sustainable tourism and leisure.	Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA22) To improve education attainment	State funded primary and secondary

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
and skill levels.	school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA23) To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.	Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings -in previous years; Net additional dwellings -for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings -in future years; and Managed delivery target New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Total housing completions by size and type on major sites Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) PfE also includes indicators on housing.
IA24) To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals.	The GM Minerals Development Plan Document sets out indicators which are monitored by GMCA.
IA25) To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy.	The GM Waste Development Plan Document sets out indicators which are monitored by GMCA.
IA26) To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	It is considered that the plan as a whole and therefore all indicators will help achieve this objective.

Equalities Impact Assessment at Publication Plan Stage

8.59 The EIA is addressed through the Impact Assessment Tool. The Impact Assessment Tool has been developed by Oldham Council to assess the impact of proposed policies and projects on equalities characteristics, including Care leavers, as well as our corporate priorities.

8.60 The Impact Assessment Tool was completed by planning policy. The outcome of the assessment is shown below (please see Appendix 17 for full assessment).

Table 70: Impact Assessment Tool at Publication Plan stage

Equality Characteristic	Impact Score	Comment
Age	8 – Strong positive	Oldham's Local Plan will have a strong positive effect on all ages but specifically the borough's young people and ageing population in the following ways: Firstly, the Plan seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents. This includes supporting the development of homes suitable for older people through Policy H4 – Providing for Local Housing Needs, which seeks to ensure that housing choices are available for Oldham's growing older population so that they can find suitable homes with easy access to community facilities, local services and public transport, that are well integrated within the wider neighbourhood. This could be through the provision of age-restricted general market housing, extra-care housing, sheltered housing / assisted living and nursing and care homes. In addition, Policy H4 requires all provision for older people to meet the design standards as set out in Policy D1 and several key principles including ease of movement, being sustainably located and having an accessibly designed built environment. The Local Plan also seeks to ensure that new homes are energy efficient and adaptable to address changing needs. In addition, Places for Everyone (which forms part of Oldham's Local Plan) Policy JP-H3 requires all new homes to be built to the 'accessible and adaptable' standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations unless specific site conditions make this impracticable. In support of young adults and students, Policy H5 – Affordable Housing supports the attraction and retention of young professionals as in some parts of the borough there are not suitable affordable homes for people to live in the area in which they grew up, leading to an out-migration of these households to neighbouring boroughs.

		Policy H6 – Houses in Multiple Occupation also supports this demographic as HMOs can be a valuable source of housing to meet the local housing needs of students and young adults. With regards to other aspects of the Plan: All young people should get the education that they deserve and have access to a good school which is promoted through Policy CO4 – Education and Skills which supports development proposals for education where they are located within the community it is intended to serve, provides high-quality facilities and is designed to minimise the impacts of associated traffic. Policy CO5 – Securing Educational Places through New Residential Development also seeks to address the unmet need, proportionate to the number of people aged 0-19, that a development is likely to generate. Access to adequate, affordable, and high-quality childcare (pre-school and school-age) provisions can play a key role in children's development alongside determining where and how the additional capacity to support new growth should be provided for meeting the needs of existing and new communities across the borough (CO4, CO5). Ensuring young people lead healthy lives is also promoted by the Local Plan. For example, Policy CO7 Hot food takeaways and Fast-food Outlets states that planning permission will not be granted for such uses where they are within 400m of a primary or secondary school and from places where children and young people congregate to prevent the promotion of adverse impacts on local health, pollution, and anti-social behaviour. Policy CO3 Community Facilities also seeks to maintain and improve access to a range of community (as defined in national planning policy) facilities in the borough, many of which support younger populations (for example youth centres, childcare centres and children's nurseries) as well as ageing populations through providing a network of integrated health and community resources. In addition, where the demand resulting from a major residential development will create, or exacerbate, a shortfall in health provision the council will seek the provision of new or improved health facilities to address the unmet need generated by the development as appropriate as outlined by Policy CO6 – New Development and Health.
Disability	8 - Strong Positive	Oldham's Local Plan will have a strong positive effect on the borough's disabled population. The Plan seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the

		differing needs of all Oldham's residents. This includes supporting the development of homes suitable for disabled people through Policy H4 - Providing for Local Housing Needs, which seeks to ensure that appropriate provision of housing is provided for disabled people, including those with physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health needs. This could be through the provision of supported housing (of various degrees) and accessible and adaptable homes. In addition, Policy H4 requires all provision for disabled people to meet the design standards as set out in Policy D1 and several key principles - Promoting ease of movement on foot and with mobility aids; Being sustainably located, with access to public transport, local services and facilities (including a hospital or GP practice) and accessible to the development via active travel means; Featuring parking spaces and setting down points in proximity to entrances; and having accessible and appropriately designed built environments, including seating areas, step free spaces and gentle approaches suitable for wheelchair users and people with visual or mobility impairments. With regards to other policy areas: Policy H1 - Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer further supports the borough's disabled population as it seeks to promote a diverse housing offer that ensures new homes are built in sustainable and accessible locations. This is supported through Greater Manchester Accessibility Levels (GMAL) which provide a detailed and accurate measure of accessibility reflecting the number of services (bus, Metrolink and Rail) available within the catchment; the level of service at the public transport access points - i.e. average waiting time; and the operating areas of Local Link (flexible transport) service. Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities also seeks to maintain safe and suitable access for all users by improving accessibility. This could be through making it easier for people to get to services they need for their personal well-being and the things that will help them live healthier lives and through designing a safer, more accessible and environmentally sustainable transport system. The Local Plan also seeks to ensure that new homes are energy efficient and adaptable to address changing needs. For example, Places for Everyone (which forms part of Oldham's Local Plan) Policy JP-H3 requires all new homes to be built to the

		‘accessible and adaptable’ standard in Part M4(2) of the Building Regulations unless specific site conditions make this impracticable. Policy CO3 – Community Facilities also seeks to maintain and improve access to a range of cultural, community (as defined in national planning policy) and health facilities in the borough. Policy CO6 - New Development and Health aims to improve the quality and accessibility of health and social care facilities. As such, where the demand resulting from a major residential development will create, or exacerbate, a shortfall in health provision the council will seek the provision of new or improved health facilities to address the unmet need generated by the development as appropriate. Finally, criterion 6 of Policy D1 - A Design-Led Approach for Residential & Residential-Led Mixed-Use Development, supports the creation of inclusive neighbourhoods by embedding inclusive design within them.
Gender Reassignment	0 – Neutral	
Marriage and civil partnership	0 – Neutral	
Pregnancy and maternity	0 – Neutral	
Race	0 – Neutral	
Religion or belief	0 – Neutral	
Sex	0 – Neutral	
Sexual orientation	0 – Neutral	
Care leavers	2 – Moderate Positive	Oldham's Local Plan will have a moderate positive effect on the borough's care leavers. The Plan seeks to promote a diverse housing offer to meet the differing needs of all Oldham's residents. Policy H4 - Providing for Local Housing Needs will support residential development for looked after children and care leavers, where the proposed development is compliant with other policies in PfE and the Local Plan. In deciding applications for new children’s homes and semi-independent supported-living facilities, Policy H4 states that the council will seek to ensure that new provision: 1. Is in a sustainable and accessible location, with easy access to education facilities, public transport and open space, sport and recreation; 2. Provides appropriate accommodation for the number of proposed occupiers and their needs; and

		3. Gives priority to children and young people from the Oldham area in the first instance, in line with local needs. With regards to criterion 2) for the development of all specialist housing provision, early discussions with the council through pre-application advice are encouraged to discuss local housing needs. Regard should be had to the evidence of housing need set out within the LHNA, and other local evidence, for specialist need groups. Applications for all children's residential care homes uses are required to provide a Statement of Community Engagement and Impact Assessment. Policy H1 - Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer further supports the borough's care leavers as it seeks to promote a diverse housing offer that ensures new homes are built in sustainable and accessible locations for all housing need groups. Policy CO3 - Community Facilities also seeks to maintain and improve access to a range of community (as defined in national planning policy) facilities in the borough, many of which support care leavers (for example youth centres and community centres).

8.61 No negative scores were identified for the Local Plan in the Impact Assessment Tool for equalities characteristics.

8.62 In addition, the Impact Assessment Tool also resulted in strong positive scores for the Local Plan against Corporate priorities on 'Green and Growing', 'A Great Place to Live' and 'Happier Healthier Lives'.

Health Impact Assessment for the Publication Plan

8.63 The Health Impact Assessment (HIA) that was carried out on the Publication Local Plan is contained within Appendix 18 in the IA.

8.64 The HIA assesses the potential health and wellbeing impacts of the Local Plan. Guided by the London Healthy Urban Design Unit (HUDU) Rapid Health Impact Assessment tool and the Healthy Urban Planning Checklist, the planning policy team has carried out the HIA.

8.65 The HIA has assessed the Publication Local Plan against the following themes:

- Housing design and affordability;
- Social infrastructure and accessibility;
- Access to open space and nature;
- Air Quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity;
- Accessibility and active travel;
- Crime reduction and community safety;
- Access to healthy food;
- Access to work and training;
- Social cohesion and inclusive design;
- Minimising the use of resources; and
- Climate Change.

8.66 Each of the above themes is supported by corresponding questions (assessment criteria). The HIA has identified where the Local Plan addresses each theme and assessment criteria.

8.67 The potential health impacts of the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan are considered positive, together with the strategic framework set by PfE. There are no gaps where the Publication Local Plan has not addressed the above themes and so it can be concluded that health impacts have been sufficiently addressed by the Local Plan to support the need to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.

8.68 In the context of this HIA, the assessment concludes that the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan seeks to:

- Deliver good quality, well designed and affordable homes that meet our local housing needs, including those of older people and disabled people.
- Provide for social infrastructure and accessibility to meet future growth, including health facilities, school places, and open space, sport and recreation provision.
- Create healthier, greener and accessible neighbourhoods with easy access to green/blue infrastructure and opportunities for active travel.
- Ensure new development proposals minimise noise and odour pollution and impacts on air quality.
- Deliver sustainable and accessible development, improve connectivity across the borough and increase opportunities for walking and cycling.
- Incorporate design approaches that will assist in improving health and wellbeing, improving access and movement, design out crime and help people feel secure.
- Improve access to healthy food and restrict hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets within a set distance of schools and other places where children and young people congregate.
- Tackle health and income inequalities across the borough through providing access to work and training opportunities.

- Encourage social interaction and inclusive design that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities.
- Ensure to best and most efficient use of previously developed land, including seeking higher densities in appropriate sustainable and accessible locations.
- Tackle climate change through the of renewable and low carbon energy and adopting natural flood mitigation such as sustainable drainage.

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Oldham Local Plan (Publication Plan stage)

8.69 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) on the Publication Local Plan has been prepared by GMEU. This can be seen in Appendix 19 of the IA.

8.70 The HRA consists of a Screening and Appropriate Assessment to fulfil the council's duties with regards to Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/42/EEC (transposed into UK law by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2027 (as amended).

8.71 It provides an opinion and assessment of whether the Publication Local Plan may have a significant effect on the special interest of any European designated protected site. It also gives opinion and assessment on whether any identified effects can be avoided or mitigated or whether any actions proposed in the plan need adjustment.

8.72 From the Screening process the following European sites have been screened in owing to proximity to Oldham or because there are pathways between Oldham and the designated sites:

- Manchester Mosses SAC (diffuse air pollution impacts),
- Rochdale Canal SAC (direct and indirect impacts),
- South Pennines Moors SAC/SPAs Parts 1 and 2 (direct and indirect impacts).

Initial Screening Option

8.73 The first stage of the HRA is a test of Likely Significant Effect (LSE) (Screening of Effects). This is essentially a risk assessment to decide whether a particular policy can be effectively 'screened out' from further, more detailed assessment or needs to go forward for more detailed Assessment.

8.74 The essential question to ask is:

"Is the Policy or the Site, either alone or in combination with other relevant Policies and Plans, likely to result in a significant effect upon the integrity of European sites?"

8.75 The Policies[2] that have been 'Screened In' are:

- Policy H1: Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer;
- Policy E1: Employment Floorspace Requirements;
- Policy CC1: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy; and
- Policy HE5: Canals

8.76 The Policies have been Screened In because they are considered to have some potential to cause effects through:

- direct habitat losses;
- increased habitat and species disturbance;
- increases in diffuse air pollution;
- increases in diffuse water pollution;
- increases in recreational pressures;
- disturbance to functionally linked land;

[2] Please note that some policy names may differ slightly between the HRA and the Publication Plan

- visual and noise disturbance; and
- introduction of invasive plant species.

Appropriate Assessment

8.77 The appropriate assessments looked at these sources in more detail:

Air Quality

8.78 The air pollutants most likely to have a significant effect on European sites are the oxides of nitrogen (NOx) resulting from traffic emissions.

8.79 Manchester Mosses SAC, in particular Holcroft Moss, is considered to be sensitive to changes in air quality. Policy H1 and E1 were screened in as they promote economic growth and housing growth.

8.80 Air quality modelling was undertaken for the PfE plan. This modelling concluded that developments within Greater Manchester (including Oldham) when acting in combination with developments in Warrington could cause LSE on Holcroft Moss by increasing emissions from traffic flow along the M62. In response to this mitigation for air quality impacts was proposed in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document "Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint Supplementary Planning Document[3] – May 2025" by the nine Places for Everyone authorities in consultation with Natural England.

8.81 This SPD provides guidance on when mitigation in the form of developer contributions to the positive management of the Manchester Mosses SAC will be required for Holcroft Moss as a result of additional vehicle movements along the M62 corridor past Holcroft Moss. (between junction 11 Birchwood and Junction 12 Worsley). The triggers are 100 vehicles or 20 HGV's per day.

8.82 As Oldham has already adopted this SPD, alongside the other eight PfE authorities, and the PfE plan has already accounted for the quantum of development anticipated for Oldham up to 2039, it is reasonable to use the same criteria to assess housing and employment figures set out in the Oldham Local Plan. Any development likely to increase traffic in excess of 100 vehicles or 20 HGV's should there provide mitigation as agreed in the SPD.

8.83 Policies in the Plan including Policies N1, N2 and LE3 will also act to protect European sites from air pollution effects.

8.84 The HRA also concluded that no likely significant effect will occur to South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC from any reduction in air quality resulting from the Plan in isolation.

Recreational Pressure:

8.85 In relation to the South Pennine Moors SAC / SPA Natural England have stated that there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that recreational activities are having any effect on the special interest of the South Pennine Moors designated sites (ref. letter dated 7th August 2024 from Natural England to the GMCA, South Pennine Moors Special Area of

[3] The Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint SPD is available at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/joint-supplementary-planning-documents/holcroft-moss-planning-obligations-spd/adoption/

Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Joint Supplementary Planning Document)[4].

8.86 It is also concluded in the HRA that no LSEs will be caused to the Manchester Mosses SAC by increased recreational development arising from development in Oldham.

8.87 The HRA considered that in relation to the Rochdale Canal no LSEs will be caused by increased recreational development arising from development in Oldham.

Water Quality

8.88 Negative effects on European sites can be due to a lowering of water quality i.e. pollution leading to higher mortality of qualifying species, food sources they are reliant on or through accumulation of pollutants; changes in nutrient status such as raised levels of nitrate or phosphate, leading to a change in the vegetation structure of the European site and potentially any qualifying species and; changes in water clarity through increase sediment load or increase levels of algae in the water.

8.89 In the case of the Rochdale Canal SAC Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm to the Canal.

8.90 In the case of the South Pennine Moors, water flow is from the Moors down into more urban areas. There is no possibility of contaminated water flowing into the designated site from new developments, and currently no new development is planned for within the designated sites.

8.91 Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm which could arise from water pollution effects in any future developments.

Direct Habitat Losses

8.92 No new significant development is planned within Oldham which could lead to direct habitat losses to European sites.

8.93 Should any development be proposed in future within designated sites leading to direct habitat losses, Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm.

Functionally Linked Land:

8.94 Functionally linked land is land utilised by significant numbers of the qualifying species associated with a European site on a regular basis that is not part of the European site.

8.95 With regards to the Oldham Local Plan (publication stage), only birds are screened in as mobile species most likely associated with designated sites (most particularly the South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC). It is reasonable to assume that functionally linked land will be close to the boundary of designated sites and will not be close to significant settlements or substantive built development.

[4] The South Pennines SPD can be found at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/joint-supplementary-planning-documents/south-pennine-moors-spd/adoption/

8.96 The South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Joint Supplementary Planning Document[5] prepared and adopted by Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Tameside Council in 2025 provides safeguards for developments within 2.5 km of the Moors and requires development within this area to carry out project-based surveys and assessments. In addition, Policy JP-G5 (criterion 7) of the Places for Everyone Plan will act to mitigate effects on functionally linked land.

8.97 Policy N1 will also serve to mitigate for any potential impacts on functionally linked land.

8.98 It is concluded that sufficient mitigation is in place to avoid any LSE on functionally linked land within Oldham.

Habitat and Species Disturbance:

8.99 This impact which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

Spread of invasive species

8.100 This impact which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

Light spillage and shading

8.101 This impact which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

Consideration of 'In Combination' Effects with Other Plans and Proposals

8.102 Cumulative effects for air quality, recreational pressure, water quality, hydrology and in-direct effects on functionally linked land have been considered. There are unlikely to be cumulative effects for direct loss of functionally linked land, light spillage and shading, spread of invasive species or disturbance.

8.103 In relation air quality and the South Pennines SAC/SPA PfE concluded that the cumulative impact of the Plan could result in slight increases in airborne pollution to parts of this extensive site along the A6024, A627 and A57. The A57 and A6024 are the Snake and Woodhead Passes across the Pennines. However, the PfE HRA also concluded that the increases in airborne pollutants would not affect any notable habitats and species associated with European sites.

8.104 Integrated Policies N1 and LE3 within the Plan will also mitigate any possible air pollution effects. The HRA therefore concludes no likely significant in-combination to the South Pennines SAC/SPA as a resulting from traffic generated by the Oldham Publication Plan.

8.105 In relation to air quality and Manchester Mosses SAC PfE screened in air quality for the Manchester Mosses SAC, accepting that critical loads were already breached for Holcroft Moss and that the additional development across the nine PfE and Warrington Districts would add to this.

[5] The South Pennines SAC / SPA SPD is available at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/joint-supplementary-planning-documents/south-pennine-moors-spd/adoption/

8.106 However the Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint SPD has been produced by the nine local authorities involved in PfE, including Oldham Council, which provides measures to mitigate for the increased traffic movements resulting from development proposals in PfE and the Warrington Local Plan. As Oldham Council has adopted this SPD, which has been agreed with Natural England, providing that the agreed measures in the SPD are applied to development in Oldham no likely significant effects on the Manchester Mosses SAC will occur in-combination.

8.107 In relation to recreational pressure it is concluded that in-combination effects resulting from recreational pressure will not occur.

8.108 In relation to water quality integrated Policies CC2, CC3 and N1 will serve to control water pollution in the Rochdale Canal SAC. There will therefore be no cumulative effects. Given the remoteness of the South Pennine Moors designated sites, given that water flows are away from the Moors, and the operation of integrated Policies CC2, CC3 and N1, the HRA concludes that no cumulative effects will occur.

8.109 The South Pennine Moors Joint SPD prepared by Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Tameside Council will effectively mitigate for any potential in-combination indirect effects on functionally linked land. The HRA concludes that there are no likely significant in-combination effect to functionally linked land as a result of in-combination disturbance with the Oldham Local Plan.

Summary and Recommendations

8.110 The HRA has screened in European designated sites which could be impacted by a number of screened in policies within the Oldham Publication Plan by different sources.

8.111 Mitigation for identified LSE is available, comprising –

- Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint SPD;
- South Pennine Moors SAC/ SPA Joint SPD;
- Integrated Plan Policies N1, N2, N3, CC2, CC3 and LE3; and
- Places for Everyone Policies including JP-G5 and JP-C8.

8.112 Following consideration of the available mitigation it has been concluded that, providing the available mitigation is applied appropriately, the operation of the Publication Local Plan will not have any effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

8.113 It is recommended that if any changes are made to the Policies in the Plan as a result of either the public consultation or during the Examination in Public, then the HRA will need to be revisited and revised to ensure that these changes would not result in effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

8.114 It is recommended that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 The IA has incorporated the SEA/SA requirements and also the EIA, HRA and HIA. Together these demonstrate that the Oldham Publication Plan results in many positive outcomes which should lead to a net gain in sustainability benefits.

9.2 Some enhancements as part of the IA process have been identified for the vision and Policy OTC4 ‘Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre’ at Publication Plan stage. Generally, however mitigation, where required, would be provided through PfE and other policies in the Local Plan. The Local Plan must be read as a whole.

9.3 The HRA has screened the Publication Plan and identified the mitigation already in place which if applied appropriately will ensure that the Oldham Local Plan will not have any effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

9.4 The HRA has also recommended that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA. Additional text has been added to Policy CC3.

10 APPENDICES

10.1 The below appendices form part of the IA. However, they are being published as separate documents due to the size of the IA.

Appendix 1: IA of Vision
Appendix 2: IA of Plan Objectives
Appendix 3: IA of Homes Policies
Appendix 4: IA of Economy and Employment Policies
Appendix 5: IA of Our Centres Policies
Appendix 6: IA of Oldham Town Centre Policies
Appendix 7: IA of Addressing Climate Change Policies
Appendix 8: IA of Natural Environment and Open Land Policies
Appendix 9: IA of Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency Policies
Appendix 10: IA of Oldham's Historic Environment Policies
Appendix 11: IA of Achieving High Quality Design
Appendix 12: IA of A Sustainable, Active, Accessible Network for Oldham
Appendix 13: IA of Communities Policies
Appendix 14: IA of Protecting Our Local Environment Policies
Appendix 15: IA of Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham Policies
Appendix 16: IA of Monitoring Policy
Appendix 17: Oldham Impact Assessment (incorporating Equalities Impact Assessment)
Appendix 18: Health Impact Assessment
Appendix 19: Habitats Regulations Assessment

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan: Integrated Assessment Scoping Report Update 3

January 2026

Oldham Council

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1. ABBREVIATIONS

1.1 The following is a list of abbreviations used in this document.

AGMA - Association of Greater Manchester Authorities

ALC – Agricultural Land Classification

BMV – Best and Most Versatile Land

BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain

CDA – Critical Drainage Areas

DBEIS - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

DCLG - Department for Communities and Local Government

DEFRA - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

DfE - Department for Education

DOH - Department of Health

DPD - Development Plan Document

DWMP – Drainage and Water Management Plan

EA – Environment Agency

EIA - Equality Impact Assessment

GI - Green Infrastructure

GM – Greater Manchester

GMAAS – Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

GMCA - Greater Manchester Combined Authority

GMEU - Greater Manchester Ecology Unit

Ha- Hectares

HIA - Health Impact Assessment

IA - Integrated Assessment

IMD – Index of Multiple Deprivation

HER – Historic Environment Record

HRA - Habitats Regulations Assessment

HUDU - Healthy Urban Development Units

JNCC - Joint Nature Conservation Committee

LAEP – Local Area Energy Plan

LCT - Landscape Character Type

LE – Life Expectancy

LNR - Local Nature Reserve

LNRS – Local Nature Recovery Strategy

MHCLG – Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

Mt – Million tonnes

NCA – National Character Area

NEET - Not in Education, Employment or Training

NHS - National Health Service

NO2 – Nitrogen Dioxide

NOx - Nitric Oxide

NPPF - National Planning Policy Framework

NPPG - National Planning Practice Guidance

ODPM - Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

OIA – Oldham Impact Assessment

ONS - Office for National Statistics

OPOL - Other Protected Open Land

PDL - Previously Developed Land

PDNP – Peak District National Park

PfE – Places for Everyone

PROW - Public Rights of Way

RIGS - Regionally Important Geodiversity Site

SA - Sustainability Appraisal

SAC - Special Area of Conservation

SBI - Site of Biological Importance

SEA - Strategic Environmental Assessment

SFRA – Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

SPA - Special Protection Areas

SPD – Supplementary Planning Document

SPZ – Source Protection Zone

SSSIs - Sites of Special Scientific Interest

SUDS - Sustainable Drainage Systems

TFGM - Transport for Greater Manchester

UUW – United Utilities Water

WDI – Waste Data Interrogator

2. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

2.1 This Scoping Report Update 3 has been produced as part of the Integrated Assessment (IA) of Oldham's Local Plan review. It was first prepared in 2017 as part of the Regulation 18 consultation and was updated for the Issues and Options stage (Update 1) and Draft Plan stage (Update 2). This report (Update 3) relates to the Publication Plan.

2.2 The IA will include a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) and a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). It will assess the environmental, social and economic performance of the plan.

2.3 This Scoping Report sets out the final sustainability objectives and assessment approach to undertaking the IA of the Publication Plan.

2.4 The council consulted on the Scoping Report in 2017 and a summary of comments and how the council has responded to those comments is shown in section 7 of Scoping Report Update 1. Update 1 was then subject to consultation as part of the Issues and Options stage of the Local Plan Review. The comments received on the Scoping Report Update 1 and the council's response can be seen in section 8 of Scoping Report Update 2. Update 2 was consulted on as part of Draft Plan stage, and the comments received and how they have been addressed are set out in section 7 of this Scoping Report.

2.5 This Scoping Report Update 3 will be published alongside the IA of the Publication Plan. Representations received on the Scoping Report will be submitted, alongside those made on the Publication Plan and other supporting documents, to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination.

OLDHAM LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

2.6 Oldham's Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) was adopted on 9 November 2011.

2.7 Since then, work started on Places for Everyone (PfE). Places for Everyone is the joint development plan of nine Greater Manchester local authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford, and Wigan) dealing with strategic planning issues including jobs, homes, transport, and natural environment.

2.8 All nine authorities adopted the PfE Plan[1] and PfE became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities, on 21 March 2024.

[1] https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/

2.9 PfE does not cover everything that a Local Plan would cover and therefore there is still a need to produce a Local Plan for Oldham. This gives us the opportunity to ensure that we address issues that are specific to Oldham. The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with PfE.

2.10 In addition, National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies and how these should be applied. It states that preparing and maintaining up to date plans should be seen as a priority in meeting this objective. As the Core Strategy was adopted in 2011 it is timely to carry out a review of the Local Plan.

2.11 Oldham's Local Plan will guide development in the borough up to 2039. Upon adoption it will replace the Core Strategy and any remaining saved Unitary Development Plan (UDP) planning policies that have not been superseded by PfE or the Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plans.

2.12 Underpinning the Local Plan will be the principles of sustainable development. It will meet the needs of Oldham and its residents while also achieving high-quality design, addressing climate change, and increasing accessibility for all.

2.13 The Local Plan covers the whole borough except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park.

THE PURPOSE OF INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

2.14 In recognition that there will be linkages across the various assessments (i.e. outcomes from the HIA and EIA (which is incorporated into the Oldham Impact Assessment (OIA) Tool) will feed into the SA) undertaken on the Local Plan, the SA, SEA, EIA, HRA and HIA assessments will be incorporated together into one report called an 'Integrated Assessment' (IA). Each element of the IA is explained below.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

2.15 The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

2.16 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires the council to carry out a SA of each of the proposals in a Local Plan and to prepare a Local Plan with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development.

2.17 The council is also required, under European Directive 2001/42/EC (the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive) and The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, to carry out an environmental assessment.

2.18 This IA incorporates the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, so that the potential environmental effects are given full consideration.

2.19 In the preparation of the IA, the council has referred to guidance contained in A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (ODPM, 2005). Although this guidance was prepared some time ago it is still considered to be very useful in setting out the stages on SA and ensuring that the SEA Directive requirements are covered. The council has also referred to the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2.20 As a local authority, we are required by the Equality Act 2010 to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (contained in section 149 of the Act). This means that we need to carry out an equality analysis of our services and any proposals for change. We need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, services and functions, both current and proposed, give proper consideration and due regard to the needs of diverse groups to:

- eliminate discrimination;
- advance equality of opportunity and access; and
- foster good relations between different groups in the community.

2.21 The Public Sector Equality Duty requires us to have due regard to several equality considerations when exercising our functions. This should be carried out prior to implementing a policy, with a view to identifying its potential impact on equality. Whilst they are not required by law, they are a way of facilitating and evidencing compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

2.22 The protected characteristics considered are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief

- Sex
- Sexual orientation.

2.23 This Scoping Report includes an objective relating to inclusive communities.

2.24 The equality duty is addressed through the council's Oldham Impact Assessment Tool. In addition to the protected characteristics the Tool also considers impacts on Care leavers.

2.25 The Impact Assessment Tool helps to ensure the decisions made within Oldham Council fit with the council's visions and priorities within the council's Corporate Plan 'Ready for the Future'.

2.26 The Impact Assessment Tool was completed by planning policy. The outcome of the assessment is summarised in section 8 of the IA report, and the full findings are contained within Appendix 17 of the IA.

HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2.27 The role of a HIA is to assess the potential health and well-being impacts of the Local Plan review.

2.28 The HIA has been undertaken by the planning policy team at Oldham Council, making use of the London Healthy Urban Development Units (HUDU): Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool.

2.29 The HIA can be seen in Appendix 18, and a summary is contained within section 8 of the IA.

2.30 The IA Scoping Report also includes a sustainability objective on health and well-being and the 'Links across the Integrated Assessment' section recognises that health overlaps with many of the SEA issues.

STAGES OF THE IA

DPD: Evidence gathering and engagement

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope

- Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
- Collect baseline information
- Identify sustainability issues and problems
- Develop the IA framework
- Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the IA report

DPD: Production and consultation

IA Stages and tasks

Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

- Test the DPD objectives against the IA framework
- Develop the DPD options including reasonable alternatives
- Evaluate the likely effects of the DPD options and reasonable alternatives
- Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
- Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

Stage C: Preparing the IA Report and the publication version of the DPD

Stage D: Seek representations on the IA report and the publication DPD from consultation bodies and the public.

Submit draft DPD and supporting documents for independent examination

Outcome of examination / Consider implications for SA/SEA compliance

Local Plan adopted

Stage E: Post adoption reporting and monitoring

- Prepare and publish post adoption statement
- Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
- Respond to adverse effects

2.31 The stages of the IA are set out above.

2.32 This Scoping Report is Stage A and includes a section on each of the following:

- Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives;
- Collect baseline information;
- Identify sustainability issues and problems;
- Develop the IA framework; and
- Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the IA report.

2.33 A summary of the key issues and environmental, social and economic problems that have been identified is provided below.

2.34 These have been identified through Stage 1 'Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives' and Stage A2 ' Collect baseline information', as documented in Appendix 1 and 2.

2.35 The evidence is made up mostly of available indicators and has come from sources such as Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England, Department for Education. Active Lives, NOMIS, Oldham Council including the Council's Monitoring Report and TFGM.

2.36 A full outline of the issues and problems is identified within section 12.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES

BIODIOVERSITY / FAUNA / FLORA / SOIL

2.37 There is a need to:

- protect and enhance a multi-functional green infrastructure network including biodiversity, geodiversity and nature recovery networks
- protect and enhance soils and remediate contaminated land

LANDSCAPES (AND TOWNSCAPES / DESIGN)

2.38 There is a need to:

- ensure that development makes a positive contribution to landscape and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place
- ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land
- promote high-quality design

CULTURAL HERITAGE (HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT)

2.39 There is a need to:

- protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, including its wider setting and to preserve and conserve archaeological heritage

POPULATION

2.40 There is a need to:

- provide for a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs
- provide an appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs
- promote inclusive sustainable communities and community cohesion

2.41 There is a need to:

- improve education and skills attainment
- promote economic growth
- enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres
- promote sustainable tourism and recreation

HUMAN HEALTH

2.42 There is a need to:

- improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities across the borough
- promote quality and accessible open spaces
- protect and improve local environmental quality

WATER

2.43 There is a need to:

- avoid and mitigate against flood risk
- sustainably manage water resources and protect and enhance water quality
- adapt and be resilient to climate change

AIR / CLIMATIC FACTORS

2.44 There is a need to:

- continue improving air quality
- reduce energy use, promote energy efficiency, and promote renewable and low carbon energy
- promote access to key services to reduce the need to travel
- encourage walking and cycling
- promote a sustainable low emission, integrated, efficient transport system that supports growth in the borough

MATERIAL ASSETS

2.45 There is a need to:

- promote sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy
- manage minerals sustainably

2.46 Appendix 3 translates the identified issues and problems into proposed IA objectives with corresponding indicators so that the issues and problems can be assessed and monitored.

IA OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

2.47 The IA objectives and indicators are set out below. These have considered comments received on the original Scoping Report (2017), Update 1 and Update 2.

2.48 The IA objectives are used as part of the IA framework to assess the effects of the Local Plan review.

Table 1 IA Objectives and Indicators

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA1) To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates) % of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation Percentage of tree canopy cover In addition, Biodiversity Duty Reports will be prepared including information on BNG
IA2) To promote quality and accessible open spaces.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision
IA3) To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds Number and type of development permitted within Local Green Spaces Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt
IA4) To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting.	Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills PfE - Increase percentage of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use
IA5) To promote high-quality design that meets local design expectations.	Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code
IA6) To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land.	Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt Number and type of developments permitted within Local Green Spaces Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm) gross New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Number of vacant properties
IA7) To ensure appropriate provision of	Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.	through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend). Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities
IA8) To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision Life Expectancy Proportion of physically active adults Childhood obesity rates The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate
IA9) To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk.	PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds) Number of new developments agreed with the council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM)
IA10) To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources.	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds
IA11) To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land.	Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land
IA12) To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	PfE: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B % of households living in fuel poverty
IA13) To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	Percentage of tree canopy cover PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds)
IA14) To protect and improve air quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry,

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	domestic and transport sectors
IA15) To protect and improve local environmental quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year
IA16) To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection and enhancement of the PROW Network.	Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA17) To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel.	Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above
IA18) To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares)

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification
IA19) To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification
IA20) To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill.	Number of homes completed within the borough's centres Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA21) To promote sustainable tourism and leisure.	Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA22) To improve education attainment and skill levels.	State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA23) To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.	Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings - in previous years; Net additional dwellings -for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings - in future years; and Managed delivery target New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Total housing completions by size and type on major sites Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) PfE also includes indicators on housing
IA24) To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals.	The GM Minerals Development Plan Document sets out indicators which are monitored by GMCA
IA25) To manage waste sustainably in	The GM Waste Development Plan

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
line with the waste hierarchy.	Document sets out indicators which are monitored by GMCA
IA26) To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	It is considered that the plan as a whole promotes mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities. As such, all indicators will help achieve this objective.

2.49 The council is required to consult the following three consultation bodies on the scope and level of detail in the Scoping Report. The consultation bodies are:

- Historic England;
- Natural England; and
- Environment Agency.

2.50 Consultation took place on the initial Scoping Report in 2017 and on Update 1 in 2021 and Update 2 in 2024. This Scoping Report update will be published alongside the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan. Representations submitted on the plan, and supporting documents, will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination.

3. LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

3.1 This report is the Integrated Assessment (IA) Scoping Report (Update 3) for the Oldham Local Plan: Publication Plan.

3.2 Oldham's Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) was adopted on 9 November 2011.

3.3 Since then, work started on Places for Everyone (PfE). Places for Everyone is the joint development plan of nine Greater Manchester local authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford, and Wigan) dealing with strategic planning issues including jobs, homes, transport, and natural environment.

3.4 All nine authorities adopted the PfE Plan and PfE became part of the statutory development plan for each of the nine PfE authorities, on 21 March 2024.

3.5 PfE does not cover everything that a Local Plan would cover and therefore there is a need to produce a Local Plan for Oldham. This gives us the opportunity to ensure that we address issues that are specific to Oldham. The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with PfE.

3.6 Oldham’s Local Plan will guide development in the borough up to 2039. Upon adoption it will replace the Core Strategy and any remaining saved UDP planning policies not superseded by PfE or the GM Waste and Minerals Plans.

3.7 Underpinning the Local Plan will be the principles of sustainable development. It will meet the needs of Oldham and its residents while also achieving high quality design, addressing climate change, and increasing accessibility for all.

3.8 Oldham's Local Plan will apply to the whole borough, except for that part of the borough that is the planning responsibility of the Peak District National Park Authority.

3.9 It will be accompanied by a Policies Map. The Policies Map will show land designated for certain uses such as the Green Belt or business and employment, as well as PfE allocations for housing and employment. It also reflects the Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plans.

AN INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

3.10 Sustainable development is defined in NPPF as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

3.11 NPPF highlights that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways (so that opportunities can be taken to secure net gains across each of the different objectives):

- **an economic objective** – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;
- **a social objective** – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and
- **an environmental objective** – to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy.

3.12 NPPF recognises that Local Plans should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets the relevant legal requirements. This should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered). The SA will be incorporated into an IA of the Local Plan review.

4. PURPOSE OF AN INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

4.1 In recognition that there will be linkages across the various assessments undertaken on the Local Plan, the SA, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA) will all form part of the 'Integrated Assessment' (IA). Each element of the IA is explained below. It will assess the economic, social and economic performance of the plan.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL / STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

4.2 The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

4.3 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires the council to carry out a SA of each of the proposals in a Local Plan and to prepare a Local Plan with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development.

4.4 The council is also required under European Directive 2001/42/EC (the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive) and The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 to carry out an environmental assessment.

4.5 SAs incorporate the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 so that the potential environmental effects are given full consideration.

4.6 Therefore, the IA for the Local Plan review will incorporate the requirements of the Directive and its Regulations.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.7 As a local authority, we are required by the Equality Act 2010 to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (contained in section 149 of the Act). This means that we need to carry out an equality analysis of our services and proposals for change. We need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, services and functions, both current and proposed, give proper consideration and due regard to the needs of diverse groups in order to:

- eliminate discrimination;
- advance equality of opportunity and access; and
- foster good relations between different groups in the community.

4.8 The Public Sector Equality Duty requires us to have due regard to several equality considerations when exercising our functions. This should be carried out prior to implementing a policy, with a view to identifying its potential impact on equality. Whilst they are not required by law, they are a way of facilitating and evidencing compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

4.9 The protected characteristics considered are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation.

4.10 The equality duty is addressed through the council's Impact Assessment Tool. In addition to the protected characteristics the tool also considers impacts on care leavers.

4.11 The Oldham Impact Assessment Tool helps to ensure the decisions made within the council fit with our visions and priorities within the council's Corporate Plan 'Ready for the Future'.

4.12 The Impact Assessment Tool was completed by planning policy. The outcome of the assessment is summarised in section 8 of the IA, and the full findings are contained within Appendix 17 of the IA.

4.13 The IA also includes an objective relating to inclusive communities which has developed from the Scoping Report process.

HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.14 The role of the HIA is to assess the potential health and wellbeing impacts of the Local Plan.

4.15 The HIA has been undertaken by the planning policy team at Oldham Council, making use of the London Healthy Urban Development Units (HUDU): Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool.

4.16 The HIA can be seen in Appendix 18, and a summary is contained within section 8 of the IA.

4.17 In addition, this Scoping Report recognises health links across different areas of the IA topics (see 'Links across the Integrated Assessment' in Section 12) and includes a health and well-being IA objective.

HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

4.18 The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 requires that a Local Development Document must be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (to be taken at least through the screening stage). This includes a Local Plan.

4.19 The purpose of a HRA of land use plans is to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at the local level.

4.20 The HRA of the Local Plan review has been prepared by Greater Manchester Ecology Unit. The findings of the HRA have been integrated into the IA.

4.21 A summary of the HRA is contained within section 8 of the IA and the full HRA can be seen in Appendix 19.

5. INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT PROCESS

5.1 The stages of the IA are set out below:

DPD: EVIDENCE GATHERING AND ENGAGEMENT

STAGE A: SETTING THE CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES, ESTABLISHING THE BASELINE AND DECIDING ON THE SCOPE

1. Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
2. Collect baseline information
3. Identify sustainability issues and problems
4. Develop the IA appraisal framework
5. Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the IA report

DPD: PRODUCTION AND CONSULTATION IA STAGES AND TASKS

STAGE B: DEVELOPING AND REFINING OPTIONS AND ASSESSING EFFECTS

1. Test the DPD objectives against the IA framework
2. Develop the DPD options including reasonable alternatives
3. Evaluate the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives
4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

STAGE C: PREPARING THE IA REPORT AND THE PUBLICATION VERSION OF THE DPD

STAGE D: SEEK REPRESENTATIONS ON THE IA REPORT AND THE PUBLICATION DPD FROM CONSULTATION BODIES AND THE PUBLIC

DPD: SUBMIT DRAFT DPD AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION

DPD: OUTCOME OF EXAMINATION

1. Consider implications for SA/SEA compliance

DPD: LOCAL PLAN ADOPTED

STAGE E: POST ADOPTION REPORTING AND MONITORING

1. Prepare and publish post adoption statement
2. Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
3. Respond to adverse effects

5.2 The council has referred to guidance contained in A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (ODPM, 2005) when carrying out the IA. Although this guidance was prepared some time ago it is still considered to be very useful in setting out

the stages on IA and ensuring that the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive requirements are covered. The council has also referred to Planning Practice Guidance.

5.3 This Scoping Report identifies the scope and level of detail to be included in the IA report. The Scoping Report sets out the context and identifies relevant environmental, economic and social issues, objectives and assessment framework. It is an update to the Scoping Report prepared in 2017, Update 1 and Update 2.

5.4 This Scoping Report is Stage A and includes a section on each of the following:

- Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives;
- Collect baseline information;
- Identify sustainability issues and problems;
- Develop the IA framework; and
- Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the IA report.

6. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS ON THE SCOPING REPORT UPDATE 2

6.1 The comments below were made on the IA Scoping Report Update 2. A response to those comments is provided overleaf to indicate how the IA has taken the representation into account.

6.2 Comments which were previously received on the original Scoping Report can be found in Scoping Report Update 1 and comments made on Update 1 can be found in Update 2.

6.3 There was only one respondent on the Scoping Report Update 2 which was Natural England. The comments are outlined and addressed below.

Table 2: Summary of comments of the IA Scoping Report Update 2 (2024)

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	The Scoping Report does not identify potential opportunities relevant to each theme. Recommend that under each topic heading the relevant baseline evidence documents are referenced and whether they require review or are missing. This will then identify whether there is an evidence gap and whether there are opportunities for change or progress. Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) mapping does not distinguish grades 3a and 3b when determining Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land without further detailed survey work.	The Local Plan details opportunities under each theme. The Scoping report just details issues to be addressed by the Local Plan. The justification for plan policies and Topic Papers sets out the evidence to justify plan policies. Whilst some evidence is outlined within the Scoping Report it is not the role of the Scoping Report to review evidence for each plan policy. Noted. PfE Policy JP-G8 'A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity' addresses Best and Most Versatile soil.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora and Soil** There are additional European and nationally designated sites which are near the boundary of the borough. These include: Hollinwood Branch Canal SSSI, Huddersfield Narrow Canal SSSI and Standedge Road Cutting SSSI. Local Planning Authorities are under a duty to cooperate with each other and other prescribed bodies on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries.	The Scoping Report has made reference to there being other designations in close proximity to the boundary of the borough in response to this comment. Oldham Council carries out duty to cooperate on strategic matters. However, since the Draft Plan stage the decision has been made not to allocate sites in the Local Plan. The Local Plan references the SSSI Impact Zones. For completeness the Scoping Report has also mentioned SSSI Impact Risk Zones.

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
		Expect reference to safeguarding the long-term capability of best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1, 2 and 3a in the Agricultural Land Classification).	Reference has been made to best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1, 2 and 3a in the Agricultural Land Classification).
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Air / Climatic Factors** Key issues do not reflect impacts on the air quality sensitive designated sites nor the effect on other biodiversity assets. Air quality concerns can be exacerbated with climate change. Opportunities for nature-based solutions should be explored as a means of mitigation and resilience. Should there be any gaps in knowledge, this should be detailed.	The HRA addresses air quality impacts on European Sites. As stated in the Scoping Report the HRA is an appendix of the IA and a summary is included within section 8 of the IA report. In addition, there are no longer site allocations being proposed.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora and Soil** This section is generic. Currently there is a list of designated sites with no detail of the specific issues and opportunities relevant to Oldham. Rochdale Canal SAC is vulnerable to the degradation of aquatic habitat through changes in water quality and levels, shading, invasive species, inappropriate bank management, dust, air quality impacts and recreation. We encourage active communication with The Canal and River Trust to ensure recreational pressures can be addressed. Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA and South Pennine Moors SAC are threatened by recreational disturbance both within	The baseline data in Appendix 2 includes the condition of designated sites. The baseline data included within the Scoping Report is considered proportionate. The HRA addresses all these issues and has been made available as part of the IA. The Canal and River Trust are a consultee on the Local Plan. Natural England's position statement is set out in the Appendix of the South Pennine Moors SAC/ SPAs Joint

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
		the designated site and within its associated Functionally Linked Land (FLL). Policy may need to assess the impacts of air quality changes as a result of traffic emissions at Manchester Mosses SAC, specifically the Holcroft Moss SSSI component. This section can include references to BNG, LNRS, nature recovery, Reference should be made to biodiversity assets such as irreplaceable habitats, peatland, designated sites, priority habitats and species.	Supplementary Planning Document[2]. This confirms there is currently no ecology evidence to show impact on conservation of the South Pennines SAC/SPAs from recreational disturbance. PfE Policy JP-G5 'Uplands' provides mitigation that was outlined in the HRA for PfE. This has resulted in PfE Policy JP-G5 criterion 7a preventing development, unless listed as an exemption, within 400m of the South Pennine Moors and within 2.5km of the South Pennine Moors new development being accompanied by an assessment to determine if the site provides for foraging habitats. The South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs SPD provides further guidance on this policy. PfE JP-C8 criterion 17 and its supporting HRA has also addressed Manchester Mosses SAC. The Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations SPD has been prepared to provide guidance on this. Therefore, this matter has been dealt with as part of PfE, and therefore the level of detail included within the Local Plan on this is considered proportionate. The Local Plan and IA will have regard to any further recommendations made within the HRA of the Oldham Local Plan.

[2] The South Pennine Moors SAC/SPAs Joint SPD is available at https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/joint-supplementary-planning-documents/south-pennine-moors-spd/adoption/

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
			The scoping report will make reference to the LNRS and irreplaceable habitats etc.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Landscape** Section does not refer to the Peak District National Park. Information provided on SSSI Impact Zone data. You should also refer to the Manchester Pennine Fringe National Character Area (NCA).	Reference has been made to the PDNP. The council is aware of SSSI impact zones and uses these in the development management process. Reference to SSSI impact zones is made within the Oldham Local Plan. Reference to SSSI Impact Zones has also been added to the Scoping Report under biodiversity, in response to this comment for completeness. Reference has been made to the NCA. However, the council also used detail from the Greater Manchester landscape character assessment which provides further detail.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Human Health** Appendix 11 identifies that protected open space has decreased, and there is a need to protect, conserve and enhance green infrastructure. However, consideration has not been made to unequal access to natural green space and the needs of different user, age, and socio-economic groups. Natural England would expect to see deficiencies and barriers to open space targeted in accordance to Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy. This Strategy identifies wards of Werneth, Coldhurst and St Mary's as having limited access to green infrastructure and identifies that there are social	The Local Plan policies address the needs of different users and how regard should be had to the Green Infrastructure Strategy and how open space deficiencies should be addressed. The Scoping Report needs to be proportionate and is setting out issues generally that the Local Plan needs to address in detail. However, further text regarding analysis from the Green Infrastructure Strategy has been added. Local Plan Policy N3 addresses this informed by the evidence.

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
		barriers to accessing green space as shown on Figure 4. This evidence should be used to inform where additional green infrastructure is required. We suggest considering the relationship between environmental and economic sustainability issues. Investment in green jobs and skills, such as in habitat creation and management, and in wildlife surveying and monitoring will also contribute to environmental issues.	The links between Biodiversity and other SEA topics has been made clear, including economic growth. However, some further text has been added.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Water** We would expect further consideration of water sensitive designated sites, other wetland based habitats including peatlands and nature based solutions. You may wish to map and refer to wetland-based habitats such as Annex I habitat degraded raised bogs which are still capable of natural regeneration, lowland raised mire and other mosaic of wetland habitats as additional water assets. This is a current example of an evidence gap. Our water remit focusses on ensuring that habitats and designated sites are protected from water related development impacts, which may also extend beyond an development's boundary (including peat based habitats.	The Scoping report has referenced peat in response to this. A peat map for England has been referred to in the Local Plan. However, the Scoping Report is not a nature recovery plan and other plans such as the LNRS can fulfill this opportunity better which the Local Pan has had regard to.

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Air and Climatic Factors** Welcome the links across the integrated assessment to flood risk and biodiversity including fauna, flora and soil. Natural England would also wish to see links made between climate change resilience and the nature-based solutions offered from peatland.	Noted. Reference has been made in response to this.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Material Assets** Do not support development on peat, or the extraction and importation of peat resources. This should be clearly reflected within the Local Plan.	Wording has been added to the Local Plan to address this. Please see Policy N1.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	**Proposed IA Objectives** **We recommend the following amendments:** • 1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity and geodiversity ~~that is~~ to become more ecologically connected • 13. To ensure communities, ~~and~~ infrastructure **and biodiversity** are resilient to the effects of climate change • Natural England recommends separate objectives	IA1 has been amended, which includes addressing the recommendation. It now reads: *To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected.* IA13. Has been amended as suggested Regarding the further separate objectives this request has not been made as:

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
		are made for designated sites, soils and peat.	• IA 1 references biodiversity this includes designations; and • IA11 covers soils which would include peat.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	The layout within this section is hard to follow and we suggest a table format with the suggested indicators next to the objectives.	This suggested change has been made.
Natural England	Zoe Haystead	We are of the opinion that indicators are not sufficient to capture the objectives made within the Local Plan. **Suggested indicators:** **Landscape:** Percentage increase of local green spaces. **Human Health**: Percentage of people who will utilise social prescribing; percentage increase of local green spaces; percentage of the plan areas population having access to a natural greenspace within 400	Updated indicators have been shown in this Scoping Report. In response to the suggested indicators: As Local Green Spaces can only be designated through a Local Plan review or neighbourhood plan this indicator would remain quite static each year and therefore has not been included. There does not appear to be a practicable way of obtaining information on social prescribing. Indicators have to be practical as such the indicators selected regarding access to green space are set out in the Scoping Report and Local Plan.

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
		metres of their home; length of greenways constructed; hectares of accessible open space per 1000 population; number of new and retrofitted urban green infrastructure, such as living roofs, living walls, planters. **Air and Climatic Factors** Recognising the value of nature-based solutions, such as number of trees planted, hectares of flood plain; percentage increase in green space; area within plan area enhanced through biodiversity net gain; hectares of peat engaged in restoration efforts; hectares of trees planted and enhanced; number of tonnes of NOx emitted annually from road transport. **Peat and Soils** Hectares of peat in restoration; number of planning	PfE also includes indicator: • Number of hectares of green infrastructure (metric will consider publicly accessible GI where information is available) Percentage of Tree canopy cover and Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors are the indicators set out in the Scoping Report and Local Plan. Reporting on BNG will also take place. PfE also includes indicators: • Exceedance of the legal level of NO2 (as an Annual Mean) in local AQMA and Clean Air Plan Monitoring • Number of trees planted annually (metric to be determined with respect to tree planting programmes and on-site delivery as a result of planning decisions where available) • Gross area of new habitat created from the application of biodiversity net gain Hecates of flood plain is not considered to be something that will be regularly mapped as the functional flood plain is established through an SFRA. The Scoping Report includes an indicator on contaminated

Organisation	Name	Comment	Oldham Council Response
		applications on peat; number of planning applications on BMV; hectares of peat lost or retained; hectares of soil with high environmental value lost to development; hectares of BMV land lost or retained; percentage of new dwellings or employment space on previously developed land and number of planning applications on contaminated land with a contamination assessment	land.

7. STAGE A1: IDENTIFY OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES, AND SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES: PURPOSE OF THE TASK

7.1 The SEA Directive requires:

- *The "relationship (of the plan or programme) with other relevant plans and programmes" (Annex I(a))*
- *"the environmental protection objectives, established at international, (European) Community or (national) level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation" (Annex I(e))*

7.2 The purpose of Stage A1 is to establish how the Local Plan review is affected by outside factors, to suggest ways for how any constraints might be addressed and to help identify IA objectives.

7.3 The Local Plan review may be influenced by other plans or programmes and by objectives in other policies and legislation. This exercise enables potential synergies to be taken advantage of and any inconsistencies and constraints to be addressed.

8. OUTCOME OF STAGE A1

8.1 Below is a list of other relevant policies, plans and programmes reviewed. Documents that have been added or updated since Scoping Report Update 2 have a * next to the document title.

8.2 Documents considered out of date, superseded or withdrawn have been removed.

8.3 The SEA topic that the policy review relates to is shown in brackets next to each subheading.

8.4 The aims, objectives or targets of each document and how these might be considered in the Local Plan review and/or IA can be seen in Appendix 1.

Table 3: Other relevant policies, plans and programmes reviewed - International

International
Biodiversity (Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil)
Convention on wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitat (The Ramsar Convention) (1971, Ramsar)
Resources / Water Resources (Climatic Factors / Water / Soil / Human Health)
Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources (Nitrates Directive) (1991, Eur-Lex) Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption (1998, EUR-Lex)
Air Quality, Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (Climatic Factors / Air / Human Health)
The Cancun Agreement (2011, UNFCCC) Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2009, EUR-Lex) Directive (EU) 2016/2284 of the European Parliament and of the Council the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants (2016, EUR-Lex) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015: The Paris Agreement (2015, United Nations)

International
Landscape The European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention) (2000, Council of Europe)
Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage) Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention) (1985, Council of Europe) European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention, (1992, Council of Europe) UNESCO Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage (1972, UNESCO)
Noise (Human Health) Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise (2002, Eur-Lex)
Minerals (Material assets) Directive 2006/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the management of waste from extractive industries (2006, EUR-Lex)

Table 4: Other relevant policies, plans and programmes reviewed - National

National
Overarching (all SEA topics) National Planning Policy Framework (2024, MHCLG)* Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 Localism Act (as amended) (2011) Equality Act (2010)
Design (Human Health / Population) National Model Design Code (2021, MHCLG) National Design Guide (2021, MHCLG)
Economic Growth (Population) Northern Powerhouse Strategy (2016, HM Government) The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy (2025, HM Government)*
Climate Change and Energy (Climatic Factors) Climate Change Act (2008) The Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting (2023, HM Government) Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2022, HM Government) British Energy Security Strategy (2022, DBEIS and DESNZ)
Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity (Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil) The Environment Act (2021, Defra) Environmental Improvement Plan (2025, HM Government)* UK Biodiversity Framework (2024, JNCC)* Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) The Hedgerows Regulations (1997) The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000, JNCC) Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations (2019)

National
Air Quality and Contaminated Land (Air / Soil) The Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part IV of the Environmental Act (1995) Clean Air Strategy (2019, Defra and MHCLG) Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (2009, Defra) The Air Quality Strategy for England (2023, Defra)* Onshore Wind Strategy (2025, Onshore Wind Taskfore)* The Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Motor Fuel Emissions (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations (2021)*
Water Resources and Flood Risk (Water / Climatic Factors) The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 The Flood Risk Regulations (2009) Flood and Water Management Act (2010) Water Resources Act (1991, HM Government) Policy advice note: inland waterways (2009, Town and Country Planning Association) National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (updated 2022, Environment Agency) Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (1994)*
Historic Environment (Cultural heritage) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990) The Historic Environment in Local Plans (2015, Historic England) Pride in Place Strategy (2025, HM Government)*
Waste (Material Assets) The Waste (Circular Economy) Regulations (2020)* The Waste and Environmental Permitting etc. (Legislative Functions and Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations (2020)* National Planning Policy for Waste (2014, DCLG) Waste Management Plan for England (2021, Defra)
Housing (Population) The Housing Act (2004)

National
The Charter for Social Housing Residents: Social Housing White Paper (MHCLG, 2021) Planning Policy for Travelers Sites (updated 2024, MHCLG)*
Transport (Climatic Factors / Human Health) Gear Change (2020, Department for Transport (DfT)) Cycle Infrastructure Design (LTN 1/20), (2020, DfT) Strategic road network and the delivery of sustainable development (2022, DfT)* Future of Freight: A long-term plan (2022, DfT)* Planning for the future: A guide to working with National Highways on planning matters (2023, National Highways)*
Health and Well-Being (Human Health / Population) Suicide Prevention in England: 5-year cross-sector strategy (2023, DOH) Health and social care integration: joining up care for people, places and populations (2022, DHSC) People at the heart of Care Adult Social Care Reform White Paper (2021, DHSC) PHE strategy 2020-25 (2020, PHE) Planning for Sport Guidance (2024, Sport England)* Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity (2023, HM Government)* Sport England Active Design – Creating Active environments Through Planning and Design (2023, Sport England, Active Travel England OHID) Planning for Healthy Places (2024, TCPA)* NHS Healthy New Towns Programme, (2019, NHS, Public Health England, Town & Country Planning Association, The King's Fund, PA Consulting and The Young Foundation)
Education (Population) Delivering schools to support housing growth (2023, DfE, DLUHC)

Table 5: Other relevant policies, plans and programmes reviewed - Regional, Greater Manchester and Neighbouring Authorities

Regional, Greater Manchester and Neighbouring Authorities
Overarching (all SEA Topics)
Places For Everyone Joint Development Plan Document for Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan 2022-2039 (2024)*
Greater Manchester Strategy 2025 – 2035 (2025, GMCA)*
Climate Change and Air Quality (Climatic Factors / Air / Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil / Water / Material assets and Human Health)
Greater Manchester 5-Year Environment Plan (2024, GMCA)*
Green Infrastructure (Climatic Factors, Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora, Soil, Air, Water)
Greater Manchester Natural Capital Investment Programme (2019, GMCA)
All our Trees - Greater Manchester's Urban Forest Plan (2025, GMCA / City of Trees)*
Nature for All: A Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Greater Manchester (2025, GMCA)*
The NHS Greater Manchester Green Plan 2025-28 (2025, NHS/ GMICP)*
Water Resources and Flood Risk (Climatic Factors / Water / Biodiversity Population / Human Health)
Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (2023, United Utilities)
Final Drought Plan (2022, United Utilities)
Final Water Resources Management Plan 2024 (2024, United Utilities)*
North West River Basin Management Plan (2022, EA)
Upper Mersey Catchment Plan (2023, Catchment Based Approach)
Irwell Catchment Plan 2019 – 2027 (Irwell Catchment Partnership)
Greater Manchester Integrated Water Management Plan (2023, GMCA)
Waste (Material assets)
Greater Manchester Waste Development Plan Document (2012, AGMA)
Minerals (Material assets)
Greater Manchester Minerals Development Plan Document (2013, AGMA)
Transport (Climatic Factors / Air / Population / Human Health)
Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 (2021, TFGM)
Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2050 (Consultation Draft) (2025, TFGM)*
GM Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy (TFGM)

Regional, Greater Manchester and Neighbouring Authorities
Change the region to change a nation: Greater Manchester's walking and cycling investment plan (2020, TFGM and GMCA) Our 5-year Transport Delivery Plan 2021 - 2026 (2021, TFGM) Greater Manchester Freight and Logistics Strategy (2016, TFGM) Our Prospectus for Rail (2019, TFGM and GMCA) Made to Move (2017, TFGM) Streets for All, (2019, GMCA & TFGM)
Health and well-being (Population / Human Health) Creating Age-Friendly Developments A practical guide for ensuring homes and communities support ageing in place (2023, GMCA) Greater Manchester Age-Friendly Strategy 2024-2034 (2024, GMCA) Greater Manchester Moving in Action 2021- 2031 (2021, Greater Manchester Moving) Improving health and care in Greater Manchester 2023-2028 (2023, GMICP)* Standing Together - Our plan for a new era of accountable and people centred policing, community safety and criminal justice services for Greater Manchester 2022 – 2025 (2022, GMCA)
Economic Growth (Population) Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy (2019, GMCA, the GM Local Enterprise Partnership and the UK Government)
Neighbouring Authorities (All SEA Topics) Peak District National Park Management Plan 2023 – 2028 (2023, PDNPA) Local Plan Preferred Approach Consultation (2025, Peak District National Park Authority)* Kirklees Local Plan (2019, Kirklees Council) Calderdale Local Plan 2018/19 – 2032/33 (2023, Calderdale Council) Manchester Local Plan Draft (2025, Manchester City Council)* Rochdale Adopted Core Strategy (2016, Rochdale Council) Tameside Homes, Spaces, Places (2025, Tameside Council)*

Table 6: Other relevant policies, plans and programmes reviewed – Local level

Oldham
Overarching (Population / Human Health / Climatic Factors / Biodiversity / Flora / Fauna / Soil / Air / Water) Creating a Better Place (2020, Oldham Council) Oldham Council Corporate Plan: Ready for the Future 2024-2027 (2024, Oldham Council)* Pride, Progress Partnership - The Oldham Plan 2024-2030 (2024, Oldham Council)* Building a Better Oldham (2025, Oldham Council)*
Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage and Landscapes) Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (2019, Oldham Council) Oldham Mills Strategy (2021, Oldham Council) Oldham Cultural Strategy 2022 – 2030 (2022, Oldham Council)*
Climate Change Climatic Factors / Air / Biodiversity / Soil/ Fauna / Flora / Water) Green New Deal Strategy 2020 - 2025 (2020, Oldham Council) Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy (2022, Oldham Council) Local Area Energy Plan Oldham (2022, GM Local Energy Market)* Complying with the Biodiversity Duty – Our Policies and Objectives for Thriving Wildlife in Oldham (2025, Oldham Council)*
Ground Contamination (Soil) Contaminated Land Strategy (2017, Oldham Council)*
Housing (Population) Oldham's Housing Strategy (2019, Oldham Council) Oldham Council Temporary Accommodation Strategy 2021-24 (2021, Oldham Council) Oldham Homelessness Prevention and Reduction Strategy 2021-26 (2021 Oldham Council)*
Health and wellbeing, education and communities (Population / Human Health) Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 – 2030 (2022, Oldham Council) Our strategy for Adult Social Care 2023 – 2028 (2023, Oldham Council) Oldham Education Provision Strategy 2020-2024 (2020, Oldham Council) Oldham Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy 2025-2041 (2025, Oldham Council)* Oldham Strategy for Early Years (2020, Oldham Council)* Oldham Works: Our Employment and Skills Plan 2025-2030*

Oldham
Transport (Climatic Factors / Air / Population / Human Health)
Oldham Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan (2022, Oldham Council) Oldham Town Centre Parking Strategy (2022, Oldham Council)

ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES HIGHLIGHTED

8.5 The issues and objectives highlighted as requiring objectives as part of the IA Framework through the review of relevant policies, plans and programmes are summarised below and detailed in Appendix 1.

OVERARCHING

- The plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable growth and development

BIODIVERSITY / FAUNA / FLORA / SOIL

8.6 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- promoting the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, geodiversity and ecological networks and a multi-functional green infrastructure network
- ensuring land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner
- protecting and enhancing soils and remediation of contaminated land

WATER

8.7 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- sustainably managing water resources, and protecting and enhancing water quality
- minimising flood risk and mitigating and adapting to the effects of flood risk

AIR / CLIMATIC FACTORS

8.8 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- improving air quality
- reducing energy use, promoting energy efficiency and promoting

renewable and low carbon energy

- adapting, and being resilient, to climate change
- protecting and improving local environmental quality
- promoting a sustainable low emission, integrated, efficient transport system that supports growth in the borough
- encouraging walking and cycling

MATERIAL ASSETS

8.9 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- promoting sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy
- the sustainable management of minerals

LANDSCAPE (INCLUDING TOWNSCAPE AND DESIGN)

8.10 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- the positive management of our landscapes and townscapes
- promoting high-quality design

CULTURAL HERITAGE (HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT)

8.11 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- protecting and enhancing the historic environment, including their wider settings and to preserve and conserve archaeological heritage

POPULATION

8.12 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- having a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs
- having appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs
- promoting inclusive sustainable communities and community cohesion
- promoting economic growth
- the vitality and viability of the borough's centres
- improving education and skills attainment
- the need to promote sustainable tourism and recreation

HUMAN HEALTH

8.13 The IA framework requires objectives on:

- improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities across the borough
- promoting quality and accessible open spaces

9. STAGE A2: COLLECT BASELINE INFORMATION: PURPOSE OF THE TASK

9.1 The SEA requires:

- *the "relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme"; and*
- *"the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected" (Annex I (b), (c))*

9.2 The purpose of collecting baseline information is to provide a basis to predict and monitor environmental effects and identify environmental problems and alternative ways of dealing with them.

9.3 Annex I of the Directive lists aspects of the baseline to be considered. The IA focuses only on those where significant effects are likely. The aspects of the baseline to be considered are:

- Biodiversity;
- Population;
- Human health;
- Fauna;
- Flora;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage; and
- Landscape.

9.4 These aspects are linked to the collection of baseline information in Appendix 2.

9.5 Section 13 covers the likely evolution of the borough in relation to the above SEA topics if the plan is not implemented.

10. STAGE A3: IDENTIFY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND PROBLEMS: PURPOSE OF THE TASK

10.1 The SEA requires:

- *Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC (Annex I (d)).*

10.2 By identifying the sustainability problems through the identification of other relevant objectives (Appendix 1) and collection of baseline information (Appendix 2) a range of key issues are identified which help to define the IA objectives.

11. IDENTIFIED SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND PROBLEMS

11.1 The key issues and environmental, social and economic problems that have been identified are summarised below. These have been identified through Stage A1 'Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes and sustainability objectives' documented in Appendix 1 and Stage A2 'Collecting baseline information' documented in Appendix 2. The evidence, made up of available indicators, has come from sources such as Natural England, Environment Agency, Historic England, NOMIS, Oldham Council including the Council's Monitoring Report and TFGM.

11.2 The issues have been placed under the most relevant heading, however most issues are cross cutting and link to other SEA areas. Commentary on links across the IA has been included.

BIODOVERSITY / FAUNA / FLORA AND SOIL

11.3 Oldham has one Special Protection Area for rare and vulnerable birds (South Pennine Moors SPA Phase 1 and 2) and two Special Areas of Conservation (South Pennine Moors SAC and the Rochdale Canal SAC).

11.4 Oldham has the following five Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) that fall within the borough:

- Rochdale Canal;
- South Pennine Moors;
- Standedge Tunnel;
- Ladcastle and Den Quarries; and
- Lowside Brickworks.

11.5 Standedge Tunnel, Lowside brickworks and Ladcastle and Den Quarries are in 100% recovering condition whereas Rochdale Canal and South Pennine Moors are not. As such, there is a need to actively manage these designations with our partners to address threats and enhance them.

11.6 There are other SSSIs near to the borough such as the Narrow Huddersfield Canal and Hollinwood Branch. Natural England has established SSSI impact risk zones to be used as a planning tool to determine if proposed development is likely to affect a SSSI and when to consult Natural England.

11.7 Oldham has 40 Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) totaling 3,468.8 hectares. The number and extent of SBIs has gradually increased since 1984 from 18 SBIs (142.4 hectares).

11.8 Oldham has one Local Nature Reserve (Glodwick Lows), which contains Lowside Brickworks SSSI.

11.9 Oldham has two Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites ay Glodwick Brickpit (designated 2018) and Rocher Vale (designated 2022).

11.10 Oldham also has priority species and habitats and other protected species across the borough that need to be acknowledged when looking at opportunities to enhance nature.

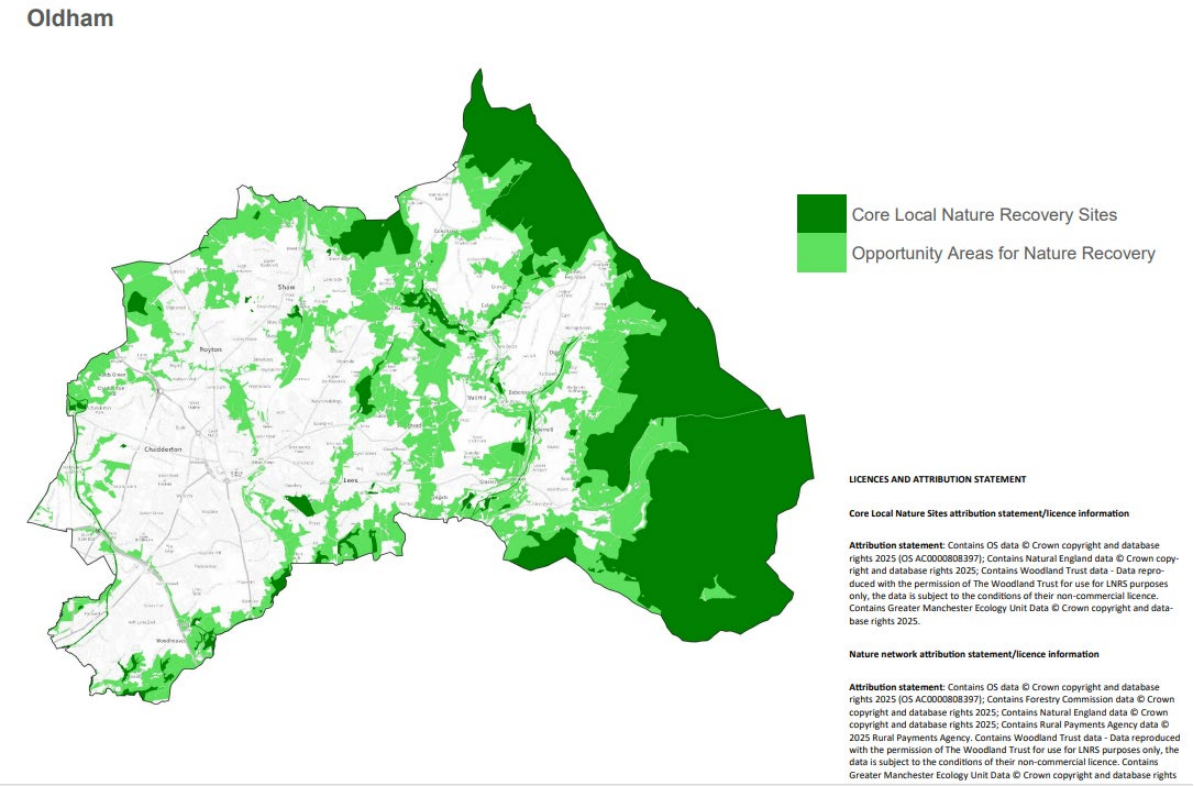
11.11 The Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)[3] sets out a shared vision for nature recovery in Greater Manchester; and priorities, targets and actions for different habitats and species. Actions that are not mapped are applicable for consideration across the borough wherever they are relevant. For example, urban actions are not mapped but are applicable in any urban location and all habitat themes can be checked for relevance with regards to unmapped actions that can inform site layout and design.

11.12 Maps of the Greater Manchester Nature Network have been developed comprising:

- Core local nature sites - existing valuable areas for nature which include our nature designations and irreplaceable habitats; and
- Nature Recovery Opportunity Areas - opportunity areas where action should be focused across the city-region.

[3] The GM LNRS can be found at https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/natural-environment/our-plan-for-nature-recovery/

Map 1: Oldham LNRS Map



11.13 Biodiversity will also be enhanced as part of new developments, through the use of the statutory Biodiversity Net Gain tool, which can take account of the LNRS, as well as through embedding Green Infrastructure generally.

11.14 Implementing the LNRS through a partnership approach will lead to enhanced biodiversity including more land designated for nature, more sites in active management and enhanced and restored wildlife-rich spaces.

11.15 It is important that regard is had to the LNRS as well as Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy.

There is the need to protect and enhance a multi-functional green infrastructure network including biodiversity, geodiversity and nature recovery networks.

11.16 Agricultural land is of significance in the safeguarding of soil resources, with 'best and most versatile' land safeguarded because of its long-term potential for delivering food and non-food crops. In Oldham available data shows agricultural land as being Grade 4 and 5.

11.17 Soils in Greater Manchester are, however, significant for more than their agricultural value with extensive uplands and lowland areas characterised by deep peaty soils, which have a high environmental value.

11.18 Oldham has a rich industrial heritage and previous manufacturing, engineering and industrial processes have resulted in the potential for contaminated land across the Borough. Typical causes of land contamination include industrial or commercial usage, mining, and landfilling. Contamination can also occur naturally due to certain types of minerals being present in rocks and soils. Developments need to identify potential issues early in the development process and seek to remediate any contaminated land. Appendix 2 reports on the number of planning applications with a condition attached related to contaminated land.

There is a need to protect and enhance soils and remediate contaminated land.

LINKS ACROSS THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

11.19 Biodiversity, fauna, flora and soil links to most other SEA topic areas including climatic factors, air, water, human health, landscapes and population change as well as health and well-being and economic growth.

11.20 Oldham's Green infrastructure Strategy identifies seven priority themes, which demonstrates the links between this section and other issues:

- Thriving wildlife – the opportunity to join up the scattered core biodiversity areas;
- Carbon neutral Oldham – Green Infrastructure can contribute to a carbon neutral borough. Wetlands, including peatlands, woodlands and semi-natural grasslands are effective at storing and sequestering carbon helping with climate change resilience;
- Healthy and Active Communities – access to green spaces is vital to healthy communities. Enhanced Green Infrastructure can help reduce inequalities in access to green space and health deprivation;
- Green Access for All – increasing access to Green Infrastructure helps to increase physical activity;
- Distinctive Landscapes – Green Infrastructure, such as increased tree planting or other enhancements can help positively manage the landscape that attracts visitors and contributes to quality of life;

- Slowing the Flow and Water Quality – Multi-functional Green Infrastructure can be used to mitigate flood risk; and
- Sustainable Growth and Green Jobs – creation and management of Green Infrastructure helps to increase green jobs and skills.

LANDSCAPE

11.21 Oldham falls within the National Character Areas for Southern Pennines; Manchester Pennine Fringe and Manchester Conurbation.

11.22 A Greater Manchester Landscape Character and Sensitivity Assessment was carried out by LUC on behalf of GMCA and the ten Greater Manchester districts in 2018. This identifies the following landscape types within Oldham:

- Incised Urban Fringe Valleys;
- Open Moorland and Enclosed Upland Fringes (Dark Peak);
- Open Moorland and Enclosed Upland Fringes (West / South Pennines);
- Pennine Foothills (Dark Peak);
- Pennine Foothills (West / South Pennines); and
- Urban Fringe Farmland.

11.23 The Assessment identifies the sensitivity rating of each landscape type and key characteristics (such as topography, land use, habitats, archaeology and cultural heritage etc) and sets out guidance and opportunities to consider within each landscape type to help retain and enhance local distinctiveness, identity and sense of place.

11.24 Over a quarter of the Borough falls within the Peak District National Park (PDNP), offering residents and visitors access to the Peak Parks diverse landscapes and recreation. Oldham acts as a gateway to the Peak Park, particularly around the areas of Dove Stone Reservoir and Saddleworth Moors and provides the setting to the Peak District. Development can consider opportunities to further the purposes of the PDNP in relation to its natural beauty, wildlife, cultural heritage and understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities

11.25 Appendix 2 outlines monitoring of planning applications refused on landscape grounds.

There is a need to ensure that development makes a positive contribution to landscape and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place.

11.26 The extent of the Green Belt is 6096 hectares following adoption of PfE. There are also 19 Other Protected Open Land (OPOL) designations totaling 251.65 ha., which are being reviewed as part of the Local Plan review process against Local Green Space (LGS) criteria. OPOL that's meets LGS criteria will be re-designated as such in the revised Local Plan.

11.27 Green Belt and LGS will need to be protected from inappropriate development in line with national policy.

There is a need to ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land.

CULTURAL HERITAGE, INCLUDING ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE (HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT)

11.28 The Oldham Mills Strategy[4] was published in 2021, and sets a positive strategy for remaining undesignated mills, prioritising the mills from high to low based on the archaeological interest, historic interest (which may be illustrative or associative) and their architectural / aesthetic interest and sense of place. This has also fed in townscape value. The Strategy also considered housing and employment potential of each mill at a high level.

11.29 Feeding into this is a landscape overview, which assessed the contribution that mills either individually, or cumulatively, make to the landscape character of Oldham. The clustering of groups of mills provides a unique character to the local landscape and give Oldham an exceptionally strong sense of place and local distinctiveness.

11.30 There are nine entries in the borough on the Historic England at Risk Register, an increase of four entries since 2012/13. This represents 1.6% of all assets (555).

11.31 There are two scheduled ancient monuments in Oldham, Bowl Barrow and Castleshaw Roman Forts, neither of which are on the Heritage at Risk register.

11.32 There are 36 conservation areas in the borough covering 254.83 hectares. The extent of conservation areas has increased by 4.04 hectares since the adoption of the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area and Management Plan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in 2019 and the extensions to the Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area. The extensions have been designated under Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. However, the extensions need to be adopted through the Local Plan review to be shown on the Policies Map. Until then they are treated as a material planning consideration. The Management Plan aims to address issues threatening the deteriorating condition of Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area with the aim of removing it from the 'Heritage at Risk' register.

11.33 A further 20 Conservation Areas in Oldham are classed as being vulnerable, this is the highest number in Greater Manchester, although Oldham does have the second highest number of conservation areas. Nevertheless, there is a need for up-to-date appraisals and management plans to address this issue.

11.34 Oldham has three Registered Parks and Gardens:

- Chadderton Cemetery (Grade II);
- Greenacres Cemetery (Grade II); and

[4] The Oldham Mills Strategy is available at https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201236/evidence/2819/oldham_mills_strategy

- Alexandra Park (Grade II*).

11.35 The Historic Environment Record (HER) also shows that there are undesignated heritage assets across the borough and there is potential for archaeology on sites.

11.36 A local list project is taking place across Greater Manchester, which aims to celebrate local distinctiveness and help to protect the unique historic character of the area.

11.37 The Greater Manchester Local Heritage Listing Project is being facilitated by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), working in partnership with the district authorities (including Oldham Council), the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and, crucially, local communities and heritage groups.

11.38 The HER includes 34 'blue plaques' to commemorate past events and people associated with the borough. This includes subjects on the Peterloo Massacre, Sir Winston Churchill (MP for Oldham 1990), Annie Kenney (leading suffragette), Ben Brierley (writer) and John Lees (originator of fish and chips) to name a few.

11.39 The Rochdale Canal and Huddersfield Narrow Canal both pass through Oldham. The canals are historic assets within the borough. The canal network has played a significant part in the development and heritage of the settlements in Oldham since the 18th century. This is especially evident at Failsworth Pole Conservation Area and Uppermill Conservation Area, where the Rochdale and Huddersfield Narrow canals respectively provide an important focal point alongside neighbouring historic former industrial buildings and contain several historic assets, such as lock cottages, lock features, stone walls and bridges, some of which are listed. They also provide many other benefits such as recreational routes for exercise and ecological networks.

11.40 Oldham's cultural heritage also includes traditions such as Morris dancing and the Rushcart festival in Saddleworth. Cultural heritage can also be found within the Saddleworth Museum and Gallery Oldham, which forms part of the extended Conservation Area within Oldham Town Centre.

11.41 Monitoring shows that the borough loses parts of listed buildings or buildings in Conservation Areas each year through planning applications, although this is often to secure the long-term reuse of a listed building.

There is the need to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, including its wider setting and to preserve and conserve archaeological heritage

11.42 Establishing localised design policies will help developments achieve higher quality design, which reinforces local distinctiveness.

There is a need to promote high quality design.

LINKS ACROSS THE INTEGRATES ASSESSMENT

11.43 Cultural heritage and landscape links to most SEA areas including biodiversity, fauna, flora and soil; population, human health, climatic factors and material assets.

11.44 The historic environment can play a strong role in meeting housing and employment needs therefore benefitting the population. An attractive environment including the historic environment uplifts well-being and assets such as registered parks and gardens and conservation areas may include a recreational role.

11.45 This section has included Green Belt and OPOL within a landscape context however, both can offer historic, recreational and wildlife significance.

11.46 Positively managing landscapes can have a variety of benefits such as enhanced biodiversity and soil, access for recreation and the visitor economy.

POPULATION

11.47 Oldham's population is 251,560 as at 2024. The population increase is above the average across England and Wales by 0.2%. This is an increase of around 9,460 (3.9%) since the 2021 census.

11.48 The increases are in certain age groups, notably people aged 20-30, and people aged 65 years and over.

11.49 Oldham's population is mostly white (68.1%); followed by 'Asian / Asian British / Pakistani' (14.2%) and 'Asian British / Bangladeshi' (9%). Oldham has a more diverse community compared to Greater Manchester and England.

11.50 Oldham's main religious belief is Christianity (44.9%), followed by Muslim (24.4%) and smaller percentages of people that are Hindu, Buddhist and other religion. This reflects Oldham's rich community diversity.

11.51 In terms of education there are enough primary and secondary school places across the borough to support the existing pupils. However, there may be a need to support new / expanded schools to meet school places within certain parts of the borough where there is a particular need.

11.52 Oldham has a housing land supply of 12,366 dwellings[5]. Over the last ten years (2015/16 to 2024/25) completions have improved, with an average of 443 dwellings completed annually. Brownfield and mixed sites continue to make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply.

11.53 The proportion of detached (20.5%) and semi-detached (23%) properties completed has decreased since 2021/22 (when 57% were detached or semi-detached). Highlighting the need to encourage the provision of larger family (three/four plus bed) homes as part of the mix of new residential developments

11.54 Affordable housing has made up part of the housing delivery with slightly higher rates seen since 2019. A lower proportion of residents in Oldham own their own home or have a mortgage / shared ownership than regional and national rates, so there is a need to ensure a mix of tenures that meets needs.

There is a need to ensure the needs of the future population are met through:

- having a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs; and
- having appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.

11.55 Levels of employment floorspace completed and land developed for business and industry since 2012/13 has varied considerably.

11.56 Monitoring shows that in 2024/2025 there has been one employment completion on a greenfield site at Broadway Green. Prior to this, information shows that 100% of floorspace developed for employment has been on brownfield land.

11.57 The total amount of employment land available for industrial and commercial use (Use Classes Order Eg)i, B2 and B8) as at 31 March 2025 was 90.83 ha. This has increased since the adoption of PfE.

11.58 Oldham's unemployment rate is 7.0% as at June 2025. This is lower than the last Scoping Report but Oldham still continues to have the highest claimant rate in GM and higher than the England average. Youth unemployment has decreased by 0.4% since May 2022 but it is starting to stablise. At 9.2% it is the highest rate of youth unemployment across Greater Manchester and higher than the national rate.

[5] As published in Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025)

11.59 The proportion of 16–19-year-olds in Oldham' Not in Education, Employment and Training' (NEET) is 5%. This is higher than the last Scoping Report. Oldham also has a higher proportion of the population with no qualifications and a lower proportion with NVQ4 and above compared to regional and national rates.

11.60 Oldham has higher proportions of working people in plant and machine operatives, caring occupations and sales and lower proportions of workers in management roles. Therefore, there is a need to retain qualified people with higher qualifications to ensure a strong economy and ensure there is employment land available to suit employment needs.

11.61 Oldham Town Centre is the focus for commercial, retail, civic, education, social, community and cultural activities and is supported by several other centres.

There is a need to improve education and skills attainment.

There is a need to promote economic growth.

11.62 Oldham Town Centre is at the heart of the Building a Better Oldham, the council's regeneration programme which seeks to transform Oldham, unlocking £285 million and creating 2,000 new homes in Oldham Town Centre, 1000 jobs and 100 apprenticeship opportunities.

11.63 The ambition and vision is that we will build a better Oldham by:

- building quality homes
- providing opportunities to learn & gain new skills
- providing opportunities to grow local businesses and create jobs
- ensuring Oldham is the greenest borough
- embedding sustainability, energy efficiency & low (zero) carbon
- improving life-chances, health and well-being of our residents and local communities

11.64 Oldham Coliseum will re-open in 2026 and other projects include Northern Roots which will create the UK's largest farm and country park and offer walking and cycling routes and a visitor centre.

11.65 In terms of sports and open space, the emerging SportsTown centred around

There is a need to enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres.

There is a need to promote sustainable tourism and recreation.

Boundary Park is a multi-million-pound investment which will deliver transformative sporting, health and education facilities. SportsTown will create business, educational and career opportunities in sport and health, as well as delivering improved and new facilities for a range of sports, including football, rugby, netball and cricket.

LINKS ACROSS THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

11.66 Population links to all areas, as an increasing population needs to be sustainably managed as to not have adverse impacts on other SEA areas such as biodiversity. An increased population requires suitable housing, employment, and other infrastructure including access to open space and green infrastructure (Human Health) and ensure that the population is resistant to climate change (climatic factors). Infrastructure requires minerals which needs to be planned sustainably, and water supply needs to be controlled (material assets).

HUMAN HEALTH

11.67 A Green Infrastructure Strategy for Oldham was completed in 2022, which sets out priority themes for Green Infrastructure and opportunities for investment based on need.

11.68 This highlights that in Oldham a higher proportion of the population are inactive or less active than Greater Manchester and England figures. Providing all of Oldham's residents with good access to GI can raise levels of physical activity such as walking and cycling, having secondary health benefits such as reducing obesity and improving overall levels of health. GI-based activity is a cost-effective method of improving public health.

11.69 The benefits of interaction with the natural, outdoor settings provided by GI assets are well documented, and have been shown to support good mental health, combat social isolation and aid recovery from illness.

11.70 An up-to-date Open Space Audit has been completed as part of the Local Plan showing that from open space audited Oldham has 1,578.09 hectares of open space with 56.7% achieving at least 'Good' standard.

11.71 Many residential properties in Oldham, particularly those in the denser central wards of Werneth, Coldhurst and St Mary's have no private garden space, often compounded by limited access to public open space. The Open Space Audit highlights where there is need for accessible open space in these areas.

11.72 Figures 24 and 26 in the Green Infrastructure Strategy illustrate nature deprived wards and Open Spaces. Figure 29 shows health deprivation and open space. Figure 24

highlights that interventions in terms of quantity and quality should be prioritized in areas of highest health deprivation.

11.73 Oldham's life expectancy is 80.5 years for females and 76.6 years for males. Life expectancy has increased steadily over a twenty-year period between 1991-1993 and 2011-2013. Since 2015-2017 life expectancy has been slowly declining for both males and females with a slight rise since 202-2022.

11.74 Oldham remains behind the national and North-West average for life expectancy and in recent years the gap between life expectancy in Oldham and the England average has increased.

11.75 A higher proportion of year 6 and reception children are underweight or living with obesity compared to the national figures.

11.76 Oldham has higher than the England average for fuel poverty but is only slightly above the Northwest average and the GM average for fuel poverty and fuel poverty has decreased since 2020.

11.77 The number of road accidents in Oldham had declined since 2015 but since 2021 there has been an increase in total casualties for both pedestrians and cyclists.

There is a need to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities across the borough.

There is a need to promote quality and accessible open spaces.

There is a need to protect and improve local environmental quality.

LINKS TO THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

11.78 Human Health relates to population, ensuring that residents are healthier. It also relates to biodiversity, fauna and flora as access to nature can enhance well-being and reduce air pollution and related illnesses. Health also relates to climatic factors as being resilient to climate change through for example urban cooling influences health.

WATER

11.79 Oldham falls within the North West River Basin Management Plan and the Irwell and Upper Mersey Catchments.

11.80 A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) was carried out to support PfE. An Oldham SFRA (2025) has been prepared for the Publication Plan to outline flood risk and apply the Sequential Test (a test used to avoid development in areas of flood risk).

11.81 The Environment Agency defines Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) and these are available on the Environment Agency's website. These are areas that are often used for public drinking water supply purposes. Preventing pollution to drinking water is critical to ensure it is safe to use for public health.

11.82 Critical Drainage Areas (CDAs) have been mapped across Greater Manchester (2023) and are available on the councils' constraints mapping.

11.83 Monitoring shows generally that there does not tend to be many Environment Agency objections based on water quality in Oldham. Where there are objections on flood risk, such as those relating to unsatisfactory Flood Risk Assessments, they tend to be resolved, or the application is withdrawn or refused.

11.84 New development should adopt multifunctional designed SUDS that mitigate and reduce water quality issues. Above-ground SUDs are preferred where feasible before more orthodox underground solutions, to maximise the green and blue infrastructure benefits.

11.85 Natural flood management measures should also be used, particularly in the Upland catchment areas.

11.86 There is a need to manage water efficiently, as part of resilience to climate change pressures, including drought.

11.87 There are major environmental improvements needed to enhance the functioning and ecological quality of the majority of Oldham's river corridors. In relation to both water quality and hydromorphological (river modification) terms where watercourses have been either canalised or culverted. Or where they have been heavily encroached by poor development leaving limited or no natural greenspace buffers; weirs that impede ecological connectivity and inhibit natural hydromorphological processes; and modified river channels with limited or no safe access to river edge, as well as invasive non-native species. There are many watercourses in the borough that are failing their statutory ecological objectives for water quality.

11.88 There is the need to promote better integrated riparian development, and rehabilitation and restoration of river corridors, enabling these river valleys to become high quality and multi- functioning green infrastructure assets.

11.89 The waterways network can also contribute towards making a positive impact upon key social, environmental and economic problems and issues identified. It can be de-culverted and re-naturalised as part of development, schemes, and used as part of the green infrastructure to provide enhanced biodiversity and space for recreation.

There is a need to avoid and mitigate against flood risk.

There is a need to sustainably manage water resources and protect and enhance water quality.

There is a need to adapt and be resilient to climate change.

LINKS ACROSS THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

11.90 Water relates to biodiversity, fauna, flora, soil and climatic factors as managing water resources in terms of quantity and quality has a direct link to impacts on wildlife, flood risk and drought. As well as protecting water quality for public drinking an enriched water environment also provides space for recreation therefore relating to population and human health.

AIR AND CLIMATIC FACTORS

11.91 Oldham Council declared a Climate Change emergency in 2019. Since then, the Council has adopted a Green New Deal Strategy which sets challenging new carbon neutrality targets, whilst bringing a new focus on building the green economic sector in Oldham to generate inward investment, jobs and training opportunities for residents.

11.92 The Oldham Local Area Energy Plan[6] (LAEP) identifies opportunities for low carbon energy including solar, hydrogen, heat pumps, electric vehicle charging and a district heat network. In addition, the Council is working on an Oldham Mine Water Heat Network project.

11.93 Annual mean nitrogen dioxide has significantly reduced since 2007 and the number of days where pollution was moderate or higher has reduced in recent years.

11.94 In addition, data on per capita emission estimates for industry, domestic and transport sector (2023) show that the figures are a reduction from previous years and the lowest since the plan period (it is the same as 2020 which is likely to be due to Covid). The trend is positive.

11.95 One of the ways in which planning can influence air quality in new developments is

[6] The Local Area Energy Plan is available at https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/documents/s129736/OS%20Feb%2022%20-%20OGND%20Appx%20C_Oldham%20LAEP.pdf

through the preparation of travel plans, which tends to be provided within major developments where it is deemed necessary.

11.96 Access to services is another key factor in influencing how much people are likely to use active modes of travel to access services such as schools. The number of minor developments with access to at least two key services has generally improved over the past ten years (71%) and the number of major developments with access to at least three key services has varied (latest figure 76%).

There is a need to continue improving air quality.

There is a need to reduce energy use, promote energy efficiency and promote renewable and low carbon energy.

There is a need to promote access to key services to reduce the need to travel.

There is a need to encourage walking and cycling.

There is a need to promote a sustainable low emission, integrated, efficient transport system that supports growth in the borough.

LINKS ACROSS THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

11.97 Clean air directly impacts climate change and therefore flood risk, biodiversity, fauna, flora and soil as changes result in temperature rises, drought, increased flood risk all of which can impact on ecosystems and landscapes. There are opportunities to consider climate change resilience and the nature-based solutions, including those offered from restorable peatland. This section also links to human health as air quality can have health impacts and the population topic as there is a need to ensure that increased population growth does not result in worsening air quality.

MATERIAL ASSETS

11.98 Joint Greater Manchester Development Plans have been prepared for Minerals and Waste and these form part of Oldham's development plan. Approval has been sought across the GM authorities to agree in principle to the preparation of a new Joint Minerals and Waste Plan for Greater Manchester.

11.99 Oldham's Monitoring Reports and Appendix 2 sets out the latest information on waste and minerals monitoring.

11.100 The recycling rates in Oldham (46.35%) exceed the target (33%) (2024).

There is a need to promote sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy.

There is a need to manage minerals sustainably.

LINKS ACROSS THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

11.101 Minerals and waste relate to population. It is important that growth can be supported to meet needs, but this must be done in a sustainable manner.

11.102 The sustainable management of minerals and waste will also seek to ensure the protection of biodiversity, fauna, flora and soil and impacts on landscapes should be managed through restoration and aftercare. The sustainable management of minerals and waste should also seek to protect air, water and cultural heritage.

11.103 The Greater Manchester Joint Waste DPD and Joint Minerals DPD set out the policies on minerals and waste developments, which will eventually be superseded by a combined Greater Manchester Minerals and Waste Plan.

12. LIKELY EVOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH IF THE PLAN IS NOT IMPLEMENTED

12.1 The SEA requires:

- the "relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme".

12.2 This section of the report seeks to make a judgement on what the evolution of the environment would be without the Local Plan review in place.

BIODOVERSITY / FAUNA / FLORA AND SOIL

12.3 Without the review of the Local Plan regard would not be had to the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) within this development plan. Therefore, the purpose of the LNRS to reverse the decline in biodiversity and nature recovery networks will be contributed to less.

12.4 Embedding the Green Infrastructure Strategy into the Local Plan which seeks to enhance Green Infrastructure within new developments whilst meeting needs across different parts of the borough will also not take place without a refreshed policy. Therefore, enhancement of Green Infrastructure may not be as effective or additional as it could be.

12.5 Without the Local Plan review there would not be an opportunity for the council to designate Local Green Spaces. This will mean that OPOL will continue to be seen as "out of date", which will make these valued open spaces more vulnerable to inappropriate development.

LANDSCAPE (AND DESIGN)

12.6 Without a Local Plan review local policies regarding landscape, such as mill clusters would not be taken forward. This may mean that the borough's identity and local distinctiveness is eroded.

12.7 There would not be more specific policies on design which aim to drive a higher quality of design.

CULTURAL HERITAGE, INCLUDING ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE (HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT)

12.8 Without a Local Plan review there would not be a positive strategy for heritage. This includes a policy approach to undesignated mills and a policy approach seeking to remove Oldham Town Centre from the at-risk register. The extensions to the Oldham Town Centre conservation area would not be formally adopted and shown on the policies map.

POPULATION

12.9 Without a Local Plan review the Local Housing Needs Assessment would not have informed planning policy about the type and size of housing that should come forward. There would be no specific policies for addressing the needs of different people (including cared for children and care leavers, older people and disabled people). It would make it more difficult to create mixed and balanced communities.

12.10 The needs of the changing population would not be addressed fully for housing and supporting infrastructure such as health care and school places as well as physical infrastructure such as roads and utilities.

12.11 Requirements for employment floorspace would not be set out which may undermine Oldham's efforts to contribute to overall PfE requirements and to promote economic growth. A review of business and employment areas would not take place, which may mean that we are not providing policy for the most appropriate areas.

12.12 Specific policies to drive forward the Building a Better Oldham agenda and proposals for Oldham Town Centre may be undermined.

HUMAN HEALTH

12.13 Without the Local Plan review the open space standards would not be embedded into the revised Local Plan policy. Setting out clear expectations in policy will help ensure people have access to quality open space.

12.14 The Local Plan seeks to address inequalities and poor health through policies such as those on restricting hot food takeaways; provision of Green Infrastructure, including facilitating allotments; provision of quality homes that meet local needs; and requirements for Health Impact Assessments (HIAs). If these policies are not taken forward, then the contribution that planning decisions will make towards addressing health will be less effective.

WATER

12.15 Without the review of the Local Plan there would not be specific policies relating to flood risk, and surface and foul water, that ensure better management of water and flood risk. In addition, there would not be opportunities to specify drainage standards to address surface water flood risk.

12.16 There would not be specific policies on SPZs to proactively address any developments within these zones upfront and higher standards specified for water efficiency.

AIR AND CLIMATIC FACTORS

12.17 Without the Local Plan review refreshed standards on accessibility to public transport would not be embedded within the Local Plan, which risks more developments being in unsustainable locations leading to higher private cars and less travel by sustainable modes of transport, walking and cycling. This would all result in worsening air quality, which would impact on people's health, particularly related illnesses such as asthma.

12.18 The Local Plan sets out more policies on transport priorities, travel hubs and park and ride facilities, parking provision, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and vision led transport statements / assessments and travel plans.

12.19 Without the Local Plan therefore there would be fewer policies in place to ensure that development is sustainable which may result in worsening air quality.

MATERIAL ASSETS

12.20 Minerals and Waste are dealt with at a Greater Manchester level, as such without the Local Plan in place the policy approach would be unaffected. However, the IA process does ensure that minerals and waste are considered when assessing the implications of the Local Plan.

13. STAGE A4: DEVELOP THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK: PURPOSE OF THE TASK

13.1 The SEA requires:

- "*The environmental protection objectives, established at international, community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation (Annex I (e))"*

13.2 The guidance explains that the IA objectives are a way of considering effects of the Local Plan and comparing the effects of alternatives. They serve a different purpose than the Local Plan objectives although there is likely to be overlap. IA objectives help to show whether the objectives of the plan will lead to net gains in environmental, social and economic factors, to compare the effects or alternatives or to suggest improvements.

13.3 Appendix 3 sets out information on how the IA objectives have been identified together with proposed indicators.

13.4 Objectives and indicators have been revised over time as the plan has progressed and in consultation with the relevant bodies.

14. INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

14.1 Appendix 3 provides details on how proposed IA objectives have been established. Sustainability issues and problems have been identified through looking at other policies, plans and programmes objectives and the baseline information. Together, these have formed the overall issues as set out in Stage 3.

14.2 Appendix 3 translates the identified issues and problems into IA objectives with corresponding indicators so that the issues and problems can be assessed and monitored.

14.3 They have also been informed by the comments received on the Scoping Reports to date.

Table 7: IA Objectives and Indicators

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA1) To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates) % of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation Percentage of tree canopy cover In addition, Biodiversity Duty Reports will be prepared including information on BNG.
IA2) To promote quality and accessible open spaces.	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision
IA3) To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.	Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds Number and type of development permitted within Local Green Spaces Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt
IA4) To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets	Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
and their setting.	Number of listed buildings Number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills PfE - Increase percentage of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use
IA5) To promote high-quality design that meets local design expectations.	Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code
IA6) To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land.	Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt Number and type of developments permitted within Local Green Spaces Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm) gross New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Number of vacant properties

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA7) To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.	Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend) Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities
IA8) To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.	Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend). Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision Life Expectancy

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Proportion of physically active adults Childhood obesity rates The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate
IA9) To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk.	PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds) Number of new developments agreed with the council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM).
IA10) To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources.	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds
IA11) To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land.	Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land.
IA12) To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.	PfE: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B % of households living in fuel poverty

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
IA13) To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change	Percentage of tree canopy cover PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds)
IA14) To protect and improve air quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA15) To protect and improve local environmental quality.	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate
IA16) To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection and enhancement of the PROW Network.	Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors
IA17) To promote accessibility to key	Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
services and reduce the need to travel.	or above
IA18) To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA19) To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross)

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA20) To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill.	Number of homes completed within the borough's centres Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA21) To promote sustainable tourism and leisure.	Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses
IA22) To improve education attainment and skill levels.	State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.
IA23) To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.	Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings - in previous years; Net additional dwellings - for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings - in future years; and Managed delivery target New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Total housing completions by size and type on major sites Number of completions for new-building affordable housing by tenure, type and size

IA Objective	IA indicator(s)
	Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) PfE also includes indicators on housing.
IA24) To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals.	The GM Minerals Development Plan Document sets out indicators which is monitored by GMCA.
IA25) To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy.	The GM Waste Development Plan Document sets out indicators which is monitored by GMCA.
IA26) To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.	It is considered that the plan as a whole and therefore all indicators will help achieve this objective.

15. COMPATIBILITY OF INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

15.1 Before using the IA objectives, it is useful to test the internal compatibility of the IA objectives against each other to identify any tensions that cannot be resolved. The compatibility assessment will clarify these so that subsequent decisions are well based, and mitigation or alternatives can be considered.

15.2 The Key is shown below:

15.3 + compatible

15.4 X / ? Incompatible / screening and / or mitigation may be required

15.5 - no link / neutral

15.6 The compatibility exercise shows that there are no IA objectives that are incompatible with each other. There are some neutrals where it is felt that IA objectives will not have an impact on one another.

15.7 In relation to these neutrals, it is presumed that national and Local Plan policy would be implemented. It presumes for example that any amenity issues would be minimised when considering local environmental quality and landscape against renewable and low carbon technologies.

Table 8: Compatibility of IA Objectives

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2	+																								
3	+	+																							
4	+	+	+																						
5	+	+	+	+																					
6	+	+	+	+	+																				
7	+	+	+	+	+	+																			
8	+	+	+	+	+	+	+																		
9	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+																	
10	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+																
11	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+															
12	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+														
13	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+													
14	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+												
15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+											
16	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+										
17	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+									
18	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+								
19	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+							
20	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
21	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+					
22	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-				
23	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+			
24	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+		
25	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	
26	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

16. INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT APPROACH

16.1 The IA objectives will be used to test the following components of the Local Plan review:

- Vision;
- Plan objectives; and
- Plan Policies.

16.2 The approach to the assessment of the above parts of the plan is set out below together with the scoring system.

Key

++ = significantly positive

+ = positive

? = uncertain

-- = neutral

X = potentially negative

XX = potentially significantly negative

S = Short term (less than 5 years)

M = Medium Term (5 to 10 years)

L = Long term (over 10 years)

L = Local

CB = Cross boundary

P = Permanent

T = Temporary

16.3 The table below shows the approach for assessing the Vision and Plan objectives. This will test the compatibility of the IA objectives and plan objectives.

Table 9: IA Appraisal of Vision and Objectives

IA Objective	Vision	Plan Objective 1	Plan Objective 2
1. To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	++	?	+
2. To promote quality and accessible open spaces	+	-	++
3. To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place	++	++	+

16.4 The following approach will be used to assess the plan policies. Each score will be justified by commentary. It will take into account any significant environmental effects including:

- secondary (indirect effects);
- cumulative;
- synergistic (where effects interact to produce a total greater effect);
- permanent and temporary; and

- positive and negative effects.

16.5 Any assumptions and uncertainties will also be expressed.

16.6 Overall conclusions will be drawn highlighting any changes needed to the policy to mitigate the effects or further enhance positive effects.

Table 10: IA Appraisal of Plan Policies

IA Objective	Score	Score	Score	Effects are Temporary or Permanent	Scale	Justification	Mitigation / enhancement	Changes made as a result of the IA
	ST < 5 years	MT 5 - 10 years	LT 10+ years		Local or Cross-boundary[7]			
1.To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	+	++	++	Permanent	Cross-boundary	Text to explain why scores given	Text to recommend amendments that could be made to policy to mitigate any negative effects or enhance the policy	Any mitigation / enhancements expressed
2.To promote quality and accessible open spaces	++	++	++	Permanent	Local	Text to explain why scores given	Text to recommend amendments that could be made to policy to mitigate any negative effects or enhance the policy	Any mitigation / enhancements expressed

[7] It is assumed that if an effect is cross-boundary it is also local.

17. STAGE A5: CONSULTING ON THE SCOPE OF THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

17.1 The SEA requires:

17.2 *"...The authorities...Which, by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programmes ...Shall be consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report" (Article 5.4 and 6.3)*

17.3 The council consulted the following three consultation bodies on the scope and level of detail in the IA Scoping Report (2017):

17.4 Historic England;

17.5 Natural England; and

17.6 Environment Agency.

17.7 The IA Scoping Report was also available for other organisations and the public to view and comment on.

17.8 Scoping Report Update 1 was also available alongside Issues and Options consultation for the consultation bodies and other organisations and the public to view and comment on.

17.9 Scoping Report Update 2 was available to comment on alongside the Draft Local Plan.

17.10 This Scoping Report Update 3 is published alongside the Publication Local Plan. Please see Statement of Availability for consultation details.

18. NEXT STEPS ON THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

18.1 Following consultation on the IA Scoping Report Update 3 the Council will submit the Publication Plan, relevant supporting documents and representations received, to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination. Through which the Inspector will consider whether the Local Plan has been positively prepared, is justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

18.2 The IA Scoping Report is the first stage of the IA (Stage A). The Scoping Report forms the basis of the IA, which will be carried out on the Local Plan review.

18.3 The next stages of the IA process and Local Plan review are outlined below.

DPD: Production and consultation

IA Stages and tasks

Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects

1. Test the DPD objectives against the IA framework
2. Develop the DPD options including reasonable alternatives
3. Evaluate the likely effects of the DPD and alternatives
4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the DPD

Stage C: Preparing the IA Report and the publication version of the DPD

Stage D: Seek representations on the IA report and the publication DPD from consultation bodies and the public.

Submit draft DPD and supporting documents for independent examination

Outcome of examination / Consider implications for SA/SEA compliance

Local Plan adopted

Stage E: Post adoption reporting and monitoring

1. Prepare and publish post adoption statement
2. Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
3. Respond to adverse effects

19. APPENDIX 1: STAGE A1 OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES AND SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

19.1 The tables below document Stage A1 of the IA Scoping Report and identify other relevant plans, programmes and objectives that will inform the IA and Local Plan review.

19.2 The following international legislation was considered but a review is not included within this Scoping Report Update (see previous Scoping Reports for their full review) as they have already informed the IA objectives for the Local Plan review to date.

Table 11: Relationship with other plans and programmes objectives: International level

International legislation
Biodiversity (Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil)
Convention on wetlands of international importance especially as waterfowl habitat (The Ramsar Convention) (1971, Ramsar)
Resources & Water Resources (Climatic Factors / Water / Soil / Human Health)
Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources (Nitrates Directive) (1991, Eur-Lex)
Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption (1998, EUR-Lex)
Air Quality, Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (Climatic Factors / Air / Human Health)
The Cancun Agreement (2011, UNFCCC)
Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2009, EUR-Lex)
Directive (EU) 2016/2284 of the European Parliament and of the Council the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants (2016, EUR-Lex)
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015: The Paris Agreement (2015, United Nations)
Heritage and Landscape (Cultural Heritage and Landscape)
Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention) (1985, Council of Europe)
European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Valletta Convention, (1992, Council of Europe)
The European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention) (2000, Council of Europe)
UNESCO Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage (1972, UNESCO)
Noise (Human Health)
Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise (2002, Eur-Lex)

Minerals (Material assets)
Directive 2006/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the management of waste from extractive industries (2006, EUR-Lex)

Table 12: Relationship with other plans and programmes objectives: National level

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Overarching (all SEA topics)		
National Planning Policy Framework (2024, DLUHC)*	The framework sets out that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through: a. an economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure; b. a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and c. an environmental objective - to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment; including	IA objectives should focus on achievement of sustainable development. The Local Plan should reflect all the strategic priorities identified in the NPPF.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.	
Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023	The Act will ensure new development produces more local infrastructure, such as GP surgeries, schools and transport links, is shaped by local people's democratic wishes, enhances the environment, and creates neighbourhoods where people want to live and work. The Act will: • Make it easier to put local plan in place and require design codes; • Boost local services – requiring developers to deliver vital infrastructure; • Give local councils the power to increase council tax on empty homes; • Encourage developers to get building – giving updates on progress; and • Bring high streets back to life – bring empty buildings back into use by local businesses and community group. The Act will ensure homes are built where they are needed in urban areas and the countryside will be enhanced.	The Local Plan must respond to key measures in the Act such as ensuring high quality design; appropriate provision of infrastructure: efficient use of land and buildings; promote centers that are vibrant; and ensure a sufficient supply of housing land.
Design (Human Health / Population)		
National Model Design Code (MHCLG, 2021)	The National Model Design Code (NMDC) and National Design Guide (NDG) advises on creating a Design Code, setting out detailed standards for key elements of successful placemaking.	The Local Plan should ensure it promotes high quality design and the IA framework should include an objective on promoting high quality design.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
National Design Guide (MHCLG, 2021)	Establishes 10 criteria that makes a “great place” these being: 1. Context – enhances the surroundings. 2. Identity – attractive and distinctive. 3. Built form – a coherent pattern of development. 4. Movement – accessible and easy to move around. 5. Nature – enhanced and optimised. 6. Public spaces – safe, social and inclusive. 7. Uses – mixed and integrated. 8. Homes and buildings – functional, healthy and sustainable. 9. Resources – efficient and resilient. 10. Lifespan – made to last	The Local Plan should ensure that it has regard to the criteria in establishing design expectations in the Local Plan to raise the design quality in the borough and the IA framework include an objective on promoting high quality design.
Economic Growth (Population)		
Northern Powerhouse Strategy (2016, HM Government)	The Vision is to join up the North’s great cities, towns and counties, pooling their strengths, and tackling major barriers to productivity to unleash the full economic potential of the North. The Northern Powerhouse's objective is to achieve a sustained increase in productivity across the whole of the North. The strategy sets out the government's priorities for delivering this vision. The strategy focuses on four key areas of improvement: 1. Connectivity; 2. Skills; 3. Enterprise and innovation; and 4. Trade and investment.	Requires objectives to improve connectivity, skills, enterprise and innovation and investment to increase productivity to promote growth.
The UK’s Modern Industrial Strategy (2025, HM	The government will focus on eight core pillars to strengthen infrastructure and expand a more secure economy:	The Local Plan will aim to strengthen Oldham’s economy.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Government)*	1. Cutting electricity costs by up to 25% from 2027; 2. Reducing grid connection times; 3. Enhancing investor support; 4. Meeting the skills needs of businesses; 5. Boosting R&D spending; 6. Unlocking billions in finance for innovative business, especially for start-ups and scale-ups; 7. Simplifying regulation and reducing planning timelines; and 8. Deepening economic cooperation with our partners	The Local Plan should ensure that employment land is provided for key growth sectors. Requires IA objectives on economic growth.
Climate change and energy (climatic factors)		
Climate Change Act (2008)	The Climate Change Act 2008 is the basis for the UK's approach to tackling and responding to climate change. It requires that emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are reduced by 2050 by 100% lower than 1990 baseline and that climate change risks are adapted to.	Requires objective to mitigate climate change and to improve air quality.
The Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting (HM Government, 2023)	The vision is for a country that effectively plans for and is fully adapted to the changing climate, with resilience against each of the identified climate risks. The programme sets out actions in relation to: 1. Infrastructure 2. Natural environment 3. Health, communities and the built environment 4. Business and Industry 5. International impacts 6. Adaptation Reporting Power 7. Supporting evidence	Requires objective to adapt to climate change.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (updated 2022, HM Government)	This strategy aims to help deliver the UK's carbon budgets as set out in the Climate Change Act, the 2030 Nationally Determined Contribution, and carbon net zero by 2050. It includes our decarbonisation pathways to net zero by 2050, including illustrative scenarios policies; proposals to reduce emissions for each sector and cross-cutting action to support the transition	Requires objective to mitigate and be resilient to climate change.
British Energy Security Strategy (DBEIS and DESNZ, 2022)	This strategy sets out how Britain will accelerate homegrown power for greater energy independence , and the energy plan objectives and key measures up to 2050.	Requires objectives on low carbon and renewable energy.
Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity (Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil)		
The Environment Act (2021, Defra)	The Act will clean up the country's air, restore natural habitats, increase biodiversity, reduce waste and make better use of our resources. It will halt the decline in species by 2030, require new developments to improve or create habitats for nature, and tackle deforestation overseas.	Requires IA objectives on enhancing biodiversity, improving water and air quality and the sustainable management of resources.
Environmental Improvement Plan (HM Government, 2025)*	The plan is the latest revision to the Government's environment plan up to 2043 and continues to build on the ten goals: • Restored and thriving Nature • Clean air • Clean and plentiful water • Minimising environmental risks from chemicals and pesticides • Maximise our resources, minimise our waste • Using resources from nature sustainably	Requires objectives on protecting and enhancing biodiversity, environmental quality, use of resources, and mitigation of climate change.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	• Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to accelerate to net zero and prepare the natural environment for the effects of climate change • Reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards • Enhancing biosecurity • Ensure inclusive access to nature and protect nature's beauty and heritage	
UK Biodiversity Framework (2024, JNCC)*	The Framework sets out four objectives to facilitate and provide opportunities for individual and collective means to meet the UK's international biodiversity commitments. The four objectives are: 1. To contribute to informing and developing the UK's position in international agreements and policy making. 2. To coordinate collective achievement of the UK's international obligations. 3. To enable and support country input to reporting required under the UK's international obligations. 4. To inform each other of domestic policy developments and collaborate to achieve shared aims where there is benefit in doing so at a UK level.	Requires objectives on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations (2019)	The regulation amends existing legislation to ensure that the UK's conservation laws remain effective following its exit from the EU. This focuses on: 1. The creation of a national site network within the UK territory comprising the protected sites already designated under the Nature Directives, and any further sites designated under these Regulations	Requires objectives on protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	2. The establishment of management objectives for the national site network (the 'network objectives') 3. A duty for appropriate authorities to manage and where necessary adapt the national site network as a whole to achieve the network objectives 4. An amended process for the designation of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	
Air Quality and Contaminated Land (Air / Soil)		
Clean Air Strategy (2019, Defra and MHCLG)	The Clean Air Strategy sets actions to meet goals in relation to air pollution targets. This includes the creation of Clean Air Zones to lower emissions from all sources of air pollution and policy options to further improve air quality in the UK from today into the long term. The strategy focuses on: 1. Understanding the problem 2. Protecting the nation's health 3. Protecting the environment 4. Securing clean growth and innovation 5. Action to reduce emissions from transport 6. Action to reduce emissions at home 7. Action to reduce emissions from farming 8. Action to reduce emissions from industry	Requires IA objective for improvement of air quality.
The Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Motor Fuel Emissions (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations (2021)*	Sets out to establish a framework for the production and promotion of renewables. This includes: 1. Binding renewable energy targets and energy efficiency targets. 2. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport and fuel.	Requires IA objective for improvement of air quality and the promotion of low carbon energy.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	3. Provide an incentive mechanism for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from fuels for road transport and non-road mobile machinery.	
The Air Quality Strategy for England (2023, Defra)*	The Air Quality Strategy for England sets out the actions and goals expected to be achieved by local authorities in support of long-term air quality goals. This includes ambitious new PM2.5 targets and frameworks to enable local authorities to best achieve this. The strategy focuses on: 1. Reducing pollution from domestic burning through smoke control areas and cleaner fuels. 2. Building capacity in local councils through training, guidance and knowledge sharing. 3. Planning reforms helping to deliver better air quality. 4. Raising awareness within local communities of air quality impacts and how to reduce them. 5. Reducing emissions from industrial sources through improved enforcement of environmental permits. 6. Boosting active travel and public transport to improve air quality.	Requires IA objective for improvement of air quality.
Onshore Wind Strategy (2025, Onshore Wind Taskforce)*	This strategy sets out goals to increase the deployment of onshore wind to help meet the 2030 clean power targets. The strategy consists of 42 actions which broadly aim to: 1. Boost onshore wind deployment. 2. Deliver economic benefits for local communities,	Requires IA objectives to promote low carbon energy.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	businesses and the consumer.	
Safeguarding our soils: A Strategy for England (2009, Defra)	The Vision is that by 2030, all England's soils will be managed sustainably and degradation threats tackled successfully. The Vision means that: 1. Agricultural soils will be better managed and threats to them will be addressed 2. Soils will play a greater role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to manage its impacts 3. Soils in urban areas will be valued during development, and construction practices will ensure vital soil functions can be maintained 4. Pollution of our soils is prevented, and our historic legacy of contaminated land is being dealt with	Requires objective on the protection and enhancement of soils and remediation of contaminated land.
Water Resources and Flood Risk (Climatic Factors / Water / Biodiversity Population / Human Health)		
The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017	Regulations address water quality, including groundwater against pollution and deterioration. Establishes the need for river basin management plans.	Requires IA objective on improvement of water quality.
The Flood Risk Regulations (2009)	Regulations setting out the need for the assessment and management of flood risk.	Requires IA objective on management of flood risk.
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)	The Act aims to provide better, more sustainable management of flood risk for people, homes and	Requires IA objective on management of flood risk and sustainable management of water

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	businesses, help safeguard community groups from unaffordable rises in surface water drainage charges and protect water supplies to the consumer.	resources.
Policy advice note: inland waterways (2009, Town and Country Planning Association)	The overarching purpose of this policy Advice Note is to highlight the areas of opportunity to strengthen existing planning policy at all the different spatial levels, in order to provide robust planning policy frameworks that: 1. support the inland waterways as a cross-cutting policy theme; 2. support the inland waterways' ability to contribute fully in delivery of the Government agendas; and 3. secure the long-term sustainability of the inland waterway network, their corridors and adjoining communities.	Requires objective on protecting and improving the quality and availability of water resources.
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (updated 2022, Environment Agency)	This policy statement sets out the government's long-term ambition to create a nation ready for and resilient to flooding and coastal change. It has 3 long-term ambitions: 1. Climate resilient places; 2. Today's growth and infrastructure resilient in tomorrow's climate: making the right investment and planning decisions to secure sustainable growth and environmental improvements, as well as infrastructure resilient to flooding and coastal change; and 3. A nation ready to respond and adapt to flooding and coastal change.	Requires objective to avoid and mitigate against flood risk and to be resilient to climate change.
Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (1994)	Sets out to protect the environment from the adverse effects of untreated urban wastewater. The main requirements of the regulations are:	Requires objective on improving and sustainably managing water quality and availability.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	1. The establishment of systems to collect wastewater from urban 'agglomerations' (towns and cities); 2. The secondary treatment of collected wastewater; 3. The identification of sensitive areas (for example, areas susceptible to eutrophication); and 4. More stringent treatment of wastewater discharged to sensitive areas.	
Historic Environment (Cultural heritage)		
The Historic Environment in Local Plans (2015, Historic England)	The advice note provides information on implementing historic environment policy in NPPF and National Planning Practice Guidance.	Requires objective to protect and enhance the historic environment.
Pride in Place Strategy (2025, HM Government)*	This Strategy sets out to revitalize communities and create a greater sense of place and empowerment for local people/neighbourhoods across the country. The Strategy will: 1. Put power in the hands of communities to shape the future of their area. 2. Help create thriving places. 3. Embed clearer policies on managing town centre uses in England. 4. Implement reforms to the compulsory purchase process and land compensation rules for high street regeneration.	Requires objective to protect and enhance town centres and the quality of the local environment.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	5. Empower local authorities to block the development of new hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets.	
Waste (Material assets)		
The Waste (Circular Economy) Regulations (2020)*	Sets out a framework to enhance waste management and improve recycling rates. This includes: 1. Simplifying recycling for workplaces. 2. Focusing on waste prevention and recycling.Update the definition of municipal waste to include mixed waste and separately collected waste from households. 3. Enhance record keeping.	Waste management is covered by a joint GM plan. However, the Local Plan will ensure that it does not conflict. Requires IA objective on waste management.
The Waste and Environmental Permitting etc. (Legislative Functions and Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations (2020)	Sets out to ensure continuity and operability of waste and environmental permitting legislation. This will ensure UK law continues to reflect the objectives of ensuring waste management systems remain robust and legally enforceable.	Waste management is covered by a joint GM plan. However, the Local Plan will ensure that it does not conflict. Requires IA objective on waste management.
National Planning Policy for Waste (2014, DCLG)	Sets out that waste planning authorities should prepare Local Plans which identify sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of their area for the management of waste streams.	Waste is dealt with in the joint GM Waste Plan. Requires objective to manage waste in a sustainable manner.
Waste Management Plan for England 2021 (2021, Defra)	The plan provides overview of waste management in England. Waste management plans must include the measures to be taken so that, by 2035: the preparing for re-use and the recycling of municipal waste is increased to a minimum of 65% by weight and the amount of	Waste management is covered by a joint GM plan. However, the Local Plan will ensure that it does not conflict. Requires IA objective on waste management.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	municipal waste landfilled is reduced to 10% or less of the total amount of municipal waste generated (by weight).	
Housing (Population)		
The Charter for Social Housing Residents White Paper (2021, MHCLG)	The charter sets out that every social housing resident should be able to expect. This includes: 1. To be safe in your home. 2. To have a good quality home and neighbourhood to live in, with your landlord keeping your home in good repair. 3. To be supported to take your first step to ownership, so it is a ladder to other opportunities, should your circumstances allow.	The Local Plan needs to ensure that good quality homes including social homes are provided. Requires IA objective on sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.
Planning Policy for Travellers Sites (updated 2024, DCLG)	The aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life while respecting the interests of needs of all the settled community. Local authorities should ensure suitable and sustainable sites are identified and infrastructure provided.	Local Plan needs to consider latest evidence on travellers needs. Requires IA objective on sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.
Transport (Climatic Factors / Human Health)		
Gear Change (Department for Transport, 2020)	Gear Change is the first national cycling strategy. It introduces the case for increasing the amount of trips that are undertaken by walking and cycling, rather than the private car. The strategy outlines four themes which will focus on enabling walking and cycling to	Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network including walking and cycling.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	1. be the preferred way of making short journeys:Better streets for cycling and people 2. Cycling at the heart of decision-making 3. Empowering and encouraging Local Authorities 4. Enabling people to cycle and protecting them when they do	
Cycle Infrastructure Design (LTN 1/20), (2020, DfT)	This Local Transport Note provides guidance and good practice for the design of cycle infrastructure, in support of the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy. The scope of the document is limited to design matters. Networks and routes should be Coherent; Direct; Safe; Comfortable and Attractive.	Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network including walking and cycling.
Strategic road network and the delivery of sustainable development (2022, DfT)*	The aim of this approach is to improve health and wellbeing and support government policies through improvements to the efficiency of the transport network. New development should focus on facilitating sustainable transport networks where possible, to reduce private car travel and attain net zero road user emissions by 2050.	Requires objective around a fully integrated sustainable transport network including walking and cycling.
Future of Freight: A long-term plan (2022, DfT)*	This plan sets out the foundation for government-industry collaboration to enable a cost-efficient, sustainable, and resilient freight and logistics sector. There are five key aims to achieve this: 1. A system-level approach to the freight network supporting end-to-end freight journeys that are more efficient, reliable and resilient. 2. A cleaner, greener freight system.	Requires objective around a fully integrated sustainable transport network including freight and logistics.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	3. A planning system which fully recognises the needs of the freight and logistics sector now and in the future and empowers the relevant planning authority to plan for those needs. 4. The freight and logistics sector is seen as an industry of choice for talented, diverse, and skilled people at all stages of their career. 5. Accelerating the adoption of currently available solutions within the sector and developing the future pipeline in line with real-world needs.	
Planning for the future: A guide to working with National Highways on planning matters (2023, National Highways)*	This guide aims to ensure net zero goals are achieved across National Highways to enable sustainable transport for the future. This guide highlights that roads to be decarbonised for net zero goals to be met and ensures that: 1. The most appropriate locations for development are considered 2. The potential impact of development proposals on the SRN is assessed. 3. Appropriate sustainable development is enabled. 4. Journeys made by a range of modes other than private car, for example, by considering public transport, walking and cycling routes are promoted.	Requires objective around a fully integrated sustainable transport network including walking, cycling, freight and logistics.
Health and Well-Being (Human Health / Population)		
Suicide Prevention in England: 5-year cross-sector strategy (2023, DOH)	The aim of this cross-government strategy is to bring everybody together around common priorities and set out actions that can be taken to: 1. Reduce the suicide rate over the next 5 years	Requires IA objective on well-being and mixed communities and inclusivity to prevent loneliness.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	– with initial reductions observed within half this time or sooner 2. Improve support for people who have self-harmed 3. Improve support for people bereaved by suicide The strategy aims to address common risk factors linked to suicide at a population level by providing early intervention and tailored support. These are: physical illness; financial difficulty and economic; adversity; gambling; alcohol and drug misuse; social isolation and loneliness and domestic abuse.	
Health and social care integration: joining up care for people, places and populations (2022, DHSC)	Our vision is that integration makes a significant positive impact on population health through services that shift to prevention and address people's needs promptly and effectively; but it is also about the details and the experience of care The plans will support the development of a health and care system which: 1. is levelled-up in terms of outcomes and reduced disparities; and 2. ensures people have access to health and care services which meet their needs, and experience outstanding quality care.	Requires IA objective on improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities and having appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.
People at the heart of Care Adult Social Care Reform White Paper (2021, DHSC)	The vision puts people at its heart and revolves around three objectives: 1. People have choice, control, and support to live independent lives. 2. People can access outstanding quality and tailored care and support. 3. People find adult social care fair and accessible.	Requires IA objective on improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities and to promote inclusive sustainable communities.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
PHE Strategy (Public Health England strategy) 2020-25 (2020, PHE)	The strategy focuses on keeping people safe, preventing poor health, narrowing the health gap and supporting a strong economy. There are ten priorities to deliver the biggest impact on public health: 1. smoke-free society 2. healthier diets, healthier weight 3. cleaner air 4. better mental health 5. best start in life 6. effective responses to major incidents 7. reduced risk from antimicrobial resistance 8. predictive prevention 9. enhanced data and surveillance capabilities 10. new national science campus	Requires IA objective on improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities.
Planning for Sport Guidance (Sport England, 2024)	Planning for sports sets out 12 principles: 1. Recognise and give weight to the benefits of sport and activity 2. Undertake, maintain and apply robust up to date assessments of need and strategies for sport and physical activity provision and base policies decisions and guidance upon them. 3. Plan, design and maintain buildings, developments, facilities, land and environments that enable people to lead active lifestyle 4. Protect and promote existing sport and physical activity provision and ensure new development does not prejudice its use 5. Ensure long term viable management and maintenance of new and existing sport and physical activity provision 6. Support improvements to existing sports and	Requires IA objective on improving health and well-being and reducing health inequalities and having appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs including promoting quality and accessible open spaces.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	physical activity provision where they are needed 7. Encourage and secure wider community use of existing and new sport and physical activity provision 8. Support new provision, including allocating new sites for sport and physical activity which meets identified need. 9. Ensure a positive approach to meeting the needs generated by new development for sport and physical activity provision 10. Provide sport and physical activity provision which is fit for purpose and well designed 11. Plan positively for sport and physical activity provision in designated landscapes and the Green Belt 12. Proactively address any amenity issues arising from sport and physical activity developments.	
Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity (2023, HM Government)*	The Strategy aims to ensure that everyone can benefit from sport and increase not only participation but harness the multi-dimensional and far-reaching benefits of sport to change people's lives for the better. Local government's role is to ensure that the multiple benefits of sport can be achieved for communities by investing in green spaces and routes as venues for sport and healthy activity.	Requires objective to improve health and well-being and ensure access to open space and sports facilities.
Sport England Active Design – Creating Active environments Through Planning and Design (2023, Sport England, Active Travel	The guidance sets out 10 principles for active design: 1. Activity for all 2. Walkable communities 3. Providing connected active travel routes 4. Mixing uses and co-locating facilities 5. Network of multi-functional open spaces	Requires IA objectives on improving health and well-being and promoting an integrated and improved transport system that improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
England OHID)	6. High quality streets and spaces 7. Providing activity infrastructure 8. Active buildings, inside and out 9. Maintaining high-quality flexible spaces 10. Activating spaces	
Planning for Healthy Places (2024, TCPA)*	The document states universal guidance for public health integration into planning and the Local Plan, including: 1. Create a strategic health policy 2. Embed process for health impact assessments (HIA) of development proposals 3. Promote healthy neighbourhood design 4. Promote healthy homes 5. Promote a healthy food environment 6. Promote natural environments and climate adaptation 7. Promote healthy transport and movement 8. Include relevant planning conditions 9. Set clear expectations regarding funding of health requirements 10. Set clear expectations regarding viability appraisals 11. Explore mechanisms to require developers to produce health management plans 12. Set clear expectations regarding monitoring obligations 13. Prioritise stewardship, community engagement and ownership	Requires objective to improve health and reduce health inequalities across the borough.
NHS Healthy New Towns Programme, (2019, NHS, Public Health England, Town &	The report outlines 10 Principles for Healthy Places, these being: 1. Plan ahead collectively 2. Assess local health and care needs and assets	Requires objective to improve health and reduce health inequalities across the borough.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Country Planning Association, The King's Fund, PA Consulting and The Young Foundation)	3. Connect, involve and empower people and communities 4. Create compact neighbourhoods 5. Maximise active travel 6. Inspire and enable healthy eating 7. Foster health in homes and buildings 8. Enable healthy play and leisure 9. Develop health services that help people stay well	
Education (Population)		
Delivering schools to support housing growth (2023, DfE, DLUHC)	Guidance for local authorities on planning new education infrastructure that is required due to housing growth, through the provision of new or expanded schools and other educational and childcare settings.	Requires IA objective on having appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.

19.3 The following legislation was also considered but a full review is not included within this Scoping Report Update (see previous Scoping Reports for their full review) as they have already informed the IA objectives for the Local Plan review to date:

- Localism Act (as amended) (2011)
- Equality Act (2010)
- The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (Defra)
- Part IV of the Environmental Act (1995)
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)
- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)
- The Hedgerows Regulations (1997)
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000, JNCC)

- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)
- Water Resources Act (1991, HM Government)
- The Housing Act (2004)

Table 13: Relationship with other plans and programmes objectives: Regional and Greater Manchester

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Overarching (all SEA Topics)		
Places For Everyone Joint Development Plan (2024, GMCA)*	PfE covers the plan period 2022 – 2039 and provides the strategic framework for local plans; sets specific requirements to be taken forward in local plans in terms of housing, offices, and industry and warehousing, and the main areas in which this will be focused; sets out policies to inform the preparation and determination of planning applications; identifies the important environmental assets which will be protected and enhanced; allocates sites for employment and housing outside of the urban area; supports the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities; and defines a new Green Belt boundary for the nine boroughs.	The Local Plan should support implementation of PfE and be in conformity with the strategic policies. The Local Plan should identify land to meet the remaining employment and housing requirements. The Local Plan will need to address any policy gaps between itself and PfE.
Greater Manchester Strategy 2025 – 2035 (GMCA, 2025)*	The vision is a thriving city region where everyone can live a good life across Greater Manchester. The seven shared outcomes are: 1. Healthy homes for all. 2. Safe and strong communities 3. A transport system for a global city region. 4. A clear line of sight to high-quality jobs. 5. Everyday support in every neighbourhood. 6. A great place to do business. 7. Digitally connected places and people.	The Local Plan needs to ensure that it helps to deliver the strategy through providing employment land for growth sectors and housing land and ensuring appropriate housing types and sizes are delivered, and through ensuring a well-designed borough that is safe, green and allows people to live and age well. Requires IA objectives on housing supply that meets local needs, economic growth and design.
Climate Change and Air Quality (Climatic Factors / Air /		

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil / Water / Material assets and Human Health)		
Greater Manchester 5-year Environment Plan (GMCA, 2024)*	To deliver its vision, the plan aims to: 1.Create a smart, flexible, low-carbon energy infrastructure: Expand renewable energy and storage, strengthen the electricity network, grow heat networks, and increase low-carbon hydrogen capacity. 2.Ensure our buildings are sustainable and energy efficient: Retrofit more homes and public/commercial buildings, install low-carbon heating, and require all new developments to be net zero and sustainable. 3.Develop a reliable, integrated, and sustainable transport system: Establish and deliver a long-term integrated transport strategy, support active/public transport, enable electric mobility, and encourage sustainable travel habits. 4.Enhance and connect our natural environment: Expand and better manage green/blue spaces, restore habitats, reduce water pressures, and increase community-led action for nature. 5.Transition to a circular economy and reduce waste: Accelerate circular practices in key industries, make sustainable lifestyles attractive, reduce waste through reuse and repair, and implement a comprehensive waste strategy. 6.Adapt and build resilience to climate change: Manage climate risks, strengthen community and organizational resilience (especially for the	Requires objectives on climate change, air quality, sustainable waste management and an enhanced natural environment.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	vulnerable), and deliver a Climate Adaptation Strategy. 7.Improve air quality for health and wellbeing: Reduce emissions, and support communities and businesses to adopt air quality-friendly behaviors. 8.Grow a sustainable, low-carbon economy: Increase resource efficiency in businesses, build resilient supply chains, expand the low-carbon sector, and equip residents with green skills.	
Green Infrastructure (Climatic Factors, Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora, Soil, Air, Water)		
Greater Manchester Natural Capital Investment Programme, (2019, GMCA)	The programme will encourage investment in the natural environment to secure financial and social returns. The baseline review identified the following key priorities and opportunities which the investment plan can help achieve, several of which are linked: 1. Improved health outcomes 2. A more attractive place to live and work 3. Building resilience, principally addressing climate change and flood risks 4. Supporting the local economy 5. Conserving and enhancing habitat and wildlife 6. Sustainable travel 7. Water quality and flood management 8. Climate regulation including carbon storage and sequestration	Requires objectives on mitigating climate change, enhancing biodiversity, improving health, promoting economic growth, sustainable travel, and water quality.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
All Our Trees – Greater Manchester's Urban Forest Plan (2025, GMCA by City of Trees)*	The aims and objectives include: 1. Direct our tree planting strategically – using the opportunity mapping. 2. New trees planted to higher standard. 3. More plantable land identified and released for planting. 4. More native trees and bigger species in green spaces – more native broadleaved woodlands to support biodiversity. 5. National urban tree canopy of 16% exceeded. Existing trees and woodlands managed and protected: 6. Protection and management of our trees encouraged to deliver more benefits for longer. 7. Fewer trees removed by developers, and replacements based on appropriate valuation of benefits lost. 8. Better use made of existing mechanisms to protect valuable mature trees and woodlands. 9. Restoration and expansion of heritage and new orchards and hedgerows across Greater Manchester.	Requires objectives on enhancing biodiversity.
Nature for All: A Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Greater Manchester (2025, GMCA)*	Our collective vision for nature recovery in Greater Manchester is to work together to deliver a resilient network for nature across the city-region, connecting and enhancing wild spaces so that people and nature can thrive.	Requires objective for the restoration, protection and enhancement of valuable sites and habitats for wildlife. Requires objective on the management of landscapes. The Local Plan needs to have regard to the GM

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	The LNRS aims to: 1. Enhance and protect 2. Create and connect; and 3. Build Resilience The LNRS sets targets for nature and maps out opportunities for nature.	LNRS.
The NHS Greater Manchester Green Plan 2025-28 (2025, NHS/ GMICP)*	Through cross-collaboration between the NHS and city-region stakeholders in Greater Manchester this plan aims to envision a system of healthcare that is rooted in climate justice and emission reduction across GM. This will be achieved by three overarching goals: 1. Net Zero Carbon Footprint by 2038, with an ambition to deliver an 80% reduction by 2028-2032. 2. Net Zero Carbon Footprint Plus by 2045, for the emissions we can influence, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2036-2039. 3. An NHS that is climate-adapted, actively supports nature and health related activities, and promotes interventions that reduce air pollution.	Requires objectives on mitigating climate change, reducing emissions, and improving health.
Water Resources and Flood Risk (Climatic Factors, Water)		
Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (2023, United Utilities)	The Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) is a long-term plan, which sets out how United Utilities Water (UUW) proposes to ensure robust and resilient drainage and wastewater services for the North West. The	Requires objectives and plan policy to efficiently manage drainage and wastewater.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	plan seeks to deliver benefits including: AMP8 2025-2030 - 29,000 spills/annum reduction through AMP8 overflow programme to achieve 2030 SODRP trajectory; 7,987 hectares of SSSIs improved; 412 kilometres of rivers improved; and reduced impacts on 27 shellfish waters and 30 bathing waters. DWMP 2025-2050 - 62% reduction in internal flooding; 28% reduction in external flooding; 57% reduction in pollution incidents; and 36% reduction in sewer collapses.	
Final Drought Plan (2022, United Utilities)	The drought plan outlines United Utilities' approach in managing water supplies to make sure there's always enough clean safe water available during a drought. Greater Manchester falls within the Strategic Resource Zone. The plan explains the drought triggers applicable to this zone.	Requires objective to promote the efficient use of water.
Final Water Resources Management Plan 2024 (2024, United Utilities)*	The Management Plan sets out a strategy to achieve a long-term, best value and sustainable plan for water supplies in the North West. It ensures that there is an adequate supply to meet demand over the 25 years from 2025 to 2050. Objectives include: 1. maintain a resilient, safe and clean supply of water for customers; 2. develop a plan to support national	The Local Plan review should involve close working with United Utilities to ensure that growth can be supported by water supply and phasing can be addressed. Requires objective to promote the efficient use of water.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	drought resilience through water transfer and which is in line with our water transfer principles; 3. ensure that our plan enables us to meet our long-term environmental destination; and 4. ensure that our plan delivers environmental benefits, taking into account sustainability and natural capital effects	
North West River Basin Management Plan (2022, EA)	The Northwest River Basin Management Plan sets out measures to protect and improve the water environment. The interactive maps set out ecological and chemical objectives for surface waters and quantitative and chemical objectives for groundwater with dates of 2027 and 2063.	Requires objectives to protect and improve water quality.
Upper Mersey Catchment Plan (2023, Catchment Based Approach)	The vision is to deliver a healthy water environment, which is rich in wildlife and a real community asset that is resilient to climate change, supports economic growth, and health and wellbeing. The objectives of the partnership are to: create cleaner and healthier water bodies; protect and enhance Nature Recovery and the natural aspects of our catchment; and develop a catchment which is more resilient to the effects of climate change	Requires objectives to protect and improve water quality, enhance nature and be resilient to climate change.
Irwell Catchment Plan 2019 – 2027 (Irwell Catchment Partnership)	The objective is to work collaboratively to make the water environment in the Irwell catchment more adaptive and resilient to climate change,	Requires objectives to protect and improve water quality, enhance nature and be resilient to climate change.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	whilst addressing environmental inequalities. The partnership will: create clean and plentiful water for wildlife and people; restore rivers to improve their natural forms and function; work to improve biodiversity and protect habitats; engage and connect more with their local water environment; influence decision makers to ensure the natural environment is enhanced and protected; and support and contribute to integrated waste management practice	
Greater Manchester Integrated Water Management Plan (2023, GMCA)	The vision is: 'Working together, we will manage Greater Manchester's water wherever it falls, to enhance the environment, support people and forge prosperous places'. Objectives are set for 2023, 2040 and 2050 on reducing flood risk and improving water quality, incorporating SUDS in new developments, reducing agricultural run-off, creating new / enhanced green and blue infrastructure and have resilience to drought.	Requires objectives to manage flood risk, improve water quality, enhance green infrastructure and be resilient to climate change.
Waste (Material assets)		
Greater Manchester Waste Joint Development Plan Document (2012, GMCA)	The plan sets out a waste planning strategy to 2027 which enables the adequate provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations for municipal, commercial and industrial, construction and demolition and hazardous wastes.	Requires objective on managing waste sustainably.
Minerals (Material assets)		

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Greater Manchester Minerals Joint Development Plan Document (2013, GMCA)	Provides a clear guide up to 2027 to minerals operators and the public about: 1.The locations where mineral extraction may take place; 2.The safeguarding of sensitive environmental features and of mineral resources with potential for future extraction; and 3. All aspects of environmental amenity and resource protection	Requires objective for the appropriate extraction, protection and restoration of mineral infrastructure.
Transport (Climatic Factors / Air / Population / Human Health)		
Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 (2021, TFGM)	The vision for 2040 is to have: 'World class connections that support long-term, sustainable economic growth and access to opportunity for all'. The four key elements of the vision are: 1. Supporting sustainable economic growth; 2. Protecting our environment; 3. Improving quality of life for all; and 4. Developing an innovative city-region. There are seven mutually reinforcing principles: Integrated; Inclusive; Healthy; Environmentally responsible; Reliable; Safe and secure; and well maintained and resilient.	The Local Plan needs to ensure that it supports transport infrastructure proposals and seek to coordinate development close to public transport infrastructure and encourage integrated travel between all modes, including walking and cycling. Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network including walking and cycling.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	The Ambition for 2040 is to enable people to move seamlessly between services on a single, high quality, easy-to-use network; providing choice and supporting low-car lifestyles, made possible by integrated land use and transport planning.	
Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2050 (Consultation Draft) (2025, TFGM)*	The 2050 vision for the GM region is for "a transport system for a global city-region". The three key elements of the vision are: 1. Our approach to People and Place 2. Our Right Mix Target 3. Our Network Ambitions There are seven mutually reinforcing principles: Integrated; Inclusive and affordable; Healthy; Environmentally responsible; Reliable; Safe and secure; Well maintained and resilient and Reliable. The Ambition for 2050 is for the network to be experienced equally by people, regardless of their personal characteristics or situation (including our citizens, consumers, customers, businesses, visitors).	The Local Plan needs to ensure that it supports transport infrastructure proposals and seek to coordinate development close to public transport infrastructure and encourage integrated travel between all modes, including walking and cycling. Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network including walking and cycling.
GM Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy – Part of the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 (TFGM)	The vision is to be an exemplar city region for enabling the electrification of transport in the context of a smart, integrated, sustainable mobility network. By 2030, Greater Manchester's businesses, residents and visitors to the region, who have no choice but to travel by car or LGV, will be able to use electric vehicles with the	The Local Plan should support the implementation of EV charging infrastructure. Requires IA objective on improving transport infrastructure.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	confidence that they will be able to conveniently recharge them (via public or private charging points); and in doing so will help to improve air quality and reduce tailpipe carbon emissions across the conurbation.	
Change the region to change a nation: Greater Manchester's walking and cycling investment plan (2020, TFGM and GMCA)	This investment plan provides details of how the Bee Network will support the delivery of 'Our Network': Greater Manchester's plan for an integrated, simple and convenient London-style transport system. It will allow people to change easily between different modes of transport, with simple affordable ticketing and an aspiration to have a London-style cap across all modes. This would include orbital routes that allow people to travel around the city-region, as well as in and out of the centres. These activities will all work to deliver the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 which sets out a vision for at least 50% of all journeys in Greater Manchester to be made by walking, cycling and public transport by 2040	The Local Plan needs to support an integrated transport network. Requires IA objective around a fully integrated transport network, including walking and cycling.
Our 5 year Transport Delivery Plan 2021 - 2026 (2021, TFGM)	This plan is the delivery plan for the GM Transport Strategy. It sets out the priorities to deliver the strategy under the following headings: Our Bus Our Metrolink Our Rail Our Streets	The Local Plan needs to ensure that it supports transport infrastructure proposals and seeks to coordinate development close to public transport infrastructure and encourage integrated travel between all modes, including walking and cycling. Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network, including walking and cycling.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	Our Integrated Network This includes Oldham's Local Implementation Plan. To achieve Oldham's ambitions, the plan sets out five key transport-related outcomes that aim to achieve by 2026. **Outcome 1:** More neighbourhood journeys (under 2km) will be made by foot and by bike in Oldham; **Outcome 2:** Connections to Oldham's town centres, employment sites and key destinations will be enhanced by foot, bike and public transport; **Outcome 3**: Streets in Oldham will be cleaner and greener; **Outcome 4:** Oldham residents, workers and visitors will have good access to safe, reliable, affordable, high quality public transport connections; **Outcome 5**: Streets in Oldham will be safer, well-maintained, resilient, reliable and accessible by all.	
Greater Manchester Freight and Logistics Strategy (2016, TFGM)	The purpose of this strategy is to consider current GM freight distribution, delivery, servicing and logistics activities and set out the ambitions of the region, balancing the often-conflicting needs of freight and passenger demand for our transport network and systems.	The Local Plan should ensure that it considers the needs of the freight and logistics activities. Requires objective around the transport network.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Our Prospectus for Rail (2019, TFGM and GMCA)	Greater Manchester has identified four areas of focus to transform rail travel in our city region, which are: 1. Making best use of what is available now - better use needs to be made of the rail infrastructure that already exists, such as by providing longer, higher capacity vehicles with simpler service patterns to improve reliability and punctuality. 2. Delivering more capacity and better connectivity - To meet long-term growth in demand for rail-based travel to, from and within Greater Manchester, the capacity and connectivity of the whole network needs to be improved 3. A devolved and accountable rail-based network 4. Integrated travel between all modes - that allows people to travel seamlessly between modes with simple, affordable ticketing. Rail and Metrolink services should connect well with each other and with the rest of the transport network, especially bus services, while supporting more walking and cycling.	Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network, including walking and cycling.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Made to Move (2017, TFGM)	Made to Move, a 15-step plan to transform Greater Manchester, outlined the need for a detailed walking and cycling infrastructure proposal. The cycling and walking network is just that: a vision of a fully joined up cycling and walking network covering 1,800 miles for Greater Manchester.	Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network, including walking and cycling.
Streets for All, (2019, GMCA & TFGM)	Streets for All presents a new approach to planning the streets of Greater Manchester. The initiative looks to create streets that better balance the movement of people and goods with the creation of more people-friendly places. Streets for All takes account of both movement and place functions within streets. Streets for All moves away from planning for transport modes, and towards putting people first to better shape and manage our streets. This will help create more sustainable, healthy and resilient places across Greater Manchester; overall leading to an improved quality of life for those who live, work and visit our great city region.	Requires objective around a fully integrated transport network, including walking and cycling.
Health and Well Being (Population and Human Health)		
Creating Age-Friendly Developments A practical guide for ensuring homes and communities support ageing in place (2023, GMCA_	Key features to consider include: Celebrating Older People Planning for Age-Friendly Neighbourhoods Designing Age-Friendly Homes	Requires IA objectives on housing to meet local needs, inclusive neighbourhoods and high-quality development.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
Greater Manchester Age-Friendly Strategy 2024-2034, (2024, GMCA)	By 2034 Greater Manchester will: 1. Have fewer older people living precarious lives; 2. Have more places with key features of an age-friendly neighbourhood (homes, transport, and accessible services and shops); 3. Enable easier access to preventative health care; 4. Increase the levels of physical activity among elderly populations; 5. Make sure every local authority has an age-friendly plan co-designed across the generations; 6. Host age-sector businesses and is a world leader in ageing research, policy and implementation; 7. Support and protect the most vulnerable from the climate emergency; and 8. Make sure ageism and structural inequalities are in retreat.	The Local Plan will need to ensure that it provides age friendly housing and environments. Requires objective around providing a mix of types and tenures of housing and mixed, balanced communities.
Greater Manchester Moving in Action 2021- 2031 (2021, Greater Manchester Moving)	The mission is active lives for all. The five key priorities are: 1. people, families and communities 2. inclusive participation and access 3. active places 4. whole system integration 5. culture change	Requires objective on health and well-being.
Improving health and care in Greater Manchester 2023-2028 (2023, GMICP)*	The Strategy aims to close the gap between Greater Manchester and England by raising population health outcomes.	Requires objective to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	The plan sets out 4 targets: 1. Everyone has an opportunity to live a good life. 2. Everyone has improved health and wellbeing. 3. Everyone experiences high quality care and support where and when they need it. 4. Health and care services are integrated and sustainable.	
Standing Together - Our plan for a new era of accountable and people centred policing, community safety and criminal justice services for Greater Manchester 2022 – 2025 (2022, GMCA)	The plan sets out 3 priorities: 1. Keeping People Safe and Supporting Victims 2. Reducing Harm and Offending 3. Strengthening Communities and Places	Requires objective on design, local environmental quality and inclusive communities.
Economic Growth (Population)		
Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy (2019, GMCA, the GM Local Enterprise Partnership and the UK Government)	The Industrial Strategy is centred around two key aspects: Five foundations of productivity 1. Ideas 2. People 3. Infrastructure 4. Business Environment 5. Places 2. Four Grand Challenges - Health Innovation; Advanced Materials and Manufacturing; Digital, Creative and Media; and Clean Growth.	The Local Plan will encourage and facilitate the development of the borough's key economic sectors. Requires IA objective on economic growth.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	The GM LIS is a long-term plan which will aim to develop increased productivity and wealth creation across Greater Manchester. The strategy states that: "By 2040, Greater Manchester will aim to have secured: increased productivity and pay across sectors, particularly where they are currently behind national averages, driven by businesses which are well led and managed, innovative and trading and investing globally; a greater number of high-quality manufacturing opportunities in strategic sites across the city-region, giving a more productive manufacturing base close to transport links and population centres; and a fully integrated and digitalised health and care system, creating and adopting the latest in preventative and assistive health technology, and helping people stay in the labour market and stay productive for longer.	
Neighbouring Authorities (all SEA Topics)		
Peak District National Park Management Plan 2023 – 2028 (2023, PDNPA)	The vision is that by 2043 the Peak District National Park is exemplary in its response to climate change and nature recovery. Its special qualities and resilience as a living landscape have been significantly enhanced. It is a welcoming place where all are inspired to care and communities thrive. The plan is set around four aims: 1. Climate Change: the PDNP is more	The Local Plan should ensure that the qualities of the PDNP are taken into account.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	resilient and net-zero by 2040 through its exemplary response to climate change. 2. Landscape and nature: the PDNP is a resilient landscape in which nature, beauty, and cultural heritage are significantly enhanced. 3. Welcoming place: The PDNP is a welcoming place where all are inspired to enjoy, care for and connect to its special qualities. 4. Thriving communities: The PDNP communities are thriving and sustainable places where all generations can live healthy and fulfilled lives.	
Local Plan Preferred Approach Consultation (2025, Peak District National Park Authority)*	The Aims of the Core Policies and Development Strategy are to deliver sustainable development within the context of National Park purposes and duty. The core policies put forward by this document are: 1) Securing National Park Purposes 2) Sustainable development in the context of National Park purposes and duty 3) Enhancing the National Park 4) Conserve/Enhance Landscape character and Special Qualities 5) Conserve/Enhance Cultural heritage assets of archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance	The Local Plan needs to ensure that the purposes of the PDNP are taken into account.
Kirklees Local Plan (2019, Kirklees Council)	The strategic objectives are to: Support the growth and diversification of the economy, to increase skill levels and employment opportunities including the provision of a high-quality communication infrastructure; Strengthen	The Local Plan process needs to fulfil duty to cooperate requirements.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	the role of town centres to support their vitality and viability; Improve transport links within and between Kirklees towns and with neighbouring towns and cities, giving priority to public transport, and to cycling and walking, providing an efficient highway network which supports the district's economy; Provide new homes which meet the housing needs of the community offering a range of size, tenure and affordability, support existing communities and access to employment, public transport, shops and services; Tackle inequality and give all residents the opportunity of a healthy lifestyle, free from crime and to achieve their potential in work and education; Protect and improve green infrastructure to support health and well-being, giving residents access to good quality open spaces, sport and recreation opportunities, and to support habitats, allowing wildlife to flourish; Promote development that helps to reduce and mitigate climate change, and development which is adapted so that the potential impact from climate change is reduced and to help the transition towards a low carbon economy; Protect and enhance the characteristics of the built, natural and historic environment, and local distinctiveness which contribute to the character of Kirklees, including the South Pennine Moors, Moorland fringe and the area's industrial heritage; Promote the re-use of existing buildings and the use of brownfield land to meet development needs and support the regeneration of areas; and Facilitate the	

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	sustainable use and management of minerals and waste.	
Calderdale Local Plan 2018/19 – 2032/33 (2023, Calderdale Council)	The plan is focussed around the following strategic objectives: 1: Sustainable Development 2: Climate Change 3: Economy and Enterprise 4: Housing 5: Green Infrastructure and the Natural Environment 6: Historic Environment and Design 7: Transport 8: Communities and Narrowing the Gap 9: Minerals 10: Waste	The Local Plan process needs to fulfil duty to cooperate requirements.
Manchester Local Plan Draft (2025, Manchester City Council)*	The plan is focussed around the following strategic objectives: 1. Strategic Growth Locations 2. Economy, Employment and Skills 3. Housing and Centres 4. Net Zero Carbon and Resilience 5. Environment 6. Social Infrastructure 7. Transport and Digital Connectivity 8. Design Quality and Heritage	The Local Plan process needs to fulfil duty to cooperate requirements.
Rochdale Adopted Core Strategy (2016, Rochdale Council)	The strategic objectives are to: SO1 deliver a more prosperous economy; SO2 create successful and healthy communities;	The Local Plan process needs to fulfil duty to cooperate requirements.

Plan / Programme	Objective or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan
	SO3 improve design, image and quality of place; SO4 promote a greener environment; and SO5 improve accessibility and deliver sustainable transport.	
Tameside Homes, Spaces, Places (2025)*	The plan's objectives are to: Ensure new housing meets resident needs; Enable all residents to benefit from economic growth; Support the borough's centre to thrive; Enable everyone to travel safely and reduce congestions; Deliver development that positively contribute to the character, heritage and identity of Tameside; Reduce health inequalities, improve health conditions and enable the provision of services and infrastructure to support new and existing communities; and ensure that new development responds positively to climate change and ecologically sensitive locations.	The Local Plan process needs to fulfil duty to cooperate requirements.

Table 14: Relationship with other plan and programmes objectives: Oldham

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
Overarching (Population / Human Health)		
Creating a Better Place (2020, Oldham Council)	Focuses on building more homes for our residents, creating new jobs through town centre regeneration, and ensuring Oldham is a great place to visit with lots of family friendly and accessible places to go. This approach has the potential to deliver around 2,500 new homes in the town centre designed for a range of different budgets and needs, 1,000 new jobs and 100 new opportunities for apprenticeships, and is in alignment with Council priorities to be the Greenest Borough.	Ensure the Local Plan supports plans for town centre investment and regeneration. Requires objectives to promote economic growth and vibrant centres.
Oldham Council Corporate Plan: Ready for the Future 2024-2027 (2024, Oldham Council)*	The plan sets the priorities which are: A clean and green future; Healthy, safe and well supported residents; Quality homes for everyone; Better jobs and dynamic businesses; and a great start and skills for life.	The Local Plan and IA objectives should reflect these priorities on a clean, green environment, health and well-being, homes, economic growth and skills.
Pride, Progress Partnership -- The Oldham Plan 2024-2030 (2024, Oldham Partnership)*	The aim of this plan is to guide Oldham through the next six years by bringing together businesses, communities, and the public sector. This collaboration will enable the three specific missions of the plan: 1. Healthier, Happier Lives; 2. Great Place to Live; and 3. Green and Growing.	The Local Plan and IA objectives should reflect these priorities on a clean, green environment, health and well-being, homes, economic growth and skills.
Building a Better Oldham (2025, Oldham Council)*	The aim of this plan is to transform the borough through unlocking investment, creating new homes, new jobs and apprenticeship	Ensure the Local Plan supports plans for town centre investment and regeneration.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
	opportunities. 1. This plan sets out six key elements within its vision by: building quality homes 2. providing opportunities to learn & gain new skills 3. providing opportunities to grow local businesses and create jobs 4. ensuring Oldham is the greenest borough 5. embedding sustainability, energy efficiency & low (zero) carbon 6. improving life-chances, health and well-being of our residents and local communities	Requires objectives to promote economic growth and vibrant centres and IA objectives should reflect these priorities on a clean, green environment, health and well-being, homes, economic growth and skills.
Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage and Landscapes)		
Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) (Oldham Council, 2019)	The CAAMP undertakes an analysis of the existing Conservation Area and Town Centre as a whole, assessing the quality of the buildings within it and whether they bring a positive or negative contribution to Townscape. The CAAMP proposes a number of additions to the Conservation Area for the Town Centre and these will be implemented through the Local Plan review.	The CAAMP SPD will help to ensure that the Town Centre Conservation Area is removed from the "Heritage at Risk" register. Coupled with the additions to the Conservation Area and a set of revised policies the Local Plan will be able to better respond to development within the Town Centre Conservation Area. Requires IA objective on the historic environment.
Oldham Mills Strategy (2021, Oldham Council)	The Strategy identifies the remaining non-listed mills across Oldham which are of landscape and heritage value and sets out a robust strategy to ensure their sustainable future, which considers	The mills strategy should inform local plan policy on mills. Requires IA objective on the preserving and

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
	their potential for future development for residential, employment and other uses. The Strategy also sets out policy recommendations for the conservation of the remaining mill stock based on levels of priority relative to the landscape and heritage value of individual mills.	enhancing the historic environment.
Oldham Cultural Strategy 2022 – 2030 (2022, Oldham Council)*	The Strategy aims to boost creativity and culture within Oldham to ensure that arts, culture and heritage are at the forefront of the long-term vision for the borough. The strategy also sets out key aims to do this which focus on accessibility, inclusivity, affordability, collaboration, and sustainability.	Requires IA objective on tourism, leisure and heritage.
Climate Change Climatic Factors / Air / Biodiversity / Soil/ Fauna / Flora / Water)		
Green New Deal Strategy 2020 - 2025 (2020, Oldham Council)	The vision is to "Make Oldham a greener, smarter, more enterprising place". The objectives include to: a) Make Oldham a leading local authority area for environmental quality and play a leading role in meeting the GM Mayor's Green City Region objectives. b) Deliver a sustainable economy, tackling fuel poverty and generating training and employment opportunities in the growing green business sector. c) Maintain a high-quality local environment	The Local Plan should support the strategy through a positive approach to low carbon opportunities and the green economy and supporting the implementation of Northern Roots. Requires IA objectives on low carbon energy, green infrastructure, tourism and leisure and economic growth.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
	which delivers health and well-being for residents, including food and recreation, reducing costs for public services. d) Generate inbound tourism for the borough by building on Oldham's reputation for being a green, attractive and forward-thinking sustainable borough. e) Keep Oldham at the forefront of development and deployment of cutting edge environmental technologies and ensure that the benefits are kept locally. f) Future-proof the regeneration of the borough by establishing Oldham as an exemplar Green City on energy, carbon, water and green infrastructure. The three pillars of the strategy are: 1. Green Economy, including work, skills and business engagement; 2. Low Carbon (physical infrastructure); and 3. Northern Roots (the 160-acre eco-park at Snipe Clough and its attendant brand and initiatives, and the state of the art zero-carbon Eco-Centre at Alexandra Park).	
Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy (2022, Oldham Council)	Our Vision for Oldham's Green Infrastructure (GI) is that by 2037 the borough will be a carbon neutral exemplar with a GI network which brings multiple benefits to people, wildlife and neighbourhoods.	Requires IA objective on protecting and enhancing green infrastructure and managing distinctive landscapes.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
	The strategy sets out seven priorities themes: 1. Thriving Wildlife 2. Carbon Neutral Oldham 3. Healthy and Active Communities 4. Green Access for All 5. Distinctive Landscapes 6. Slowing the Flow and Water Quality 7. Sustainable Growth and Green Jobs	
Local Area Energy Plan Oldham (2022, GM Local Energy Market)*	This Local Area Energy Plan aims to support Oldham to transition to an affordable and net zero energy system and to support the delivery of Greater Manchester's commitment to carbon neutrality by 2038. The plan sets out priority areas for different types of low carbon energy including heat pumps, district heat networks, solar PV and EV charging as well as making use of measures within Oldham's local control where possible.	Requires objective on promoting energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.
Complying with the Biodiversity Duty – Our Policies and Objectives for Thriving Wildlife in Oldham (2025, Oldham Council)*	The key priority of this document is to set out Oldham Council's primary objectives on biodiversity conservation and enhancement and how the council is complying with the biodiversity duty.	Requires IA objective on protecting and enhancing biodiversity.
Contaminated Land (Soil)		
Contaminated Land Strategy (2017, Oldham Council)*	The primary objectives of the Contaminated Land Strategy are to: make information available to enable consideration to be made about land contamination in policy making processes, bringing sites forward for economic development; and minimise the potential for any unnecessary blight of land.	Requires objectives to remediate contaminated land.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
Housing (Population)		
Oldham's Housing Strategy (2019, Oldham Council)	The aim of the Housing Strategy and underpinning delivery plan is to provide a diverse housing offer in Oldham, that is attractive and meets the needs of different sections of the population at different stages of their lives.	Requires IA objective on meeting housing needs.
Oldham Council Temporary Accommodation Strategy 2021-24 (2021, Oldham Council)	The key priority for this document is to enable Oldham Council to continue meeting its statutory obligation to provide temporary accommodation, but to ensure this is done in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. Successful delivery of the strategy would enable the Council to make a significant improvement to the lives of Oldham residents, by providing better housing and support to improve people's lives.	Requires IA objective on meeting housing needs.
Oldham Homelessness Prevention and Reduction Strategy 2021-26 (2021 Oldham Council)*	The aim of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy is to take reasonable steps to try and prevent and relieve homelessness amongst eligible groups. Successful delivery of this strategy will decrease the number of households becoming homeless alongside enabling people to have secure places to live.	Requires IA objective on meeting housing needs.
Health and wellbeing, education and communities and economy (Population / Human Health)		

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 – 2030 (2022, Oldham Council)	The vision is Oldham residents are happier and healthier; they feel safe, supported and they thrive. The ambition is People lead longer, healthier, and happier lives, and the gap in health outcomes between different groups and communities in Oldham, and between Oldham and England, is reduced. A demonstrable difference will be made to the average life expectancy and average healthy life expectancy of residents, and inequalities will be reduced. Goals are set within the strategy including: Infant mortality will decrease so that the rate in Oldham is the same as for England. The same percentage of children in Oldham will achieve a good level of development at the end of reception as in England. The percentage of people reporting high levels of anxiety will be smaller than the England average. The percentage of people who feel lonely will be significantly smaller than the national average. Oldham will have the same percentage of physically active adults as England.	Requires objectives around health and wellbeing, social inclusion and education and skills.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
Our strategy for Adult Social Care 2023 – 2028 (2023, Oldham Council)	The vision is supporting you to be independent, healthy, safe and well so you can lead the lives you want to live.	Requires objectives around health and wellbeing and social inclusion.
Oldham Education Provision Strategy 2020-2024 (2020, Oldham Council)	This strategic document provides the context and policy for the provision of education places for children and young people aged including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.	Requires IA objective on education. The Local Plan must ensure that it takes into account education provision requirements.
Oldham Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2041 (2025, Oldham Council)*	The vision is “To ensure that sufficient pitches are provided of a good quality and which support the needs of each sport and club in Oldham. This provision should be sufficient and flexible to deal with current and projected increases in demand” The aims to support the vision are to: protect the existing supply of sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current or future needs; enhance outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites; and provide new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so.	Requires objective on open space and green infrastructure, health and well-being.
Oldham Strategy for Early Years (2020, Oldham Council)*	Young children in Oldham record lower levels of general development in comparison with their peers across Greater Manchester. As such, this strategy aims to ensure that every child accesses the support they need to get their best start in life through child-focused, equitable, cooperative, preventative, and resilient measures.	Requires objectives around inclusion, health and wellbeing and education.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
Oldham Works: Our Employment and Skills Plan 2025-2030* (2025, Oldham Council)	This strategy sets out to align education, skills and employment opportunities with business growth to help local people access good jobs, gain new skills and build a stronger, fairer Oldham. The Oldham Work Plan focuses on three key targets: 1. Pathways to Prosperity – improving skills and employment outcomes. 2. Building a Future-Ready Oldham – aligning education and training with growth sectors. 3. Future-Focused, Business-Driven – helping local employers grow and invest in talent.	The Local Plan and IA objectives should reflect these priorities on economic growth, education and skills.
Transport (Climatic Factors / Air / Population / Human Health)		
Oldham Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan (2022, Oldham Council)	This strategy sets the strategic direction for travel and mobility within Oldham. It captures existing commitments and priorities for all our communities and identifies the requirements for transport in the future both for growth and in response to changing travel technologies. The Oldham Transport Strategy is an all-encompassing transport plan for Oldham, including the town's core and each Neighbourhood District Area including the Pennine edge and the city-region travel to work area.	Transport policies to have regard to the strategy. Requires IA objective on an improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improved connectivity, including the walking and cycling network.

Plan / Programme	Objectives or requirements of the Plan or Programme	Implications for the Local Plan / Integrated Assessment
	The strategy is categorized into six ambitions: 1. Healthy Oldham 2. Safe Oldham 3. Clean Oldham 4. Connected Oldham 5. Accessible Oldham 6. Thriving Oldham	
Oldham Town Centre Parking Strategy (2022, Oldham Council)	The Parking Strategy is necessary to support the current regeneration proposals for the town centre, which are aimed at providing quality homes within the town centre, increasing office and service space, and promoting decreasing road traffic and increased access to public transport.	The Local Plan should have regard to the strategy. Requires IA objective on an improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network to encourage the need for less parking.

20. Appendix 2: Stage A2 Baseline Information

20.1 Stage A2 is the collection of baseline information. This is set out below under the most relevant SEA topic headings. An update has been provided where data could be identified and was still determined to be relevant.

Table 15: Baseline information for Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora and Soil

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented	100% of local sites (41 sites) have positive conservation management being implemented. Wetland creation and management Leaking dams, woodland creation and management, pollinators, non-intervention, invasive weed control. Habitat piles, standing and fallen deadwood. Wildlife reporting, tackling ASB, species protection and monitoring.	N/A	The percentage of sites under positive conservation management has remained the same since 2010/11.	There is the need to protect and enhance biodiversity.	Oldham Council (2023)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Change in areas of biodiversity importance - International: Special Protection Areas (SPA) Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	Part of the Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) and part of the South Pennine Moors (Phase 2) fall within Oldham. The total area of the SPA is: Phase 1 45,300.57 hectares (ha) Phase 2 20,944.5 ha South Pennine Moors SAC: 65,025.5 ha Rochdale Canal SAC: 26.11 ha	N/A	The extent of the international nature designations have increased in total since 2012 but remained the same in recent years. In the 2012 Site Allocations Scoping Report the following information was recorded for 2011: SPA Phase 2: 20,936.53 ha SAC = 64,983.13 ha Rochdale Canal -25.55 (2000).	There is the need to protect and enhance biodiversity.	Natural England Open Data (2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Change in areas of biodiversity Importance - National:	Oldham has five SSSIs within the borough. Rochdale Canal: 26.37ha. Site is 50% Unfavourable - recovering. 50% not recorded. South Pennine Moors 20,944.5 ha. Site is 28.57% favourable and 7.14% Unfavourable – no change and 64.29% not recorded. Dark Peak: 31,823.79 ha Site is 29.17% favourable, 8.33% unfavourable – recovering. Unfavourable – no change 4.17% and Not recorded 58.33%. Standedge Road Cutting: 3.6ha. Site is 100% favourable condition. Ladcastle and Den Quarries SSSI 2.73 ha. Site is 100% favourable condition.	To all be in favourable condition.	Rochdale SSSI: 25.55 ha (2000) 100% unfavourable recovering in 2023 South Pennine Moors SSSI: 20,938ha (1994). Site is 0.61% favourable and 83.80% unfavourable recovering; 15.37% unfavourable -no change; and 0.22% unfavourable declining (2023). Dark Peak (2023) Dark Peak: 31,824 ha Site is 4.33% favourable, 87.45% unfavourable – recovering.	There is a need for protected site strategies. There is a need to protect and enhance biodiversity.	Natural England Designated Site View (2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Lowside Brickworks SSSI 1.38 ha. Site is 100% favourable condition.				
Change in areas of biodiversity Importance - local: Sites of Biological Importance (SBI)	Oldham has 40 SBIs The SBIs total 3,468.8 ha. Of this there are: 10 SBIs Grade A, measuring 3288.3ha. 17 SBIs Grade B, measuring 138.3ha. 13 SBIs Grade C, measuring 42.2ha.	The LNRS sets a target to increase land designed by 5,000ha growing this from 11% to 15% of the city region by 2035.	Previous years show: Number of SBIs (extent ha) 2020: 38 3,457.0 2019: 38 (3458.4) 2017: 38 (3455) 2016: 39 (3454.9) 2015: 39 (3,451) 2014: 40 (3,449.4) ha. 2013: 40 SBIs totalling 3,449.5 ha 2012: 40 SBIs totalling 3,445.6 ha 1984: 18 (142.4)	The number and extent of SBIs has increased significantly since the last Scoping Report. There is the need to protect and enhance biodiversity.	GMEU 2022 SBI Review received 2025.
Number of Local Nature Reserves	Glodwick Lows (17 ha)	N/A	No information	There is the need to protect and enhance biodiversity.	Oldham Council (2025)
Number of Regionally Important	Oldham has two RIGS at Glodwick Brickpit and Rocher Vale.	N/A	Rocher Vale was designated in 2022.	There is a need to protect and enhance geodiversity.	Oldham Council (2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Geodiversity Sites (RIGS)			Glodwick Brickpit was designated in 2018.		
Number of applications given conditions related to contaminated land	2024/25: 23 Applications were given the Contaminated Land Investigation Condition 40 Applications were given the Landfill Gas Investigation Condition 11 Applications were given the Gas Membrane Condition	N/A	2021/22: 78, 80 and 20 respectively. 2020/21: 81; 54 and 10 applications respectively.	There is a need to remediate contaminated land.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council)

Table 16: Baseline information for Landscape

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Number of planning applications refused on landscape character grounds	2024/25: 0	100% of planning applications that do not protect and / or enhance landscape character, where appropriate, should be refused.	2020/21: 0 2019/20: 0 2017/18: 0 2016/17: 4 2015/16: 6 2014/15: 4 2013/14: 5 2012/13: 2	Monitoring shows that few applications are being refused on matters relating to landscape character. This may be an indication that applications are having regard to the landscape character.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council)
Landscape Character Areas (Types)	The following Greater Manchester Landscape Character Types fall within Oldham: Incised Urban Fringe Valleys; Open Moorlands and Enclosed Upland Fringes (Dark Peak); Pennine Foothills (Dark Peak); Pennine Foothills (West/South Pennines); and Urban Fringe Farmland	N/A	N/A	There is need to positively manage landscape and townscapes.	Greater Manchester Landscape Character and Sensitivity Report (GMCA, 2018)

Table 17: Baseline information for Cultural Heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage (Historic Environment)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England	There are 555 assets on the national heritage list in Oldham. Of these there are: 13 Grade II* listed buildings 536 Grade II listed buildings 2 Scheduled Monuments 3 Registered Park and Gardens	N/A	N/A	There is a need to protect, conserve and enhance heritage assets and their settings.	Historic England, 2025
Number of entries on the English Heritage 'Heritage at Risk Register'	There are 9 entries on the Heritage at Risk Register.	No entries.	2019/2023: 9 2018/19: 10 2017/18: 10 2016/17: 9 2015/16: 10 2014/15: 7 2013/14: 6 2012/13: 6	The number of entries has generally increased over the plan period. There is a need to support positive strategies for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets.	Historic England 2025
Number / extent of Conservation Areas	There are 36 conservation areas in the borough covering 254.83 ha.	No loss	The extent of conservation areas has increased by 4.04 hectares since the adoption of the Oldham Town	There is a need to protect, conserve and enhance conservation areas.	Oldham Council (2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan SPD in 2019. The extensions have been designated under Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. However, until the reviewed Local Pan is adopted these extensions cannot be shown on the Local Plan Proposals Map and will be treated as a material planning consideration.		
Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals	2023/24: There was one application including the demolition of structures within conservation areas, and no applications approved for listed buildings.	No substantial harm	Previous years (for both part demolitions of listed buildings and/or their settings and demolition in conservation areas): 2022/23: Listed buildings – zero (but one rebuild); conservation areas	There is a need to protect, conserve, and enhance listed building.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023/24 (2024, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			– eight applications 2021/22: Listed buildings – one application for alternation; conservation areas – nine applications 2020/21: Listed buildings – four applications for alterations; conservation areas – one application. 2019/20: Listed buildings - one application for loss of link bridge connected to a listed building; conservation area - one application. 2018/19: Listed Building - one application for the whole of a listed building and six relating to alterations to listed buildings. 2017/18: Listed buildings - three applications; conservation areas -		

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			zero applications. 2016/17: Listed buildings- four applications; conservation areas - two applications; 2015/16: Listed buildings - two applications; conservation areas - one application; 2014/15: Listed buildings - six applications; conservation areas - three applications; and 2013/14: Listed buildings - two applications; conservation areas - eight applications		
Extent of Green Belt	6096.2 ha	N/A	This is the latest Green Belt figured agreed with MHCLG following the adoption of PfE.	There is a need to use land effectively and efficiently.	Annual Green Belt return (2025)
Number and extent of Other Protected Open Land (OPOL)	There are currently 19 OPOL sites. The OPOL equates to 251.65 ha.	N/A	PfE has de-designated three OPOL sites through site allocations.	There is a need to use land effectively and efficiently.	Oldham Council (2025)

Table 18: Baseline information for Human Health

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Number and extent of strategic recreational routes	There are 13 strategic recreational routes. These equate to 116,164 metres.	N/A	N/A	There is the need to protect, conserve and enhance the borough's green infrastructure promote health and well being and encourage active travel through walking and cycling.	Oldham Council (2025)
Extent of protected open space; and percentage of quality open spaces meeting local standards	2022: 1,159 sites designated as open space with a total area of 1,578.09 hectares with so 56.7% achieve at least 'Good' standard.	N/A	1 April 2015 the council's Open Space Study included a total of 1,588.86 ha of protected open space.	The amount of protected open space has decreased. There is a need to promote quality and accessible open spaces.	Open Space audit (2022, Oldham Council)
Life expectancy	Oldham (years) 2023: Females: 80.5 Males: 76.6	Oldham remains behind the national and North West average, and in recent years the gap between life expectancy in Oldham and the England average	Life Expectancy (LE) at birth in Oldham increased steadily over the 20-year period from 1991-1993 to 2011-2013. Since 2015-2017, it has been slowly declining for both	There is a need improve health and reduce health inequalities.	Oldham in Profile (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
		has increased: life expectancy is now 2.5 years lower for male residents, and 2.6 years lower for female residents.	Males and Females with a slight rise since 2020-2022. LE in Oldham is still higher for females than for males. Since 2015-17, female LE has fallen by 0.4 years, whilst male LE fell by 0.6 years.		
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) for health and disability The lower the number (out of 326) the more deprived the area.	2019: Local Authority: Oldham: 40	N/A	2015: 31 2010: 49	Although Oldham has seen an improvement for this domain compared to 2015 the authority still has poor health in comparison to other authorities across England. There is a need to improve health and well-being.	Indices of Deprivation Initial overview (2019, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
IMD Living Environment The lower the number (out of 326) the more deprived the area.	2019: 61	N/A	2015: 129 2010: 48	The domain measures individuals' immediate surroundings within (quality of housing) and outside the home (air quality and road traffic accidents). Living Environment rank for Oldham has come more into line with other ranks. This is a relative decline from 2015, but note that most data in this domain is modelled from very high level data, so may not reflect local changes. There is a need to improve health and well-being through measures such as ensuring a sufficient supply of quality housing, improving existing	Indices of Deprivation Initial overview (2019, Oldham Council

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
				housing stock, reducing fuel poverty, improving air quality and ensuring safe communities and good design.	
Proportion of Physically Active Adults (Adults 16+)	Oldham: November 2023-224: Levels of activity (per week): Inactive (Less than 30 minutes): 35.9% Fairly active (30 – 149 minutes) 9.6% Active (at least 150 minutes): 54.5%	North West: November 2023-24: Inactive: 27.4% Fairly active: 10.7% Active: 62%	The proportion of physically active adults in Oldham has decreased from the previous November 20-21 period. Since 2020-2021 inactivity levels in Oldham increased by 2.6%, whilst fairly active and active levels decreased by 1.0% and 1.6% respectively.	Compared to the previous two years survey there is a lower proportion of Oldham's population who are fairly active and active. However, the proportion of people that are inactive is higher than the north west. There is a need to ensure access to open space and to improve health and well-being.	Active Lives November 2023 - 2024
Childhood obesity rates	Oldham 2023-24: Underweight: Reception: 2.2%	**Underweight**: England: Reception: 1.2%	In comparison to 2022/23 the proportion of children underweight has increased.	A higher proportion of reception and year six children are underweight compared to the national and regional figures and	National Child Measurement Programme 2023/24 (NHS Digital)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Year 6: 2.3% Healthy weight: Reception: 75.6% Year 6: 59.1% Overweight: Reception: 11.3% Year 6: 13.6% Living with obesity: Reception: 11.0% Year 6: 25.0% Living with severe obesity:	Year 6: 1.7% North West: Reception: 1.0% Year 6: 1.6% **Healthy weight:** England: Reception: 76.8% Year 6: 62.5% North West: Reception: 75.8% Year 6: 61.2% **Overweight:** England: Reception: 12.4% Year 6: 13.8%		a lower proportion are a healthy weight, resulting in higher proportions who are living with obesity. There is a need to improve health and well being.	

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Reception: 3.6% Year 6: 7.2%	North West: Reception: 13.1% Year 6: 14.0% **Living with obesity:** England: Reception: 9.6% Year 6: 22.1% North West: Reception: 10.8% Year 6: 23.43% **Living with severe obesity:** England: Reception: 2.6% Year 6: 5.5%			

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
		North West: Reception: 2.8% Year 6: 5.9%			
% of households living in fuel poverty	Oldham 2023: 12.8%	Greater Manchester: 12.0% North West: 12.1% England: 11.4%	2020: 14.4 2018: 11.7%	Oldham has higher than the England average for fuel poverty but is only slightly above the Northwest average and the GM average for fuel poverty. Fuel poverty has decreased since 2020.	Sub-regional fuel poverty data 2025 (2023 data) (April 2025, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy)
Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year	2024: **Pedestrian:** Total: 67 Fatal: 6 **Cycling:** Total: 23	Oldham remains below the North West average for total pedestrian and cycling casualties since 2015.	2023: **Pedestrian:** Total: 56 Fatal: 2 **Cycling:** Total: 17	The number of road traffic accidents has positively declined since 2015 however since 2021 there has been an increase in total casualties for both pedestrians and cyclists. As such, there is a need to ensure	Reported Road Casualties, Great Britain (2024)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Fatal: 0		Fatal: 0 2022: **Pedestrian:** Total: 56 Fatal: 2 **Cycling:** Total: 10 Fatal: 0	high quality design and local environmental quality to continue to reduce road accidents as far as reasonable within planning's control.	

Table 19: Baseline information for Population

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Population Change	2024: 251,560	N/A	Increase of population of around 9,460 (3.9 %) since the 2021 census.	The population increase is above the average across England and Wales by 0.2%. This is an increase of around 9,460 (3.9%) since the 2021 census. Nationally, the population of England and Wales grew by 1.2% from mid-2023. The increases are in certain age groups, notably people aged 20-30, and people aged 65 years and over. There is a need to ensure that the needs of the population, including the younger and older population are met.	Population estimates for England and Wales: mid-2024 (ONS, 2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Population Forecasts	2047: 263,520 people	N/A	N/A	There is a need to ensure the needs of the future population are met through sufficient housing, employment and supporting infrastructure.	2022-based subnational population projections (ONS, 2022)
Household Forecasts	2043: 109,758 households	2043: 109,758 households	N/A	Current households (rounded): 2021: 93,100 This is an increase of around 3,400 households (3.8%) from the 2011 Census figure of 89,703. There is a need to ensure that there is a sufficient housing land supply and that the appropriate mix of housing is provided alongside supporting infrastructure.	ONS 2021 and Oldham Council Census 2021 First Outputs Briefing (2022)
Ethnicity	Oldham: White: 68.1% Gypsy / Traveller: 0.1%	N/A	GM / England and Wales: White: 76.4% / 81.7% Gypsy / Traveller: 0.1% (both) Mixed / Multiple Ethnic	Oldham's population is mostly white, followed by 'Asian / Asian British / Pakistani' and 'Asian British / Bangladeshi'. Oldham has a	ONS 2021

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups: 2.5% Asian / Asian British / Indian: 0.7% Asian/ Asian British / Pakistani: 13.5% Asian British / Bangladeshi: 9.0% Asian / Asian British / Chinese 0.3% Asian / Asian British / Other Asian: 1.0% Black / African / Caribbean / Black British: 3.4% Other ethnic group: 1.4%		Groups: 3.0% / 2.9% Asian / Asian British / Indian: 2.4% / 3.1% Asian/ Asian British / Pakistani: 7.3% / 2.7% Asian British / Bangladeshi: 1.6% / 1.1% Asian / Asian British / Chinese 1.0% /0.7% Asian / Asian British / Other Asian: 1.2% / 1.6% Black / African / Caribbean / Black British: 4.7% / 4.0% Other ethnic group: 2.3%/ 2.1%	significantly higher proportion of its population that are 'Asian / Asian British / Pakistani' and Asian British / Bangladeshi' in comparison to the GM, England and Wales averages. The needs of all ethnicity groups should be taken into account.	

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Religious belief	Oldham: Christian: 44.9.% Muslim: 24.4% No religion: 25.0% Not stated: 4.7% Hindu: 0.5% Buddhist: 0.2% Other religion:0.2% Jewish: 0.1% Sikh: 0.1%	N/A	GM / England and Wales Christian: 47.8% / 46.2% Buddhist: 0.3% /0.5% Hindu: 1.0% / 1.7% Jewish: 1.2% / 0.5% Muslim: 12.1% / 6.5% Sikh: 0.4% / 0.9% Other religion:0.3% / 0.6% No religion: 31.8% / 37.2% Not stated: 5.1 % / 6.0%	Oldham's main religious belief is Christianity, followed by Islam. Oldham has a significantly higher percentage of Muslims than the England and Wales and GM averages. The percentage of people who are Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, other religion and no religion is lower than the GM and England and Wales averages. There is a need to ensure that the needs of all the community are taken into account, such as when thinking about housing, community facilities and social cohesion.	ONS 2021
Total amount of additional floorspace by type square metres (sqm) gross	The total floorspace completed during 2024/25 for industrial and commercial uses (use classes Eg)i), B2 and B8) was	N/A	The total floorspace completed for industrial and commercial use (sqm): 2023/24: 27,848 sqm	There is a need to ensure support economic growth through ensuring a supply of employment land.	Oldham Council, 2025

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	8,782 sqm (gross). Of this: 2,113 sqm was developed for Eg)i) uses; 1,705 sqm was developed for B2 uses; and 455 sqm was developed for B8 uses.		2022/23: 48,635 sqm 2021/22: 746sqm 2020/21: 2, 938sqm 2019/20: 11,223 sqm 2018/19: 10, 734 sqm. 2017/18: 13, 416 2016/17: 3,565.5 2015/16: 2,676 2014/15: 8,976 2013/14: 1,643.2 2012/13: 11,716		
Total Amount of employment floorspace (gross) on previously developed land (PDL) by type	2023/24: 18,259 sqm (66%)	N/A	2022/23: 15,529 sqm (31%) Prior to this, the total floorspace developed for employment on PDL has been 100% between 2012/13 and 2021/22.	This year there has been one completion on a greenfield site at Broadway Green. Prior to this, information shows that 100% of floorspace developed for	Oldham Council, 2024

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
				employment has been on PDL. There is a need to continue to use land efficiently.	
Employment land available by type hectares (ha) (Use Classes Order B1, B2 and B8	31 March 2024: 100.72 ha. The total consists of 28.72 ha of saved UDP Business and Industry allocations, 30.86 ha of sites that are not allocations but have planning permission for employment use and are either unimplemented or under construction and 41.14 ha of land allocated for employment within PfE.	N/A	2022/23: 57.7 ha We have changed the way we measure this indicator, so it is in line with figures provided to GMCA, so it is not comparable to some previous years.	There is a need to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of employment floorspace available to support economic growth.	Oldham Council, 2024
Land developed for business and industry (ha)	2024/25: 3.16 ha	N/A	2023/24: 7.95 ha 2022/23: 12.12 ha	The amount of land developed for business and industry over the past 5 years has fluctuated.	Oldham Council, 2025

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Of this: 1.71 was developed for E g) i) (office) uses; 0.10 ha was developed for B2 uses; 0.56 ha was developed for B8 uses; and 0.78 ha was developed for a mixture of Eg)i), B2 and B8 uses.		2021/22: 0.18 2020/21: 1.35 2019/20: 5.08. 2018/19: 2.97 2017/18: 5.26 2016/17: 1.73 2015/16: 0.74 2014/15: 2.15 2013/14: 0.46	There is a need to ensure that employment land available meets modern needs in sustainable locations to support economic growth.	
Unemployment rate	Unemployment: Oldham (June 2025): 7.0% Youth unemployment: 9.2%	N/A	Unemployment: November 2024: 7.9% May 2022: 6.9% November 2021: 8.1%	The unemployment rate stands at 7.0%, a decrease of 0.9% since November 2024. Oldham's unemployment rate still remains the highest across Greater Manchester. No wards have an unemployment rate equal to or better than pre-COVID levels for	Monthly Labour Market Report June 2025 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
				this month's report. As of November 2024, there were 11,855 claimants in Oldham. Oldham continues to have the highest claimant rate in GM, and higher than the England average. Youth unemployment in Oldham has decreased by 0.4% since May 2022. This represents a youth unemployment rate of 9.2%, the highest rate across Greater Manchester and higher than the national rate. It's clear to see from the data now that the youth unemployment rate is starting to stabilise at a significantly higher rate than what was seen pre-COVID. This shows Oldham could face a significant challenge in reducing youth	

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
				unemployment. There is a need to support economic attainment and skills and economic growth.	
16-17s Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET)	Oldham (May 2025): 5.0%	N/A	2024: 4.7% 2023: 4.5% 2022: 3.2% 2021: 3.3%	Since the last Scoping Report there has been an increase in the proportion of 16–19-year-olds that are NEET.	Positive Steps MI Report (May, 2025)
Qualification levels aged 16-64 (2024)	Oldham (2024): RQF4 and above: 32.9% No Qualification: 11.8%	N/A	North West: RQF4 and above: 42.3% No Qualification: 8.2% Great Britain: RQF4 and above: 47.2% No Qualification: 6.8%	Oldham has a higher proportion of the population with no qualifications than the regional and national rates and a lower proportion with RQF and above. There is a need to improve education attainment.	NOMIS 2024
IMD 2025 Deprivation - Local Authority District Rank	Oldham: 15	N/A	Bolton: 43 Bury: 107 Manchester: 2	Oldham's average rank for deprivation is the 2nd worst in GM out of the 10 authorities and the 15th worst out of 326	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2025

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
of Average Rank			Rochdale: 19 Salford: 34 Stockport: 182 Tameside: 41 Trafford: 223 Wigan: 102	authorities.	
Employment by occupation	Managers, directors and senior officials: 9.6% Professional occupations: 23.7% Associate professional and technical occupations: 10.7% Administrative and secretarial occupations 9.2% Skilled trades	N/A	Oldham's highest proportion of occupations is in professional occupations which is consistent with the North West and Great Britain although the regional proportion and national proportions are higher (25.8% and 26.6% respectively). Oldham has higher proportions of working people in plant and machine operatives, caring occupations and sales and lower proportions of workers in management roles.	There is a need to retain qualified people within the borough by providing a more attractive borough – a better housing mix, a green environment and decent local environmental quality. There is a need to ensure that employment land is available to suit a range of employment types and that people can access employment opportunities.	NOMIS 2025

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	occupations: 7.9% Caring, leisure and other service occupations: 9.7% Sales and customer service occupations: 7.7% Process, plant and machine operatives: 7.0% Elementary occupations: 14.5%				
State funded primary school capacity	2023/24: Number of schools: 86 Number of school places:	N/A	2021/22: Number of schools: 86 Number of school places: 25,900	This data shows there are enough primary school places across the borough to support the existing pupils for primary school. However, there may be a need to support	Department for Education (March 2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	25,935 Number of pupils: 24,042 Number of schools at or in excess of capacity: 20 Pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity: 104 Number of schools with one or more unfilled places: 66 Unfilled places: 1,997		Number of pupils: 24,199 Number of schools at or in excess of capacity: 19 Pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity: 161 Number of schools with one or more unfilled places: 67 Unfilled places: 1,862	new / expanded schools to meet school places within certain parts of the borough where there is a particular need. There is a need to ensure sufficient infrastructure is in place to support growth.	
Local authority pupil forecasts – primary	2026/27: 23,237 2027/28: 22,815	N/A	N/A	Data shows there is currently enough places across the borough to support the projected pupils for primary school. However, there will be a need to meet longer term forecasts over the plan period and to support	Department for Education (March 2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
				new / expanded schools to meet school places within certain parts of the borough where there is a particular need. There is a need to ensure sufficient infrastructure is in place to support growth.	
State funded secondary school capacity	2023/24: Number of schools: 14 Number of school places: 20,570 Number of pupils: 18,500 Number of schools at or in excess of capacity: 3 Pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity: 112	N/A	2021/22: Number of schools: 13 Number of school places: 19,370 Number of pupils: 17,951 Number of schools at or in excess of capacity: 3 Pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity: 50 Number of schools with one or more unfilled places: 10 Unfilled places: 1,469	This data shows there are enough secondary school places across the borough to support the existing pupils for secondary school. However, there may be a need to support new / expanded schools to meet school places within certain parts of the borough where there is a particular need. There is a need to ensure sufficient infrastructure is in place to support growth.	Department for Education (March 2025)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Number of schools with one or more unfilled places: 11 Unfilled places: 2,182				
Local authority pupil forecasts – secondary	2026/27: 19,532 2029/30: 19,878	N/A	N/A	Data shows there is currently enough secondary school places across the borough to support the projected pupils for secondary school. However, there will be a need to meet longer term forecasts over the plan period and to support new / expanded schools to meet school places within certain parts of the borough where there is a particular need. There is a need to ensure sufficient infrastructure is in place to support growth.	Department for Education (March 2025)
Number of net completions compared to annual	2024/25 Housing requirement:	See columns for housing requirement	The housing requirement for years 2018/19 to 2021/22	The number of net completions has fluctuated over the last ten years. After falling in	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025,

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
average target:	404 Completions: 578 (+174)		varies[8] (see relevant Monitoring Reports [9]for further information): 2023/24: 420 (+16) 2022/23:403 (-1) 2021/22: 506 (-177) 2020/21: 373 (-320) 2019/20: 728 (+36) 2018/19: 410 (+282) Housing requirement 289[10]: 2017/18: 345 (+56) 2016/17: 374 (+85) 2015/16: 296 (+7) 2014/15: 594 (+ 305)	2015/16, completions increased again from 2016/17 as a number of larger sites began construction. Completions for 2020/21 were significantly lower than the previous year 2019/20 and the following year of 2021/22. It is likely that the impact of Covid-19 and wider socio-economic issues may have contributed to the lower completions for 2020/21. However, on average over the last ten years (2014/15 to 2024/25), completions have improved with an clear increase over the target being reported in the past two years. There is a need to ensure there is a sustainable housing land supply.	Oldham Council)
New and	2024/25: 67%	Joint DPD	76% of all completions during	This is below the target of	Oldham's

[8] Due to the introduction of the Standard Methodology for Calculating Local Housing Need, as set out in national guidance: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-development-needs-assessments
[9] https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201230/monitoring/263/oldhams_monitoring_report
[10] As set out in the current Local Plan – The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD.

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
converted dwellings on previously developed land (PDL)		target: 80%	2011/12 to 2024/25 were on PDL.	80%. However, it should be noted that there were another 138 dwellings completed in 2024/25 on mixed sites which contain both PDL and greenfield land. These are not included in the PDL figure. Therefore 91% of all dwellings completed in 2024/25 were on PDL or mixed sites. Whilst the number of dwellings completed on previously developed land seems lower, greenfield sites only accounted for 9% (55 homes) of all homes (578 homes) with plot completions during 2024/25. Brownfield and mixed sites still make up the majority of sites within the housing land supply. There is a need to use land efficiently.	Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)
Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller	The number of net additional pitches for 2024/25 is zero, as no pitches were	N/A	This has remained as 0 since the local plan was adopted in 2011.	The Local Plan review will identify a pitch requirement and sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople provision as appropriate if	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	constructed or lost.			there is a clear and demonstrable need based on up-to-date evidence. There is a need for a sustainable housing land supply that meets different needs.	
Gross Affordable housing completions	In 2024/25, 216 new affordable homes were completed.	7.5% of the total development sales value to go towards the delivery of affordable housing where viable in line with Policy 10 of the Joint DPD.	There have been 1,984 affordable homes delivered since 2011/12.	Affordable housing delivery was much higher during the years when there was significant activity in the Housing Market Renewal areas but, as these sites have been completed, the number of new affordable homes being built reduced between 2015 and 2019. However, the number of affordable homes being built increased again from 2019 and has continued to. There is a need to ensure a sufficient supply of housing that includes a range of types and tenures.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Development density in schemes of 5 dwellings or more	2024/25: Out of 578 dwellings completed, there were 521 dwellings completed on sites with a capacity of 5 dwellings or more, representing 90% of the total completions.	N/A	In 2023/24 out of 420 dwellings completed, there were 362 dwellings on sites with a capacity of 5 dwellings or more, representing 86% of the total completions.	There is a need to ensure land is being used efficiently.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)
Housing completions by size and type	Total completions (net): 578 The breakdown of dwellings completed in 2024/25 by house type is shown below: Detached - 120 (20.5%) Semi-detached - 133 (23%)	N/A	The proportion of detached and semi-detached properties has decreased since 2021/22 (when 57% were detached or semi-detached).	Continue to encourage the provision of larger family (three/four plus bed) accommodation as part of the mix of new residential developments. There is a need to ensure a mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	Bungalow – 3 (0.5%) Terraced - 115 (20%) Flats - 201 (35%) HMO - 6 (1%) The breakdown of dwellings completed in 2024/25 by size is shown below 1 bedroom - 140 (24%) 2 bedrooms - 138 (24%) 3 bedrooms - 195 (34%) 4 or more bedrooms - 105 (18%) This shows that 43.5% of				

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	dwellings completed are detached or semi-detached and 52% have 3 or more bedrooms.				
Housing Land Supply	The housing trajectory shows that there is a potential housing land supply identified to deliver 12,366 dwellings (taking into account a small site allowance, minus projected clearances - see SHLAA for details).	PfE sets out Oldham's housing requirement for 2022 to 2039 (the PfE plan period). Policy JP-H1 identifies a stepped housing requirement (minimum) for Oldham of 404 homes per year for 2022-2025, 680 homes per year for 2025-2030, and 772 homes per year for 2030-2039. This equates to an an	2024: 13,475	There is a need to ensure there is a sustainable housing land supply.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Dwellings cleared	During 2024/25 one dwelling was lost through change of use to non-residential use and one dwelling was lost to conversion from two separate dwellings into one.	N/A	Since 2011/12 there have been 331 dwellings demolished/ lost. This is an average of 24 dwellings per annum.	Continue to review the five-year supply to ensure there is adequate supply to accommodate expected clearance for 2025/26 to 2029/30 There is a need to ensure a sustainable housing land supply.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025(2025, Oldham Council)
Reduction in vacancy rate	1 October 2024: 1.74%	Below a 3% vacancy rate.	1 October 2023: 1.97% 1 October 2022: 2.01% 1 October 2021: 1.92% 1 October 2020: 1.97%	There has been a small 0.23% decrease in the percentage of vacant stock from 2023 to 2024 and it is still within the target.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023-2024 (2024, Oldham Council)
Housing stock: tenure	2021: Owns outright: 31.5% Owns with a detached or shared ownership:	n/a	A lower proportion of people in Oldham own their own property or owns with a mortgage / shared ownership than the North West and England. There is a higher proportion in social rented in comparison to the North West and England.	There is a need to provide a mix of house types and tenures to meet needs.	NOMIS 2021

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	29.3% Social rented: 21.2% Private rented or lives rent free: 18%				

Table 20: Baseline information for Water and Climatic Factors

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency (EA) advice on flooding and water quality grounds	2024/25: There were no Environment Agency objections on the basis of water quality, There were two planning applications determined which received EA objections based on flood risk. One application for housing was granted where the EA objection was	To not approve applications contrary to EA advice.	In 2023/24 there were two applications with EA objections on water quality grounds. One was refused and was one resolved and granted permission. These were the first applications with objections to water quality since 2012/13. Since 2012/13 there have been EA objections on	There is the continued need to ensure that any EA objections are resolved satisfactorily. There is a need to avoid and mitigate flood risk and ensure that water resources are protected and improved.	Environment Agency 2025 and Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024-2025 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	resolved following submission of additional information and subject to conditions. The other application for housing was refused, although this was not due to flood risk grounds.		flood risk grounds each year. There was one application each year granted contrary to the advice of the EA during 2017/18 and 2019/20. In 2017/18 this was for an allotment including a shed which fell outside of Flood Zone 2 and in 2019/20 the application was for one dwelling.		

Table 21: Baseline information for Air and Climatic Factors

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Number of days in GM where air pollution was moderate or higher	2024: 10	N/A	2023: 18 2022: 17 2021: 6 2019: 23 2018: 21 2017: 12	The number of days where pollution was moderate or higher has reduced in recent years. There is the continued need to protect and improve air quality.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council)
Annual Mean Nitrogen Dioxide - Oldham	2024: 20 ug/m3	Annual mean nitrogen dioxide (NO2) target = 40 microgrammes per cubic metre (ugm3).	2023: 21 ug/m3 2021: 25 ug/m3 2020: 23 ug/m3 2019: 30 ug/m3 2018: 28 ug/m3 2017: 32.0 ug/m3 2016: 29.0 ug/m3 2015: 34.6 ug/m3 2014: 32.4 ug/m3	Annual mean nitrogen dioxide has significantly reduced since 2007. There is a need to continue to improve air quality.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			2013: 30.07 ug/m3 2012: 31.8 ug/m3		
Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors (previously NI186)	2023: 3.0 tonnes of per capita emissions. Industrial 84.8 kilotonnes (kt) Commercial: 75 kt Public sector 37.8 kt Domestic – 260.7 kt Transport – 232.8 kt Total – 728.3 kt	48% reduction in emissions on the 1990 baseline (750.36kt CO2)	Previous years (tonnes per capita emissions): 2022: 3.2 2021:3.5 2020: 3.0 2019: 3.3 2018: 3.4 2017: 3.4 2016: 3.5 2015: 3.7 2014: 3.9 2013: 4.4 2012: 4.6	The figures for 2023 are a decrease compared to 2022 and the lowest since the plan period (it is the same as 2020 which is likely to be due to covid). The trend is positive. There is a need to continue to improve air quality.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council)
Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning	2023/24: 6 travel plans were secured as a condition of planning	N/A	2022/23: 4	Although the figure has dropped, this is primarily linked to the number of	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023/24 (2024, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
permission	permission.		2021/22: 3 2020/21: 6 2019/20: 10 2018/19: 9 2017/18: 8 2016/17: 7 2015/16: 8 2014/15: 8 2013/14: 11 2012/13: 6	large-scale major applications that are required to provide travel plans, of which there has been a drop in number of.	
Oldham Key Centre Inbound Vehicles	Total 2022: 7.30 - 9.30: 7292 10.00-12.00: 5722 16.00 - 18.00: 7183	N/A	Early am / later am / pm: 2021: 6884 / 5084 / 6140 2020: 6787 / 5548 / 6337 2019: 7560 / 6320 / 6961 2015: 7034 / 5850 /	The number of inbound vehicles in Oldham key centre is higher in the mornings and lower in the afternoon, which could be people leaving in the morning and/ or the morning economy resulting in more trips.	Highway Forecasting and Analytical Services, TFGM, 2022

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			6645 2012: 7258 / 6053 / 6332	There is a need to encourage sustainable mode of travel.	
Trend in Pedestrians entering Oldham Key Centre	Total 2022: 7.30 - 9.30: 1887 10.00-12.00: 2802 16.00 - 18.00: 2398	N/A	Early am / later am / pm 2021: 1580 / 2307 / 2073 2020: 1503 / 1691 / 1014 2019: 2533 / 3137 / 2518 2015: 2939/ 3276 / 2298 2012: 2319 / 2344 / 1942	The number of pedestrians entering the town centre has decreased over the past year. There is a need to encourage walking into the town centre.	Highway Forecasting and Analytical Services, TFGM, 2022
Number of minor (fewer than 10 homes) residential development with access to at least two key services	2023/24:74.5%	N/A	2022/23: 93.5% 2021/22: 93.75% 2020/21:71% 2019/20: 65%	Access to services for minor residential development has improved generally overtime. There is a need to continue to encourage	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023/24 (2024, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			2018/19: 68% 2017/18: 67% 2016/17: 66% 2015/16: 72% 2014/15: 66% 2013/14: 69% 2012/13: 90%	developments in sustainable locations with access to key services.	
Number of major residential development (ten or more homes or site of 0.4 hectares +) with access to at least three key services	2023/24:84.2%	N/A	2022/23: 63% 2021/22: 80% 2020/ 21: 79% 2019/20: 52% 2018/19: 71% 2017/18: 60% 2016/17: 80% 2015/16: 95% 2014/15: 98%	The percentage of major residential developments with access to three or more key services has varied since 2012/13. There is a need to continue to ensure that new residential developments have access to key services.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023/24 (2024, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
			2013/14: 78% 2012/13: 91%		

Table 22: Baseline Information for Material Assets

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority	GM, Halton, Warrington and Merseyside: Aggregate crushed rock landbank as at 31 December 2022: Permitted reserves: 11.67 million tonnes (mt) Landbank: 23.8 years Aggregate land-won sand and gravel landbank as at 31 December 2022: Permitted reserves: 0 mt Landbank: 0 years	N/A	Previous Monitoring reports set out monitoring on minerals.	Permitted reserves of sand and gravel have dwindled in recent years and the landbank is now at or near zero, which is below the 7-year landbank required by National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The landbank of crushed rock in the sub-region is above 10-year minimum landbank required by NPPF. There is a need to ensure provision of primary land won aggregate. This will be addressed by the joint Minerals and Waste DPD.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council). Information provided by the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Authority Monitoring Report 2020-2025 (GMCA).
Total Construction, Demolition and	2023: 3.331 million tonnes (mt)	N/A	2022: 3.199 mt	Data on secondary and recycled	Oldham's Monitoring Report

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
Excavation Waste Received in Greater Manchester			2021:3.163 mt	aggregate production and use is variable and incomplete. The best available information on CD&E waste is from the Environment Agency's Waste Data Interrogator (EA WDI). This will not reflect the true amount of CD&E waste produced and managed in the sub-region because it only shows the waste that moves through licenced sites and does not include waste that is reused on site or disposed of at exempt facilities. The true amount of CD&E waste produced will therefore be greater.	2024/25 (2025, Oldham Council) Information provided by the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan Authority Monitoring Report 2020-2025 (GMCA).

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
				There is a need to ensure an appropriate provision of secondary and recycled aggregates. This will be addressed by the Joint Minerals and Waste DPD.	
Amount of municipal waste arising, and managed by management type by waste planning authority.	Total Amount of Household Waste Arisings 2023/24: 71,053 tonnes. Of the total household waste, 32,678 tonnes were managed by recycling and composting. Total amount of household managed by incineration was 38,376 tonnes. The overall recycling rate for household waste in Oldham for 2023/24 was	33% of household waste is managed by recycling and composting.	2023/24: 45.99% 2022/23: 46.35% 2021/22: 47.67% 2020/21: 42.2% 2019/20: 44% 2018/19: 44.65% 2017/18: 44.69% 2016/17: 42.53% 2015/16: 39% 2014/15: 38%	The recycling rates have exceeded the target since monitoring of the Local Plan. There is a need to manage waste sustainably.	Oldham's Monitoring Report 2023/24 (2024, Oldham Council)

Indicator	Quantified Information	Comparators and Targets	Trend	Issues / Constraints	Source of Data
	45.99%.		2013/14: 37% 2012/13: 36.76%		

21. APPENDIX 3: STAGE A3 DEVELOPING THE INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

21.1 The following table identifies how the proposed IA objectives have been established. The sustainability issues have been identified through looking at other policies, plans and programmes objectives (see source and Appendix 1) and the baseline information (see issues identified in Appendix 2). Together these have formed the overall issues as set out in Stage 3 as well as consultation feedback.

21.2 The table below translates the identified issues and problems relating to each type of SEA Directive topic into proposed IA objectives with corresponding indicators so that the issues and problems can be assessed and monitored. This is also linked to key plan sources from national to the local level (international sources are also relevant however other plans reflect these).

21.3 Some of the indicators are from PfE and some are from the GM LNRS. There are further indicators which monitor the plans that make up Oldham Council's Local Plan within PfE, the Joint GM Minerals Plan and the Joint GM Waste Plan.

Table 23: Identification of IA Objectives and Indicators for Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to protect and enhance a multi-functional green infrastructure network including biodiversity, geodiversity and nature recovery networks	To protect, conserve and enhance a high quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected	Single data list 160-00 Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management is being or has been implemented Change in areas of biodiversity designations (i.e. SBI updates) % of sites designated for nature in active management for nature conservation	NPPF The Environment Act Environmental Improvement Plan Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England PfE GM 5-year Environment Plan GM LNRS

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		Percentage of tree canopy cover In addition, Biodiversity Duty Reports will be prepared including information on BNG.	All our Trees – GM's tree and woodland strategy Creating a Better Place Complying with the Biodiversity Duty Green New Deal Strategy Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy
There is a need to protect and enhance soils and remediate contaminated land	To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land	Number of planning applications with conditions attached relating to contaminated land.	Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England Oldham Contaminated Land Strategy

Table 24: Identification of IA Objectives for landscape

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to ensure that development makes a positive contribution to landscape and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place	To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place (IA3)	Number of major developments refused on landscape grounds. Number and type of developments permitted within Local Green Spaces Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt	NPPF National Model Design National Design Guide Environmental Improvement Plan UK Biodiversity Framework PfE GM LNRS Peak District National Park Management Plan Oldham Mills Strategy Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy
There is a need to ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land	To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land (IA6)	Number and type of developments permitted in the Green Belt Number and type of developments permitted within Local Green Spaces	NPPF National Model Design PfE Creating a Better Place Oldham Mills Strategy

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on previously developed land by type (sqm) gross New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Number of vacant properties	
There is a need to promote high quality design	To promote high quality design that meets local design expectations	Number of approved applications for strategic developments with a masterplan or framework and design code	NPPF National Model Design Code National Design Guide PfE

Table 25: Identification of IA Objectives for cultural heritage (Historic Environment)

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, including its wider setting and to preserve and conserve archaeological heritage	To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting (IA4)	Number of heritage assets on the National Heritage List for England Number of listed buildings and number of buildings in conservation areas lost through new development proposals Number and type of developments permitted on non-designated Mills. PfE - Increase percentage of buildings on the “at risk register” with a strategy for their repair and re-use	NPPF The Historic Environment in Local Plans PfE Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Oldham Mills Strategy Oldham Cultural Strategy

Table 26: Identification of IA Objectives for Population

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to ensure a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs	To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs (IA23)	Plan period and housing targets; Net additional dwellings -in previous years; Net additional dwellings -for the reporting year; Net additional dwellings -in future years; and Managed delivery target New and converted dwellings – on previously developed land Number of planning applications approved achieving the minimum density requirements as appropriate Total housing completions by size and type on major sites Number of completions for new-building affordable	NPPF PfE Greater Manchester Strategy 2025-2035 Creating a Better Place Oldham Council Corporate Plan The Oldham Plan 2024-2030 Oldham's Housing Strategy

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		housing by tenure, type and size Total number of planning applications approved for specialist housing provision Number of planning applications approved for Homes in Multiple Occupation Net additional pitches (Gypsy and Traveller) PfE also includes indicators on housing.	
There is a need to ensure an appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs	To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs (IA7)	Infrastructure Funding Statement: Total amount of money received secured through s106; Total amount of s106 receipts collected before the reported year but which	NPPF Northern Powerhouse Strategy The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy PfE GM 5-Year Environment Plan

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		have not been allocated; and Total amount of s106 expenditure for the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend). Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities	GM Transport Strategy Oldham Local Area Energy Plan Oldham Education Provision Strategy
There is a need to promote inclusive sustainable communities and community cohesion	To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities (IA26)	It is considered that the plan as a whole and therefore all indicators will help achieve this objective.	NPPF Pride in Place Strategy National Model Design Code National Design Guide

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			The Charter for Social Housing Residents White Paper Health and social care integration: joining up care for people, place and population People at the heart of Care – Adult Social Care Reform White Paper Planning for Sport PfE GM Transport Strategy 2040 Streets for All Creating Age-Friendly Developments: A practical guide for ensuring homes and communities support ageing in place GM Age Friendly Strategy Oldham Housing Strategy Our Strategy for Adult Social Care Oldham Strategy for Early

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			Years
There is a need to improve education and skills attainment	To improve education attainment and skill levels (IA22)	State funded primary and secondary school capacity and forecasts Number of planning applications approved for education related facilities PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.	NPPF The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy Delivering schools to support housing growth PfE Green New Deal strategy Oldham Education Provision Strategy 2020 – 2024 Oldham Strategy for Early Years
There is a need to promote economic growth	To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity (IA18) To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation (IA19)	Total amount of additional floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) by type (square metres gross) Total amount of employment floorspace (office, industry and warehousing) developed on	NPPF Levelling up and Regeneration Act Northern Powerhouse Strategy The UK's Modern Industrial Strategy PfE Greater Manchester Strategy

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		previously developed land by type (square metres gross) Employment land available by type (hectares) Total amount of employment land (office, industry and warehousing) developed by type hectares (ha) gross The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England Unemployment rate Youth unemployment rate PfE: % of working age population with Higher Level (4+) qualification(s) and % of	2025-2035 GM Local Industrial Strategy Creating a Better Place Oldham Council Corporate Plan 2024-2027 The Oldham Plan 2024-2030 Green New Deal Strategy Oldham Works: Our Employment and Skills Plan 2025-2030* (2025, Oldham Council)

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		working age population with sub-Level 2 qualification.	
There is a need to enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres	To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill (IA20)	Number of homes completed within the borough's centres Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses	NPPF Pride in Place Strategy PfE Creating a Better Place Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Oldham Town Centre Parking Strategy
There is a need to promote sustainable tourism and recreation	To promote sustainable tourism and leisure (IA21)	Number of day visits and staying visits to Oldham borough Number of planning applications granted in Oldham Town Centre and the borough's other centres, for main town centre uses	NPPF PfE Creating a Better Place Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan Green New Deal Strategy Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy Oldham Cultural Strategy

Table 27: Identification of IA Objectives for Human Health

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is the need to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities across the borough	To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities (IA8)	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision Life Expectancy Proportion of physically active adults Childhood obesity rates The percentage of areas in Oldham among the 10% most deprived areas in England	NPPF Health and social care integration: joining up care for people, places and populations PHE Strategy 2020-25 Planning for Sport Guidance Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity Sport England Active Design – Creating Active environments through planning and design NHS Healthy New Towns Programme PfE GM Moving in Action 2021-2031 Improving health and care in Greater Manchester 2023-2028 Oldham Council Corporate Plan

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
		The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate	The Oldham Plan 2024-2030 Oldham's Green Infrastructure Strategy Oldham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2030 Our strategy for Adult Social Care 2023 – 2028
There is a need to promote quality and accessible open spaces	To promote quality and accessible open spaces (IA2)	Number of planning applications that result in the gain or loss of identified on-site open space Number of S106 Planning Obligations for new or enhanced open space provision	NPPF Planning for Sport Guidance Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity Sport England Active Design – Creating Active environments through planning and design NHS Healthy New Towns Programme PfE GM Moving in Action 2021-2031 Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			Oldham Playing Pitch Strategy 2025-2041 Complying with the Biodiversity Duty
There is a need to protect and improve local environmental quality	To protect and improve local environmental quality (IA15)	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors Number of pedestrian or cycling casualties per year The number of new hot food takeaways approved within 400 metres of a primary or secondary school, or places where children and young people congregate	NPPF Pride in Place Strategy National Design Guide Clean Air Strategy The Air Quality Strategy for England Streets for All Oldham Council Corporate Plan Oldham Contaminated Land Strategy

Table 28: Identification of IA Objectives for Water

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to avoid and mitigate against flood risk	To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk (IA9)	PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds) Number of new developments agreed with the council incorporating Natural Flood Management (NFM).	NPPF The Flood Risk Regulations Flood and Water Management Act National Flood and Coastal erosion Risk Management Strategy for England PfE Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan Upper Mersey Catchment Plan Irwell Catchment Plan GM Integrated Water

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			Management Plan Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy
There is a need to sustainably manage water resources and protect and enhance water quality	To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources (IA10)	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds	NPPF Flood and Water Management Act Policy advice note: inland waterways PfE UU Final Drought Plan UU Final Water Resources Management Plan 2024 North West River Basin Management Plan Upper Mersey Catchment Plan

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			Irwell Catchment Plan GM Integrated Water Management Plan Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy
There is a need to adapt and be resilient to climate change	To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change (IA13)	Percentage of tree canopy cover PfE: Number of planning permissions approved against EA advice (on flood risk grounds)	NPPF The Third National Adaptation Programme and the fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England PfE GM 5-year Environment Improvement Plan

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			UU Final Drought Plan UU Final Water Resources Management Plan 2024 Upper Mersey Catchment Plan GM Integrated Water Management Plan Complying with the Biodiversity Duty Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy

Table 29: Identification of IA Objectives for Air / Climatic Factors

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to continue improving air quality	To protect and improve air quality (IA14)	Number of days in Greater Manchester where air pollution was moderate or higher Annual mean nitrogen dioxide Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors	NPPF Climate Change Act Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener The Environment Act Environmental Improvement Plan UK Biodiversity Framework Clean Air Strategy The Air Quality Strategy for England Onshore Wind Strategy PfE GM 5-year Environment Plan All our Trees – GM's tree and woodland strategy GM Transport Strategy 2040 Change the region to change the nation: GM's walking and cycling investment plan Our 5-year Transport Delivery

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			Plan Made to Move Streets for all Green New Deal Strategy Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy Local Area Energy Plan – Oldham Complying with the Biodiversity Duty Oldham Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan Oldham Town Centre Parking Strategy
There is a need to reduce energy use, promote energy efficiency and promote renewable and low carbon energy.	To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy	PfE: % of net additional residential development completed with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of A and B % of households living in fuel poverty	NPPF Climate Change Act Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener British Energy Security Strategy Clean Air Strategy The Air Quality Strategy for

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			England Onshore Wind Strategy The NHS Greater Manchester Green Plan 2025-28 GM 5-year Environment Plan PfE Green New Deal Strategy Local Area Energy Plan
There is a need to promote access to key services to reduce the need to travel	To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel (IA17)	Number / percentage of new homes approved that achieve Greater Manchester Accessibility Level (GMAL) 4 or above	NPPF
There is a need to encourage walking and cycling There is a need to promote a sustainable low emission, integrated, efficient transport system that supports growth in the borough	To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection of the PROW Network (IA16)	Number of travel plans secured as a condition of planning permission Per capita emission estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors	NPPF National Design Guide Gear Change Cycle infrastructure design Strategic road network and the delivery of sustainable development PfE

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
			GM Transport Strategy Future of Freight: A long-term plan Change the region to change a nation: GM's walking and cycling investment plan Our 5 year Transport Delivery Plan 2021-26 GM Freight and Logistics Strategy Our prospectus for Rail Made to Move Streets for All Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy Oldham Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan Oldham Town Centre Parking Strategy

Table 30: Identification of IA Objectives for Material Assets

Sustainability Issue	Proposed IA Objective	Proposed IA Indicator(s)	Source
There is a need to promote sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy	To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy	The GM Waste Development Plan Document sets out indicators which is monitored by GMCA.	NPPF National Planning Policy for Waste Waste Management Plan for England Gm Waste Development Plan Document
There is a need to manage minerals sustainably	To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals	The GM Minerals Development Plan Document sets out indicators which is monitored by GMCA.	NPPF GM Minerals Development Plan Document

22. APPENDIX 4: COMPLIANCE WITH THE SEA DIRECTIVES / REGULATIONS

22.1 The following table sets out compliance with the SEA Directive:

Table 31: Compliance with the SEA Directive

IA Stage	SEA Directive
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.	The Environmental Report should provide information on [inter alia]: the "relationship [of the plan or programme] with other relevant plans or programmes" (Annex I(a)) "the environmental protection objectives, established at international, [European] Community or [national] level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation" (Annex I (e)) "relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme" and "the environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected" (Annex I (b), (c)) "any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC" (Annex I(d)) "…the authorities …which, by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programmes…shall be consulted when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report" (Article 5.4 and 6.3)
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects	"…an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated" (Article 5.1). Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes "an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with" (Annex I (h))

IA Stage	SEA Directive
Stage C: Preparing the IA Report	“The environmental report shall include information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, (and) its stage in the decision-making process” (Article 5.2). Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes: “the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects” (Annex I (f) and footnote). “an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with” (Annex I (h)) “the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme” (Annex I (g))
Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the DPD and IA Report	"The authorities [with relevant environmental responsibilities] and the public… shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme" (Article 6(2)). "The environmental report…the opinions expressed [in responses to consultation]…and the results of any transboundary consultations…shall be taken into account during the preparation of the plan or programme before its adoption…" (Article 8). "...when a plan or programme is adopted, the [environmental] authorities [and] the public…are informed and the following items [shall be] made available to those so informed: (a) the plan or programme as adopted, (b) a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme …[including] the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives dealt with, and (c) the measures decided concerning monitoring" (Article 9(1)).

IA Stage	SEA Directive
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the DPD	"Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action" (Article 10.1). The Environmental Report shall include "a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring" (Annex I (i)).

Oldham Local Plan

Publication Plan: Integrated Assessment Non-Technical Summary

January 2026

Oldham Council

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1 Introduction

1.1 This is a non-technical summary of the Integrated Assessment (IA) that has been prepared for the Local Plan review: Publication Plan.

1.2 The IA includes the following:

- a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
- a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)
- an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA); and
- a Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

1.3 The Oldham Local Plan will apply to the whole borough, except for that part of the borough that is the planning responsibility of the Peak District National Park Authority.

2 The Purpose of Integrated Assessment

2.1 The purpose of the IA is to assess the environmental, social and economic performance of the Local Plan. The assessment is an iterative process that is carried out as the Local Plan progresses. This is a Non-Technical Summary of the IA of the Publication Local Plan.

2.2 In recognition of the linkages across the various assessments (that is the SA / SEA, HRA, EIA and HIA) these have been brought into a single 'Integrated Assessment' report. Each element of the IA is explained below.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

2.3 The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives. Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).

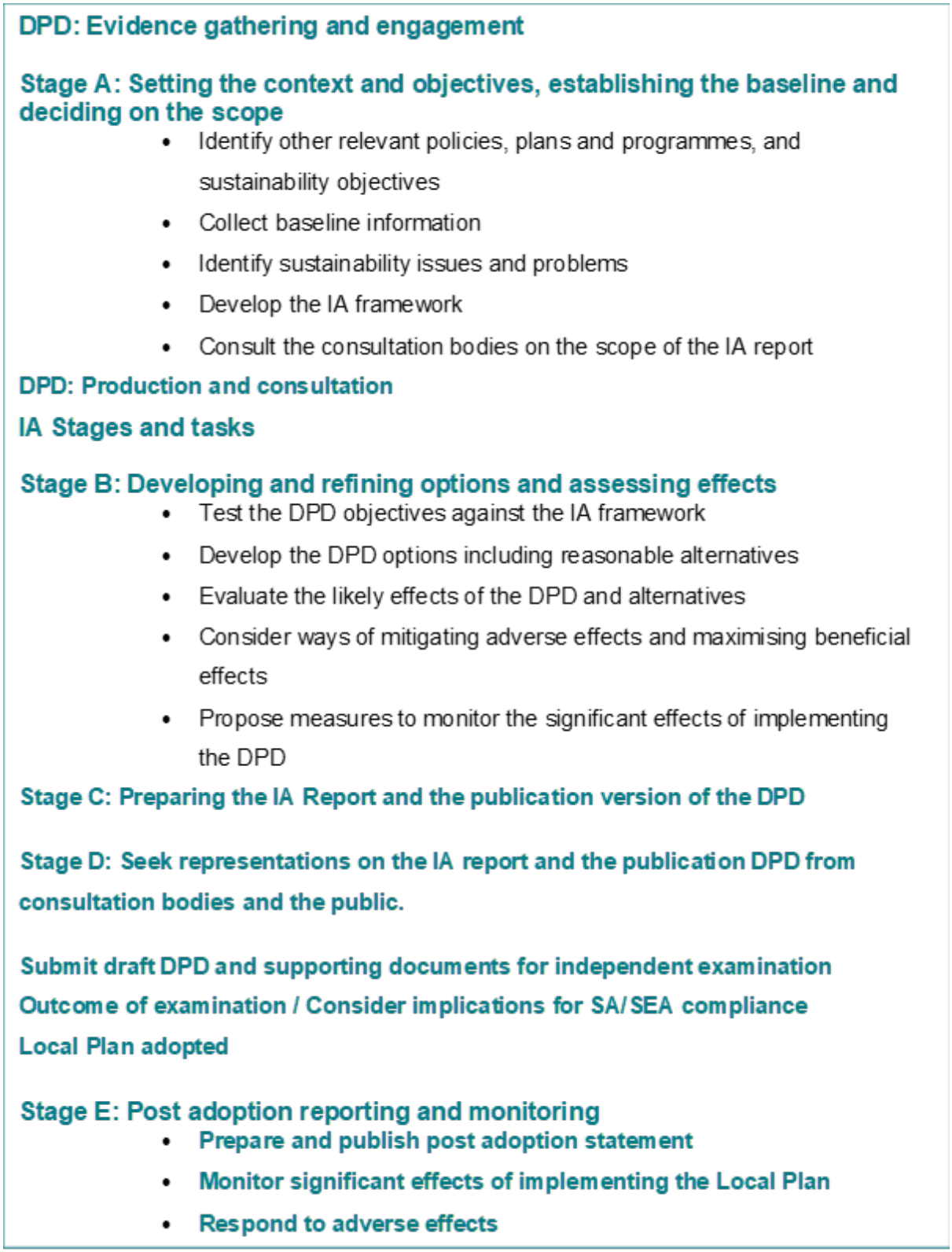
2.4 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) requires the council to carry out a SA of each of the proposals in a Local Plan and to prepare a Local Plan with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development.

2.5 The council is also required, under European Directive 2001/42/EC (the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive) and The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, to carry out an environmental assessment.

3 The Integrated Assessment Process

3.1 The stages of the IA are set out in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Stages of the Integrated Assessment Process



4 Findings of the Integrated Assessment

Stage A

4.1 The Scoping Report is Stage A. It includes a section on each of the following:

- Relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives;
- Baseline information;
- Sustainability issues and problems;
- The IA framework; and
- How the prescribed consultation bodies have been consulted on, and fed into, the scope of the IA report.

4.2 A summary of the key issues and environmental, social and economic problems identified through the Scoping Report Update 3 are set out in Table 1 below. These have been identified through Stage 1 'Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives' and Stage A2 ' Collect baseline information' documented in Appendix 1 and 2 of the IA.

Table 1: Summary of key issues and environmental, social and economic problems

Biodiversity / Fauna / Flora / Soil
There is a need to: • protect and enhance a multi-functional green infrastructure network including biodiversity, geodiversity and nature recovery networks • protect and enhance soils and remediate contaminated land
Landscapes (including Townscapes and Design)
There is a need to: • ensure that development makes a positive contribution to landscape and townscapes, local distinctiveness and sense of place • ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land • promote high-quality design
Cultural Heritage (including Historic Environment)
There is a need to: • protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, including its wider setting and to preserve and conserve archaeological heritage
Population
There is a need to: • provide for a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs • provide an appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs • promoting inclusive sustainable communities and community cohesion There is a need to: • improve education and skills attainment • promote economic growth • enhance the vitality and viability of the borough's centres • promote sustainable tourism and recreation
Human Health
There is a need to: • improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities across the borough

• promote quality and accessible open spaces • protect and improve local environmental quality
Water
There is a need to: • avoid and mitigate against flood risk • sustainably manage water resources and protect and enhance water quality • adapt and be resilient to climate change
Air / Climatic Factors
There is a need to: • continue improving air quality • reduce energy use, promote energy efficiency, and promote renewable and low carbon energy • promote access to key services to reduce the need to travel • encourage walking and cycling • promote a sustainable low emission, integrated, efficient transport system that supports growth in the borough
Material Assets
There is a need to: • promote sustainable waste management through the waste hierarchy • manage minerals sustainably

4.3 The issues and problems listed in Table 2 above have then been translated into the proposed IA Objectives. These are accompanied by corresponding indicators so that the issues and problems can be assessed and monitored. The proposed IA Objectives are set out in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Proposed IA Objectives

No.	Proposed IA Objectives
1	To protect, conserve and enhance a high-quality multifunctional green infrastructure network, including biodiversity, priority species, habitats and geodiversity to become more ecologically connected.
2	To promote quality and accessible open spaces.
3	To protect and enhance the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.
4	To protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting.
5	To promote high-quality, beautiful design that meets local design expectations.
6	To ensure land and buildings are used in an effective and efficient manner, maximising the use of brownfield land.
7	To ensure appropriate provision of supporting infrastructure to meet development needs.
8	To improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.
9	To minimise and mitigate against flood risk and adapt to the effects of flood risk.
10	To protect and improve the quality of water bodies and river corridors and availability of water resources.
11	To protect and improve soil quality, best and most versatile agricultural land, and remediate contaminated land.
12	To minimise energy use, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable and low carbon energy.

13	To ensure communities, infrastructure and biodiversity are resilient to the effects of climate change.
14	To protect and improve air quality.
15	To protect and improve local environmental quality.
16	To promote an integrated and improved transport system that provides sustainable transport choices and improves connectivity, including the walking and cycling network and the protection and enhancement of the PROW Network.
17	To promote accessibility to key services and reduce the need to travel.
18	To promote regeneration and reduce levels of deprivation and disparity.
19	To promote sustainable economic growth and job creation.
20	To protect and enhance the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the centres of Chadderton, Failsworth, Hill Stores, Lees, Royton, Shaw and Uppermill.
21	To promote sustainable tourism and leisure.
22	To improve education attainment and skill levels.
23	To provide a sustainable housing land supply and an appropriate mix of sizes, types and tenures to meet local housing needs.
24	To ensure the prudent use and sustainable management of minerals.
25	To manage waste sustainably in line with the waste hierarchy.
26	To promote mixed, balanced and inclusive sustainable communities.

4.4 To enable monitoring of these proposed IA Objectives a set of IA Monitoring Indicators have been proposed. These can be found in Section 2 of the IA Scoping Report Update 3.

Stage B

4.5 As illustrated in Figure 1 above, Stage B of the IA process is where the options are developed and refined, and their effects are assessed. Details of Stage B at Issues and Options, Draft Plan and Publication Plan stage is provided below.

Issues and Options

4.6 A summary of the IA appraisal carried out at the Issues and Option stage can be found in Section 6 of the IA Report.

4.7 At Issues and Options stage, the vision, plan objectives and several spatial options were assessed including reasonable alternatives. The likely effects of each of these options / alternatives were considered and any mitigation / enhancements to maximise beneficial effects identified.

4.8 How the spatial options have informed the Publication Plan is set out in Section 8 (Table 68) in the IA report.

4.9 Table 3 below provides a summary of the options, the outcome of the IA process at Issues and options stage and how the options have informed the preferred approach at Publication Plan stage.

Table 3: Summary of IA Appraisal of Spatial Options

Spatial Option	Appraisal Summary	How this has informed the Publication Plan policy
AFFORDABLE HOMES		
A: Should an affordable housing requirement be applied borough-wide? B: Should there be a different affordable housing requirement for different parts of the borough, depending on their need?	Option B (targeted approach to affordable housing) results in significantly more positive outcomes overall than Option A (boroughwide approach).	The preferred approach is outlined in the Publication Plan in Policy H5 Affordable Housing. The policy requires all residential developments of 10 homes or more to provide at least 20% of the site capacity as affordable housing. Whilst Option B scored higher the policy has evolved and has been informed by the Local Housing Needs Assessment. The 20% is a minimum and it may be that as part of some schemes more affordable housing is provided in some parts of the borough. In the IA of the Publication Local Plan Policy H5 has scored neutral, positives and significantly positives scores.
HOMES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION		
A: If there is found to be a concentration of HMOs within a particular area, would you agree with the introduction of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights for HMOs in specific areas, as necessary? B: If there is found to be a concentration of HMOs within a particular area, would you agree with the introduction of an Article 4 direction to remove permitted development rights for HMOs boroughwide?	The IA appraisal for Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Spatial Options A and B both scored the same.	The approach to HMOs is outlined in Policy H6 Houses in Multiple Occupation. The IA did not indicate a stronger performing option. The policy sets out criteria for HMOs to meet. In addition, permission will not be granted where the proportion of HMOs result in them representing 10% or more of residential properties within a 50m radius measured from the centre of the application site. This boroughwide approach would reflect Spatial Option B. There is further policy stated for Oldham Town Centre, which recognises that HMOs are best suited to locations that are well-connected to services, facilities and public transport.

Spatial Option	Appraisal Summary	How this has informed the Publication Plan policy
		In relation to the Article 4 Direction, the council introduced a boroughwide non-immediate Article 4 Direction removing the permitted development right to convert a dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) into a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) (Use Class C4) for up to six residents (small HMO). Representations were sought between 6 October until 16 November 2025. The Article 4 Direction came into effect on 1 January 2026. Policy H6 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores.
HOUSING ALLOCATIONS		
A: Should Oldham focus the identification of housing allocations within the urban area – in Oldham Town Centre, the borough's other centres, key public transport corridors, on previously developed land, vacant and under-utilised buildings (including the re-use of employment sites and mills, where appropriate)? B: Should Oldham focus the identification of housing allocations within the urban area as in Option A, but also include within the scope open spaces (where identified as surplus to requirements through the council's open space study), land currently designated as Other Protected Open Land where it does not meet LGS criteria, and previously developed land in the Green Belt where this meets national planning policy.	The IA of the housing allocation spatial options shows at this stage generally there are more uncertainties around Option B (brownfield / urban area plus greenfield) than Option A (brownfield / urban area), which would need to be further appraised and mitigated where required, if this option was selected.	The Local Plan no longer includes site allocations and so this option is not relevant. However, the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) outlines the housing land supply. The majority of sites identified within the SHLAA are brownfield, however there are also a number of sites which are made up of both brownfield and greenfield land, and also some greenfield sites. It is important in meeting our housing requirement and addressing local needs, that we deliver all sites within our housing land supply. In this context Option B has been applied. It incorporates Option A and makes the most of sites in the urban areas, whilst ensuring that we are identifying a sufficient variety of sites through the inclusion of some greenfield sites where appropriate.

Spatial Option	Appraisal Summary	How this has informed the Publication Plan policy
EMPLOYMENT ALLOCATIONS		
A: To focus more on the connectivity to our existing employment sites and neighbouring districts key employment sites. B: A combination of providing some new employment land and improving connectivity to existing and neighbouring districts key employment sites.	The IA of the employment allocation options shows that at this stage there are more uncertainties with Option B (new employment land improving employment connectivity to existing employment sites), which if taken forward as an option would need further assessment and mitigation if required in comparison to Option A which scores more significantly positive scores (improve connectivity to existing employment sites). The spatial options were enhanced by making reference to sustainable connectivity.	The Local Plan no longer includes site allocations and so this option is not relevant. The employment land supply is made up of land designated for employment in PfE, sites with planning permission and come sites that were previously allocated in the joint DPD for employment. The majority of sites identified within the employment land supply are brownfield, however there are also a small number of sites which are greenfield land. To contribute towards achieving the overall employment floorspace requirements set out in PfE, it is important that we deliver all sites within our employment land supply. In this context Option A has been applied as we are focussing on making the best use of our existing employment land supply.
HEALTH AND WELLBEING		
A: Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways within 400m of a school? B: Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways in areas with high levels of obesity?	Option A, B and C scored neutral against most IA objectives. However, Option B and C scored a significantly positive impact against the IA objective 'To improve health and well-being and	The preferred approach is outlined in Policy CO7 Hot Food Takeaways and fast-food outlets. The policy sets out the parameters for approving hot food takeaways. Outside of Oldham Town Centre permission for such uses will not be granted where they are within 400m of a primary or

Spatial Option	Appraisal Summary	How this has informed the Publication Plan policy
C: Should there be a policy which restricts the location of hot food takeaways within 400m of a school and in areas with high levels of obesity?	reduce health inequalities'. Option C scored significantly positive against a further two IA objectives relating to local environmental quality and centres and therefore higher overall.	secondary school; or they are within 400m of places where children and young people congregate. The policy also requires that applications for hot-food takeaways must be supported by a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). Since preparation of the Draft Plan, an updated version of NPPF was published in December 2024. The approach to hot-food takeaways and fast-food outlets is set out in paragraph 97 of NPPF. It states that applications should be refused for such uses where they are: a) within walking distance of schools and other places where children and young people congregate, unless the location is within a designated town centre; or b) in locations where there is evidence that a concentration of such uses is having an adverse impact on local health, pollution or anti-social-behaviour. Evidence shows that outside of Oldham Town Centre much of the borough is within walking distance (defined through the Local Plan as being 400m) of schools and other places where children and young people congregate. As such and given that it is either a) or b), those locations where there is evidence that a concentration of such uses having an adverse impact on local health, pollution or anti-social-behaviour have not been identified. The approach taken in the Publication Plan is considered a reasonable alternatives options A, B and C considered at Issues and Options stage. The IA undertaken on this preferred approach has scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores.

Draft Plan Stage

4.10 A summary of the IA appraisal carried out at the Draft Plan stage can be found in Section 7 of the IA Report.

4.11 At Draft Plan stage, the vision, plan objectives and draft policies were assessed. The likely effects of each of these were considered and any mitigation / enhancements to maximise beneficial effects identified.

4.12 Due to the IA process Plan Objective 2 (skills) and Policies H5 Homes for Disabled People; OTC2 Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area; CC2 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and HE5 Canals were enhanced and Policy OL3 Extensions and alternations to existing buildings within the Green Belt was clarified.

Publication Plan

4.13 The remainder of this Non-Technical Summary provides details of the IA appraisal carried out on the Publication Plan.

4.14 This stage appraised the vision, plan objectives and policies in the Publication Plan stage of the Local Plan review. A summary of the findings is set out in Tables 4 and 5, where details of scoring can be found as well as any adverse and beneficial effects that may need to be mitigated or maximised. Full details can be found in Section 8 of the Integrated Assessment.

Table 4: Summary of the appraisal of the Oldham Publication Plan Vision and Plan Objectives

Part of Publication Plan assessed	Scoring	Adverse effects	Beneficial effects
Vision	The vision scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	The vision scored positively / significantly positive against 24 IA objectives where it would have a beneficial impact. Minor amendments had been made to the vision since Draft Plan stage, and it was considered that wording should be added back to the vision to link to local environmental quality (IA15) to support the score given. The vision has been amended to refer to a “clean, green and healthy environment”.
PO1 Building quality homes to meet local needs and diversify the housing offer	PO1 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 17 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 1.
PO2 Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills	PO2 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 18 neutral scores and 8 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	The objective scored a lot of neutrals given its specific nature. No enhancements were identified.
PO3 Boosting northern competitiveness by providing access to employment opportunities and growing local businesses	PO3 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 12 neutral scores and 14 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 3.

Part of Publication Plan assessed	Scoring	Adverse effects	Beneficial effects
PO4 Supporting the regeneration of Oldham Town Centre and creating thriving centres	PO4 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 3 neutral scores and 23 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 4.
PO5 Protecting and enhancing Oldham's landscapes	PO5 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 7 neutral scores and 19 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 5.
PO6 Protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment	PO6 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 3 neutral scores and 23 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 6.
PO7 Promoting sustainable development that mitigates and adapts to climate change	PO7 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 8 neutral scores and 18 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 7.
PO8 Uplifting the health and well-being of our residents and local communities	PO8 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 6 neutral scores and 20 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 8.
PO9 Improving and valuing a better built environment	PO9 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 8 neutral scores and	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 9.

Part of Publication Plan assessed	Scoring	Adverse effects	Beneficial effects
	18 positive or significantly positive scores.		
PO10 Promoting accessible and sustainable transport choices	PO10 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 9 neutral scores and 17 positive or significantly positive scores.	No adverse effects were identified therefore no changes were required to mitigate adverse effects.	No enhancements were identified to plan objective 10.

Table 5: Summary of the appraisal of the Oldham Publication Plan Policies

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
HOMES			
Policy H1: Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer	Policy H1 scored a mixture of potentially negative, neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 13 neutral scores, 12 positive or significantly positive scores and one negative score.	A negative score was given as sites in the housing land supply could include open spaces. Mitigation would be provided through Policy CO1. The policy has been screened in by HRA as additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy H2: Density of New Housing	Policy H2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 12 neutral scores and 14 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H3: Housing Mix	Policy H3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 14 neutral scores and 12 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H4: Providing for Local Housing Needs	Policy H4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 15 neutral scores and 11 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H5: Affordable Housing	Policy H5 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	positive scores. There were 18 neutral scores and 8 positive or significantly positive.		
Policy H6: Houses in Multiple Occupation	Policy H6 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 14 neutral scores and 12 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy H7: Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	Policy H7 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 18 neutral scores and 8 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT			
Policy E1 – Employment Floorspace Requirements	Policy E1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 20 neutral scores and 6 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy in as there may be possible impacts from direct land take and increases in diffuse air and water pollution. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy E2 – Business and Employment Areas	Policy E2 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 18 neutral scores and 8 positive or significantly positive scores. IA14 (air quality) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy E3 – Exceptions within	Policy E3 scored a mixture of uncertain, neutral, positive and	The policy scored an uncertain against IA23 (housing) as non-	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
Business and Employment Areas	significantly positive scores. There were 19 neutral scores and 6 positive or significantly positive scores and one uncertain score.	employment uses may be permitted, including housing if policy exceptions are met. No mitigation is required for this as other plan policies provide the decision-making framework. The HRA has screened the policy out.	
Policy E4 – Employment sites outside of Business and Employment Areas	Policy E4 scored a mixture of uncertain, neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 20 neutral scores and 5 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy E5– Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings	Policy E5 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 20 neutral scores and 6 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
CENTRES			
Policy C1 – Our Centres	Policy C1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 12 neutral scores and 14 positive or significantly positive scores. In relation to IA18 (regeneration) and IA19 (economic growth) the effects increase from positive in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy C2 – Protecting the	Policy C2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
vitality of our centres	positive scores. There were 16 neutral scored and 10 positive or significantly positive scores.		
Policy C3 – Changes of use and redevelopment within the borough's centres	Policy C3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 13 neutral scores and 13 positive or significantly positive scores. In relation to IA18 (regeneration) and IA19 (economic growth) the effects increase from positive in the short term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy C4 – Local Services and Facilities	Policy C4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 16 neutral scored and 10 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
OLDHAM TOWN CENTRE			
Policy OTC1 - Oldham Town Centre	Policy OTC1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 7 neutral scores and 19 positive or significantly positive scores. IA6 (Efficient use of land); IA15 (local environmental quality); IA18 (regeneration); IA19 (economic growth); IA20 (centres); IA21 (tourism) and IA26 (inclusive communities) increased in effects	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	over time from + in the short term to ++ in the long term.		
Policy OTC2 - Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	Policy OTC2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 8 neutral scores and 18 positive or significantly positive scores. IA1 (biodiversity) increased in effects over time from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OTC3 - Creating a Better Public Realm for Oldham Town Centre	Policy OTC3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 9 neutral scores and 17 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OTC4 - Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre	Policy OTC4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 6 neutral scores and 20 positive or significantly positive scores. IA14 (air quality) increased in effects over time from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	It was noted during the IA that the policy did not explicitly refer to 'multi-functional' Green Infrastructure and therefore the first sentence of the policy was amended to enhance it to refer to 'multi-functional'. This is reflected in IA1, IA9 and IA13. This amendment did not affect scoring.
Policy OTC5 – Parking in Oldham Town Centre	Policy OTC5 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 15 neutral scored and 11 positive or significantly positive.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE			

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy CC1 – Renewable & Low Carbon Energy	Policy CC1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 12 neutral scored and 14 positive or significantly positive scores. IA18 (energy) scored positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	The HRA has screened the policy in due to potential impacts from direct land take (wind farms and solar farms), indirect disturbance and loss of functionally linked land. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
Policy CC2 - Managing Flood Risk	Policy CC2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 14 neutral scores and 12 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CC3 - Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water	Policy CC3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 15 neutral scores and 11 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out. However, the HRA recommends that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA. This has been added to Policy CC3.	None
Policy CC4 - Water Efficiency	Policy CC4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 17 neutral scores and 9 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CC5 – Groundwater Source Protection Zones	Policy CC6 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 22 neutral scores and 4 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND OPEN LAND			
Policy OL1 – Consideration for the Peak District National Park	Policy OL1 scored a mixture of potentially negative, neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 17 neutral scores, 8 positive or significantly positive scores and one negative. IA1, IA3, IA4 and IA21 scored positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term to reflect opportunities to further the national park purposes.	IA12 scored negative as policy could constrain renewable energy, in particular wind energy, however mitigation is not required as this area is unlikely to be acceptable for wind turbines and other plan policies address energy. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OL2 – Oldham's Green Belt	Policy OL2 scored a mixture of potentially negative, uncertain, neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 8 neutral scores, 17 positive or significantly positive scores, one uncertain and one negative score. IA12 (energy) scored a mixed score of negative / uncertain as the policy could constrain some types of low carbon energy in the Green Belt.	For IA12 mitigation is not needed as it may not be acceptable for renewable schemes, particularly wind turbines, to be permitted and proposals needs to be determined on their own merits in line with plan policies. Other policies address energy including Local Plan policy CC2. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OL3 - Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt	Policy OL3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 22 neutral scores and 4 positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy OL4 - Local Green Spaces	Policy OL4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 8 neutral scores and 18 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy OL5 - Protecting dark skies and tranquillity	Policy OL5 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 17 neutral scores and 9 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
ADDRESSING THE BIODIVERSITY EMERGENCY			
Policy N1 Protecting Nature	Policy N1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 14 neutral scores and 12 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy N2 Restoring Nature	Policy N2 scored a mixture of uncertain, neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 7 neutral scores, 18 positive or significantly positive score and one uncertain. IA3 (landscapes) scores positive in the short term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. Uncertainty was expressed as there may be overlap between BNG and minerals. Any offset sites would not be able to be worked for minerals but wouldn't necessarily sterilise as such. Therefore, no mitigation needed and the Minerals DPD addresses minerals. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy N3 Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development	Policy N3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 5 neutral scores and 21 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy N4 Trees	Policy N4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 14 neutral scores and 12 positive or significantly positive scores. IA8 (health) and IA9 (flood risk) scored neutral in the short term, positive in the medium term and significantly positive in the long term. IA11 (soil quality), scored neutral in the short term to positive in the medium and long term. IA13 (climate change) scored neutral in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term. IA14 (air quality) scores positive in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term. IA20 (centres) scores positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
OLDHAM'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT			
Policy HE1 – The Historic Environment	Policy HE1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 9 neutral	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	scores and 17 positive or significantly positive scores.		
Policy HE2 - Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Heritage Assets	Policy HE2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 10 neutral scores and 16 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE3 - Development proposals affecting conservation areas	Policy HE3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 14 neutral scores and 12 positive or significantly positive scores. IA20 (centres) scored positive in the short term to significantly positive in the medium and long term as conservation areas should be enhanced over time.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE4 - Oldham's Mills	Policy HE4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 13 neutral scores and 13 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy HE5 - Canals	Policy HE5 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 10 neutral scores and 16 positive or significantly positive scores.	The HRA has screened the policy in due to potential impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC during any restoration. The HRA identifies mitigation measures to address any likely significant effects.	None
ACHIEVING HIGH QUALITY DESIGN			

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
Policy D1 – Achieving high quality design	Policy D1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 8 neutral scores and 18 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out	None
Policy D2 – Advertisements, Signage and Shop Fronts	Policy D2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 21 neutral scores and 5 positive or significantly positive scores. Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA 20 (centres).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out	None
Policy D3 – Creating a Better Public Realm in Oldham	Policy D3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 10 neutral scores and 16 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out	None
Policy D4 - Extensions and alternations to, and development within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse	Policy D4 scored a mixture of neutral, positives and significantly positive scores. There were 20 neutral scores and 6 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out	None
A SUSTAINABLE, ACTIVE, ACCESSIBLE NETWORK FOR OLDHAM			
Policy T1 – Delivering Oldham's Transport Priorities	Policy T1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 11 neutral scores	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	and 15 positive or significantly positive scores.		
Policy T2 – Travel Hubs and Park and Rise Facilities	Policy T2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 15 neutral scores and 11 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T3 – Parking Provision	Policy T3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 15 neutral scores and 11 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T4 – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	Policy T4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 20 neutral scores and 6 positive or significantly positive. IA7 (infrastructure) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy T5 – Vision-led Transport Statements, Assessments and Travel Plans in New Development	Policy T5 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 12 neutral scores and 14 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
COMMUNITIES			
Policy CO1 -The Protection of Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Provision	Policy CO1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 7 neutral scores and 19 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	IA13 (climate change) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.		
Policy CO2 - New and Improved Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Provision	Policy CO2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 7 neutral scores and 19 positive or significantly positive scores. IA13 (climate change) increases from positive in the short and medium term to significantly positive in the long term.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO3 - Community Facilities	Policy CO3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 11 neutral scores and 15 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO4 - Education and Skills	Policy CO4 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 12 neutrals and 14 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO5 - Securing Educational Places through New Residential Development	Policy CO5 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 21 neutral scores and 5 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy CO6 – New development and health	Policy CO6 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 13	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	neutral scores and 13 positive or significantly positive scores.		
Policy CO7 - Hot Food Takeaways and fast-food outlets	Policy CO7 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 20 neutral scores and 6 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
PROTECTING OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT			
Policy LE1 – Ensuring a High Standard of Amenity in New Development	Policy LE1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 24 neutral scores and 2 positive or significantly positive scores. Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA8 (health) and IA15 (environmental quality).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy LE2 - Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land	Policy LE2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 18 neutral scores and 8 positive or significantly positive scores. Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA18 (regeneration).	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy LE3 - Air Quality	Policy LE3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 17 neutral scores and 9 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Policy	Scoring	Mitigation	Enhancement
	Effects increase from positive to significantly positive over time against IA7 (infrastructure).		
INFRASTRUCTURE AND DELIVERY			
Policy IN1 Digital Infrastructure and Telecommunications	Policy IN1 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 19 neutral scores and 7 positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy IN2 – Planning Obligations	Policy IN2 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 5 neutral scores and 21 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
Policy IN3 - Delivering Social Value and Inclusion	Policy IN3 scored a mixture of neutral, positive and significantly positive scores. There were 19 neutral scores and 7 positive or significantly positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None
MONITORING			
Policy M1 – Monitoring Framework	Policy M1 scored a mixture of neutral, and positive scores. There were 2 neutral scores and 24 positive scores.	None. The HRA has screened the policy out.	None

Difference the IA has made to the Publication Local Plan

4.15 Scoping Report Update 1, Update 2 and Update 3 all include details of the comments received on the previous Scoping Report and the council's response to those comments and any amendments made.

4.16 The IA at Issues and Options Stage outlines what enhancements to maximise positive benefits were made to the vision, plan objectives 2 and 3 and the spatial option on employment allocations within the Issues and Options Report.

4.17 The IA process has considered options and reasonable alternatives (spatial options).

4.18 The options that were presented were in relation to policy areas and allocations and these were the reasonable alternatives to the approach taken in the Draft Local Plan. Comments received on the Issues and Options were taken into account when drafting the preferred policies. No other reasonable alternatives were proposed.

4.19 The Draft Plan was appraised by the IA framework and enhancements were made to plan objective 2 and policies H5 Homes for Disabled People, OTC2 Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area, CC2 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and HE5 Canals.

4.20 Since the Draft Plan was published, the decision was taken to not include site allocations as the Oldham Local Plan has been amended to focus on development management policies that support PfE. The housing requirement and employment needs set out in PfE will be met through the boroughs employment and housing land supply.

4.21 The Publication Plan therefore does not include site allocations. The IA framework has been used to assess the vision, plan objectives and plan policies. Enhancements were made to the Vision and OTC4 'Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre' at Publication Plan stage.

Equalities Impact Assessment

4.22 The Equality Duty requires consideration of how different people will be affected by public sector activities, helping the sector to deliver policies and services which are efficient and effective; accessible to all; and which meet different people's needs.

4.23 The EIA process considers the effects of the Publication Plan review on the following groups – Age; Disability; Gender reassignments; Marriage and civil partnership; Pregnancy and maternity; Race; Religion or belief; Sex; Sexual Orientation; and Care leavers.

4.24 For the purposes of assessing the Publication Local Plan the EIA is addressed through the Oldham Impact Assessment (OIA) tool. The OIA tool has been developed by Oldham Council and is used to assess the impact of relevant policies, programmes and decisions on the equalities characteristics, including Care leavers, as well as our corporate priorities.

4.25 The OIA concluded that there was no negative impact from the Publication Local Plan on the equality characteristics. There were strong positive impacts against Age and Disability and Moderate Positive against Care leavers.

4.26 The Plan also scored positively in relation to the council's Corporate Priorities on 'Green and Growing', 'A Great Place to Live' and 'Happier Healthier Lives'.

Health Impact Assessment

4.27 The role of a HIA is to assess the potential health and well-being impacts of the Publication Local Plan review.

4.28 The assessment has assessed the Publication Local Plan against the following themes:

- Housing design and affordability;
- Social infrastructure and accessibility;
- Access to open space and nature;
- Air Quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity;
- Accessibility and active travel;
- Crime reduction and community safety;
- Access to healthy food;
- Access to work and training;
- Social cohesion and inclusive design;
- Minimising the use of resources; and
- Climate Change.

4.29 It is considered that there are no gaps where the Publication Local Plan has not addressed the above themes. As such, it is concluded that health impacts have been sufficiently addressed by the Local Plan to support the need to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities.

Habitat Regulations Assessment

4.30 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) has been prepared on the Publication Local Plan by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU). Through the Screening and Appropriate Assessment the HRA has assessed whether the Publication Local Plan needs to be amended to avoid harm to European sites or if a more detailed Assessment of impacts is required.

4.31 From the Screening process the following European sites have been screened in owing to proximity to Oldham or because there are pathways between Oldham and the designated sites:

- Manchester Mosses SAC (diffuse air pollution impacts)
- Rochdale Canal SAC (direct and indirect impacts)
- South Pennines Moors SAC/SPAs Parts 1 and 2 (direct and indirect impacts).

The findings of the 'Screening'

4.32 The first stage of the HRA is to carry out a Likely Significant Effect Test, otherwise known as Screening. This is essentially a risk assessment to decide whether a particular policy can be effectively 'screened out' from further, more detailed assessment, or if it needs to go forward for more detailed Assessment (and therefore 'screened in').

4.33 The Policies that have been 'Screened In' are:

- Policy H1: Delivering a Diverse and Sustainable Housing Offer;
- Policy E1: Employment Floorspace Requirements;
- Policy CC1: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy; and
- Policy HE5: Canals

The findings of the 'Appropriate Assessment'

4.34 The Policies have been Screened In because they are considered to have some potential to cause effects through:

- direct habitat losses;
- increased habitat and species disturbance;
- increases in diffuse air pollution;
- increases in diffuse water pollution;
- increases in recreational pressures;
- disturbance to functionally linked land;
- visual and noise disturbance; and
- introduction of invasive plant species.

4.35 These likely significant effects have therefore been considered as part of the Appropriate Assessment, with the following conclusions drawn:

- With regards to Air Quality:

- The air pollutants most likely to have a significant effect on European sites are the oxides of nitrogen (NOx) resulting from traffic emissions.
- Manchester Mosses SAC, in particular Holcroft Moss, is considered to be sensitive to changes in air quality. Policy H1 and E1 were screened in as they promote economic growth and housing growth.
- Air quality modelling was undertaken for the PfE plan. This modelling concluded that developments within Greater Manchester (including Oldham) when acting in combination with developments in Warrington could cause LSE on Holcroft Moss by increasing emissions from traffic flow along the M62. In response to this mitigation for air quality impacts was proposed in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document "Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint Supplementary Planning Document – May 2025[1]" by the nine Places for Everyone authorities in consultation with Natural England.
- This SPD provides guidance on when mitigation in the form of developer contributions to the positive management of the Manchester Mosses SAC will be required for Holcroft Moss as a result of additional vehicle movements along the M62 corridor past Holcroft Moss. (between junction 11 Birchwood and Junction 12 Worsley). The triggers are 100 vehicles or 20 HGV's per day.
- As Oldham has already adopted this SPD, alongside the other eight PfE authorities, and the PfE plan has already accounted for the quantum of development anticipated for Oldham up to 2039, it is reasonable to use the same criteria to assess housing and employment land supply / requirements under the Oldham Local Plan. Any development likely to increase traffic in excess of 100 vehicles or 20 HGV's should there provide mitigation as agreed in the SPD.
- Policies in the Plan including Policies N1, N2 and LE3 will also act to protect European sites from air pollution effects.

- With regards to Recreational Pressure:
  - In relation to the South Pennine Moors SAC / SPA Natural England have stated that there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that recreational activities are having any effect on the special interest of the South Pennine Moors designated sites.
  - In relation to the Manchester Mosses SAC and Rochdale Canal no LSEs will be caused by increased recreational development arising from development in Oldham.

- With regards to Water Quality:
  - In the case of the Rochdale Canal SAC Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm to the Canal.
  - In the case of the South Pennine Moors, water flow is from the Moors down into more urban areas. There is no possibility of contaminated water flowing into the designated site from new developments, and currently no new development is planned for within the designated sites.

[1] The Holcroft Moss SPD is available at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning-and-housing/strategic-planning/places-for-everyone/joint-supplementary-planning-documents/holcroft-moss-planning-obligations-spd/adoption/

- Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm which could arise from water pollution effects in any future developments.

- With regards to Direct Habitat Losses
  - No new significant development is planned within Oldham which could lead to direct habitat losses to European sites.
  - Should any development be proposed in future within designated sites leading to direct habitat losses, Policies N1, CC2 and CC3 will act to adequately mitigate for any possible harm.

- With regards to Functionally Linked Land:
  - The South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (SAC) / Special Protection Areas (SPAs) Joint Supplementary Planning Document prepared and adopted by Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Tameside Council in 2025 provides safeguards for developments within 2.5 km of the Moors and requires development within this area to carry out project-based surveys and assessments.
  - In addition, Policy JP-G5 (criterion 7) of the Places for Everyone Plan will act to mitigate effects on functionally linked land.
  - Local Plan Policy N1 will also serve to mitigate for any potential impacts on functionally linked land.
  - It is concluded that sufficient mitigation is in place to avoid any LSE on functionally linked land within Oldham.

- With regards to Habitat and Species Disturbance; Spread of invasive species; and Light Spillage and Shading:
  - These impacts which could affect plant communities in the Rochdale Canal SAC will be effectively mitigated by Policy N1.

Summary and Recommendations:

4.36 The HRA has screened in European designated sites which could be impacted by a number of screened in policies within the Oldham Publication Plan by different sources.

4.37 Mitigation for identified LSE is available, comprising –

- Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations Joint SPD;
- South Pennine Moors SAC/ SPA Joint SPD;
- Integrated Plan Policies N1, N2, N3, CC2, CC3 and LE3; and
- Places for Everyone Policies including JP-G5 and JP-C8.

4.38 Following consideration of the available mitigation it has been concluded that, providing the available mitigation is applied appropriately, the operation of the Publication Local Plan will not have any effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

4.39 It is recommended that if any changes are made to the Policies in the Plan as a result of either the public consultation or during the Examination in Public, then the HRA will need to be revisited and revised to ensure that these changes would not result in effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

4.40 It is recommended that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA.

5 The conclusions of the Integrated Assessment

5.1 The IA has incorporated the SEA/SA requirements and also the EIA, HRA and HIA. Together these demonstrate that the Oldham Publication Plan results in many positive outcomes which should lead to a net gain in sustainability benefits.

5.2 Some enhancements as part of the IA process have been identified for the vision and Policy OTC4 ‘Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham Town Centre’ at Publication Plan stage. Generally, however mitigation, where required, would be provided through PfE and other policies in the Local Plan. The Local Plan must be read as a whole.

5.3 The HRA has screened the Publication Plan and identified the mitigation already in place which if applied appropriately will ensure that the Oldham Local Plan will not have any effects on the integrity of any European designated sites.

5.4 The HRA has also recommended that any development proposals which have the potential to cause foul and surface water discharges to water-sensitive designated sites should be subject to project-level HRA. Additional text has been added to Policy CC3.

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Local Plan- Minerals DPD - Areas of Search and Minerals Safeguarding Areas - Adopted 26 April 2013

- Local Plan Boundary
- Oldham Gravel - Areas of Search
- Oldham Sandstone - Areas of Search
- Oldham Sand - Areas of Search
- Oldham Sandstone - Minerals Safeguarding Area
- Oldham Sand and Gravel - Minerals Safeguarding Area
- Oldham Surface Coal and Brickclay - Minerals Safeguarding Area

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Oldham Council

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OLDHAM LOCAL PLAN
PUBLICATION STAGE
POLICES MAP

- Local Plan Boundary
- Peak District National Park Boundary
- Oldham Town Centre Boundary
- Other Centres
- Places for Everyone Strategic Allocations
- Business and Employment Areas
- Local Shopping Parades
- Flood Zone 3b
- Critical Drainage Areas
- Waste Sites
- Waste Areas
- Main Highway Network
- Metrolink route
- Metrolink Stops
- Railway Network
- Railway Stations
- Park and Ride PR
- Recreational Routes
- Pennine Bridleway
- Future Transport Projects
- Conservation Areas
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Green Belt
- Local Green Space
- Core Local Nature Recovery Network
- Open Spaces
- Green Corridors and Links
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- Local Nature Reserve
- Sites of Biological Interest
- Special Protection Area
- Special Area of Conservation
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- South Pennine Uplands Buffer

Dark Skys/Night Blight
- Category 1
- Category 2

Peak District National Park

Drawn By:	Strategic Planning and Information
Division:	Planning
Date:	As Published
Drawing No.	

scale : 1:22000

Oldham Council
Spindles
Shopping Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1LF

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Report to CABINET

Yew Tree Community School - Capital Works

Portfolio Holder:
Councillor Mohon Ali, (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

Officer Contact: Paul Tinsley (Director of Education, Early Years and Skills)

Report Author: Jason Hudson (Schools Capital Project Manager)

19 January 2026

Reason for Decision

This report seeks cabinet approval for a capital project that will offer additional places and enhance provision for pupils with additional needs at Yew Tree Primary School.

It also seeks approval for the allocation of funding from HNPCA and Basic Need Grant towards the scheme.

Executive Summary

This report relates to a project at Yew Tree Community School that will enhance existing provision and provide additional provision for KS1 pupils with additional needs. These proposals are now developed sufficiently for costs and proposals to be placed before the Cabinet for a final decision. This project will create a total of 24 new places in the school for children with additional needs.

Currently the Local Authority has around £2.8 M of Basic Need funding and £7.5 M of High Needs Capital Allocation Funding. It is proposed that where projects will generate additional places these projects are funded from the HNPCA Grant provision

Project Outlines and Recommendation

Yew Tree Community School

Yew Tree Community School serves the Chadderton area of Oldham and is a Community Primary School. This project will increase access to KS1 places for 24 children who may otherwise require specialist provision. This provision will have an emphasis on children with complex communication and interaction needs. Children enrolled in this provision would have SLCN (Speech, Language and Communication Needs) as their primary area of need. This project will lead to additional places and improved provision for children in Oldham. Currently there is no specialist provision

within this planning area which means children often are required to travel to other provision outside of their local area

Yew Tree Community School is a mainstream primary school and currently caters for 647 pupils. The proposed project will provide a modular building situated on the school grounds adjacent to KS2 main classrooms, this modular building will provide 2 large classrooms (split into 4 with movable walls), 3 intervention rooms, staff area and toilets. This will provide a smooth transition between the two buildings. Classrooms are to be designed to accommodate a maximum group size of between 6-12 pupils

The total cost of this project is estimated to be in the region of 592,100 (a total of **£651,310** when including 10% contingency). It is proposed that this project is funded from the LA High Needs grant provision.

1 Background

1.1 Demand for ARP provision in mainstream schools has risen substantially in recent years. The option recommended in this report provides an opportunity for the Council to provide funding to enhance this provision in line with its Corporate Priorities, to provide a great start and skills for life.

This project will be overseen by Oldham Borough Council, there is no HR, Health and Safety, environmental health, property, IT or community cohesion implications arising from the report

2 Procurement Implications

2.1 There are no procurement implications arising from the report.

3 Risk Assessments

3.1 The Council will provide all site specific documentation before commencement of works

4 Current Position

4.1 LA has a statutory obligation to create suitable school places for all children, this includes those with SEN and EHCP's. It is an ambition of the LA's SEND and Inclusion Strategy to increase places in special schools, where appropriate for children with additional needs. This enables children to have their needs met as part of an inclusive education offer leading to better outcomes for these children. It also has the additional benefit of reducing the need for costly independent provision outside the borough. Over the last 3 years there has been an increase of children with SLCN having to be placed in out of borough provision and independent provision due to lack of sufficiency and this has a significant impact on the High Needs Budget.

5 Options/Alternatives

5.1 Option 1: Approve the above capital investment for the project listed above to deliver the ambitions of the SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2023-2027.

5.2 Option 2: Do not approve the projects and risk not fulfilling the above strategy.

6 Preferred Option

6.1 Option 1.

7 Consultation

7.1 All Primary and Secondary schools including all MATS (Multi Academy Trusts) that operate in Oldham.

8 Financial Implications

Capital Implications

8.1 The proposed works to provide KS1 provision and offer additional places for and enhance provision for pupils with additional needs represents capital expenditure and will be a charge against the People – Children's Services capital programme.

8.2 The estimated cost of the works is £651,310 inclusive of a 10% contingency figure.

8.3 The works will be wholly funded from HNPCA or Basic Need Grant. Provision exists within the capital programme to support these works.

8.4 The works are expected to be wholly undertaken and completed in 2026/27.

Jit Kara – Senior Accountant

8.2 **Financial Implications – (Resources)**

The proposed Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) at Yew Tree will be funded from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. The High Needs Block covers funding to support provision for pupils and students with SEND who require additional resources to participate in education and learning, from their early years to age 25 in a range of provision including special schools, mainstream schools, alternative provision, and independent specialist provision. The funding also contributes towards council centrally retained expenditure for High Needs.

The opening of the ARP at Yew Tree for 24 places would result in £327k of required revenue funding per annum from the High Needs Block, split between base and high needs top up funding. This would be offset, in part, by savings in other areas of the High Needs Block where the pupils may be currently accessing funding.

Vicky Gibbons – Senior Accountant

9 Legal Implications

9.1 The proposal will benefit the students at the schools and further demonstrate the ongoing commitment by the Council to the education of the children of the Borough with particular emphasis upon the most vulnerable children in the borough.

Alex Bougatef - Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

9.2 Any contracts for the supply of works, goods or services must comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and all relevant legislation/ regulations. All land transactions will need to comply with the Land and Property Protocol. All financial transactions must comply with the Financial Procedure Rules.

9.3 The report author has confirmed continued compliance with the Contract Procedure Rules, Financial Procedure Rules and Land and Property Protocol.

9.4 Legal issues and risks must continue to be reported, managed and mitigated through the usual finance and audit processes of the Council.

9.5 The Council must be satisfied it can meet the objectives and terms and conditions and milestones of funding imposed by the funding authority including any obligation to provide match funding and to monitor, keep any necessary records and file any necessary returns. Officers must also check the terms and do not conflict with other funding conditions for the scheme/s or project/property already in place. Officers are to work with legal, finance and audit colleagues to approve and finalise the terms of any grant agreement required and must comply with the terms of any consents given regarding the reallocation of grant funding.

Rebecca Boyle - Corporate Group Solicitor

10 Equality Impact Assessment, including implications for Children and Young People

10.1 There are no negative implications for vulnerable groups or children and young people.

11 Key Decision

11.1 Yes

12 Key Decision Reference

12.1 EDS-13-25

13 Background Papers

13.1 SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2023-2027

14 Appendices

14.1 Yew Tree Community School BUDGET COSTS (27/10/2025)

Yew Tree Primary School - Proposed KS1 SEND Modular Building
BUDGET COSTS - 27/10/2025

Item	Description of works	Quantity	Sum	Cost
	Modular Building (to be read inconjunction with Portable Offices quote dated 19/5/25)			
1	Provide 23m x 10m refurbished modular building (see proposed plan)	Item		195000
2	Delivery, crane hire and installation	Item		35304
3	Prelims	Item		26813
4	Enabling works (gateway and trackway)	Item		17850
5	Ground investigations, surveys, commissioning, building control, SBEM	Item		33800
6	Groundworks	Item		94298
7	2no sliding/folding partition walls	Item		14513
8	Rental cost to secure refurbished building (£1350 per week, 50% back when purchased)	20 weeks		13500
EO1	Extra Over Cost - Risk of missing out on refurbished unit and having to provide new (cost excluded from sub total)	PC Sum		110000
	Modular Building			**£541,077.50**
	Mechanical & Electrical			
	Provide 3 compartment trunking for power and data sockets	Item		2000
	Supply and install new fire alarm connected to main school	Item		5000
	Provide fob access to external double doors	Item		3000
	Heating, ventilation and CO2 monitors	Item		11000
	Provide CCTV cameras connected to server (4 camera system)	Item		5000
	Test new and existing electrics and provide certification	Item		1000
	Electrical main supply upgrade from 75kVA to 112kVA	Item		4000
	Mechanical & Electrical			**£31,000.00**
	General Works			
	Planning submission	Item		5000
	IT equipment	Item		15000
	General Works			**£20,000.00**
	Modular Building			541077.50
	Mechanical & Electrical			31000.00
	Gereral Works			20000.00
	10% Contingency			59207.75
	Project Total			**£592,077.50**

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Oldham Council

Report to CABINET

Property Management Programme Update

Portfolio Holder:
Cllr Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Growth

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

Report Author: Richard Roberts – Project Manager

19 January 2026

Reason for Decision

This paper provides information about the School Backlog Maintenance programme. This includes work requiring Capital investment to the schools that are still under OMBC control. Cabinet is requested to note the scale of investment required to OMBC controlled schools and approve the funds provided by the School Condition Allocation (SCA) to proceed with the identified prioritised work.

Executive Summary

Significant funding is required to address identified schemes in respect of the School Backlog Maintenance programme over the next 3 years covering 2026/27 and 2027/28.

Recommendations

The recommendation is for Cabinet to approve the budget to enable commission of the required works in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. This will assist to maintain and facilitate improved functional use of our schools, avoid school closure and mitigate relevant operational and health and safety risks. Cabinet members are asked to note and approve the delegation of approval of individual contract awards to the Director of Growth with financial updates to be issued to Cabinet at the end of each financial year.

School Condition Allocations

1 Background

1.1 This paper focuses solely on school backlog maintenance and the School Condition Allocation (SCA). The SCA refers to the funding provided to maintain and improve the condition of school buildings and grounds. This funding is distributed to various bodies responsible for school maintenance, including local authorities, multi-academy trusts, and voluntary-aided bodies. It is a guaranteed, annual source of funding based on factors such as the number of pupils in a school and the condition of the buildings. SCA helps address issues such as building compliance, energy efficiency, and health and safety.

1.2 By using the 'Get Information About Schools' (GIAS) tool on the DfE website, a finalised list of schools still under the control of OMBC to provide maintenance has been obtained, this list has been further validated by the OMBC Finance Team. The GIAS system is the DfE's register for several organisation types and where information on other organisations is recorded and maintained.

1.3 To fully understand the condition of school buildings and to aid bodies in the distribution of funding, the DfE launched the second tranche of Condition Data Collection surveys (CDC 2). CDC surveys are one of the biggest condition data collection exercises in the UK public sector and have been collecting data on over 22,000 educational establishments between 2021 and 2026.

1.4 The Condition Data Collection 2 (CDC2) programme is the successor to the Condition Data Collection (CDC) programme, which ran from 2017-2019. This followed the Property Data Survey (PDS), which ran between 2012 and 2014. CDC2 collects condition, contextual and building management data for every government funded school in England. Data from CDC2 will directly inform future investment in the condition of school buildings and will provide an evidence base to support the successful delivery and development of education capital policy.

1.5 OMBC do not carry out their own condition surveys as the budget was withdrawn in 2015, so there is a heavy reliance on CDC survey information. However, in addition to the CDC 2 survey information, the OMBC Property team have used a significant amount of their 'local knowledge' for a more in depth understanding of the school estate and to pinpoint schools that have serious issues.

1.6 The most severe implication of poor building condition or services failing is if a school is forced to close. Due to this the OMBC Property team have used their 'local knowledge' and have advised on schools that have consistently failing or 'end of life' boilers, Building Management Systems (BMS), poor-quality building fabric and have provided an estimated cost to rectify the issues

1.7 Combining both CDC 2 survey information and OMBC Property team local knowledge, a comprehensive list of schools with the most urgent requirement for works will be created, prioritised and acted upon across 2026/27 – 2027/28. The works that have been carried out in summer 2025 have been boiler replacements at six schools. A seventh boiler replacement that started during the October 2025 half term is nearing completion. A shortlist of five more schools for potential boiler replacements and other works in 2026 has been drafted, discussions with the Procurement Team on how these works will be procured are due to commence in the coming weeks

2 Current Position

2.1 The current position of school budgets is detailed in the table in Appendix A within the closed section of this report. These amounts are reviewed regularly, but until contracts are let these are the best estimates. The proposed additional forecasted budget requirements for 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29 are detailed in the table in Appendix B

3 Options / Alternatives

3.1 The option proposed is the first step in forming a comprehensive plan to rectify a substantial amount of school backlog maintenance work in 2026 – 2028. The works proposed will not only improve the environment that teachers teach in and children learn in, but will ensure that the risk of school closure due to services / building fabric failure is significantly reduced.

4 Preferred Option

4.1 The proposed position of school budgets is detailed in the table in Appendix B within the closed section of this report. This table provides information on all 29 schools currently under the control of OMBC and their proposed additional forecasted expenditure in 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28.

4.2 Once the 2026/27 boiler replacement works have been completed, this will have resolved the schools that have the most severe boiler issues. In 2027/28 it is proposed that electrical rewires should be focused on as there are numerous schools that have issues in this area.

5 Consultation

5.1 There have been numerous collaborative meetings held since April 2025 to collectively review and agree the Backlog Maintenance programme based on priority assessment, asset strategy, budget availability and procurement considerations. Technical officers in collaboration with colleagues in finance, procurement and education have confirmed the specific schemes which are required in either 2025/2026, 2026/2027 or 2027/2028

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The proposed programme of works represent capital expenditure and will be a charge against the Place - Corporate Property capital programme.

6.2 A general School Condition Allocation (SCA) provision and other resources exists within in the capital programme against which these schemes will be a charge.

6.3 The proposed expenditure on all schemes are anticipated to be phased as follows:

2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
£1,115,752	£1,617,665	£1,742,000	£863,000	£5,338,417

6.4 There is a possibility that contribution from schools may be sought, if this occurs the call against the grant will be reduced and that amount allocated to the general provision for future schemes.

(Jit Kara – Senior Accountant)

7 Legal Implications

7.1 The Council has statutory responsibilities under the Education Act 1996, the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and associated fire and premises legislation to ensure that

maintained school buildings are safe, suitable and well-maintained. The proposed programme of condition and compliance works supports the Council in meeting these duties and mitigating associated health and safety risks.

The Council receives an annual School Condition Allocation (SCA) from the Department for Education, which is intended to fund essential building condition, compliance, heating, electrical and health and safety works in maintained schools. The works outlined in this report fall within these permitted categories of SCA expenditure and are therefore consistent with the intended purpose of this capital funding stream.

All procurement and contract awards arising from this programme must comply with the Procurement Act 2023, the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, and the relevant scheme of delegation within the Council's Constitution.

No subsidy control issues arise, as the programme relates to the delivery of non-economic public education functions. Any implications linked to individual school academy conversions will require separate legal advice at the appropriate time

(Pamela Nsofor- Solicitor)

8 Procurement Implications

8.1 This is a budget paper. As we the council is not at sourcing stage, procurement has no implication. Procurement support overall funding scheme.

(S. Kapoor- Central Procurement Unit)

9 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People

9.1 See Appendix A

10 Key Decision

10.1 Yes

11 Key Decision Reference

11.1 NEI-11-25

12 Background Papers

None

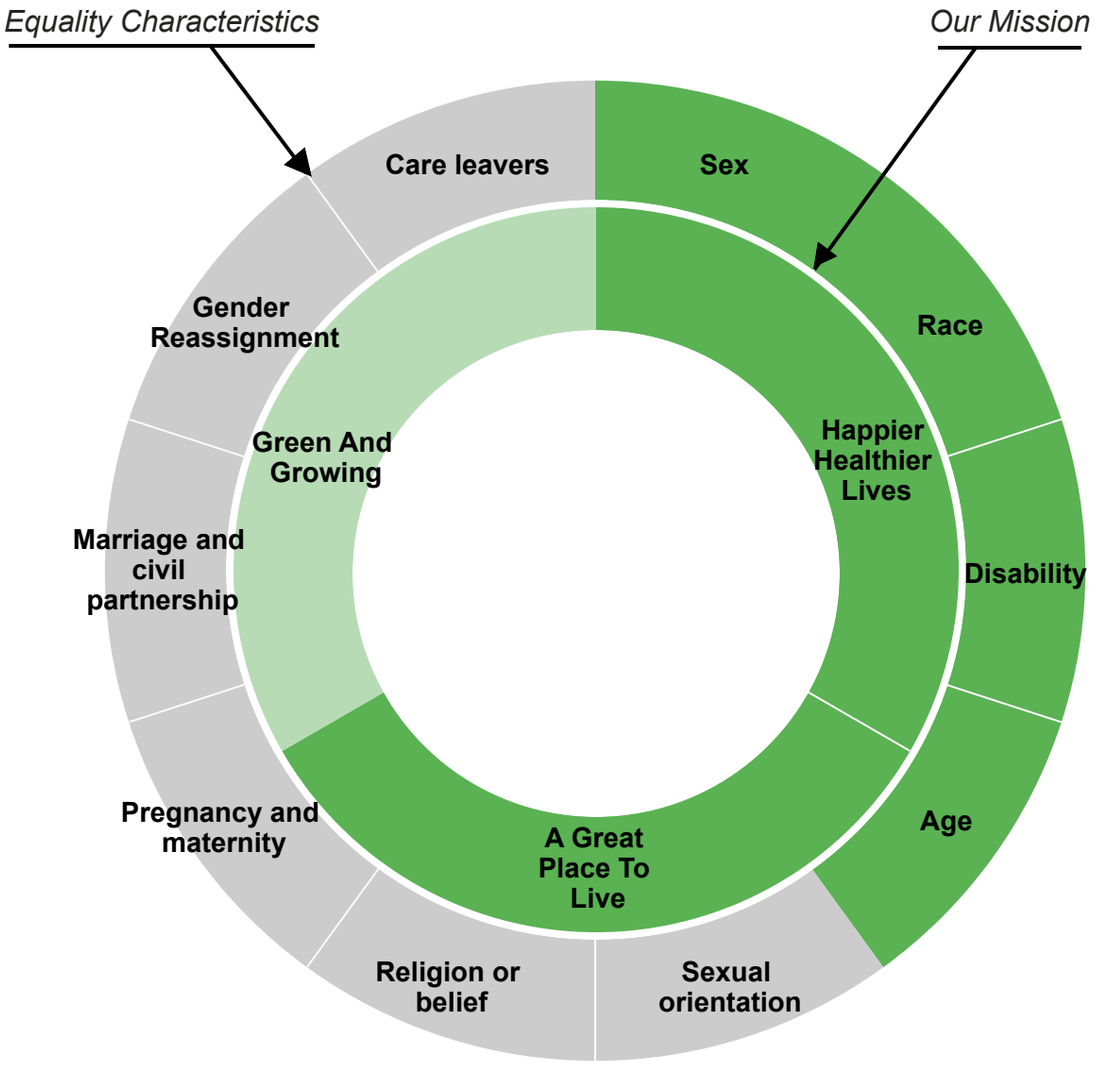
13 Appendices

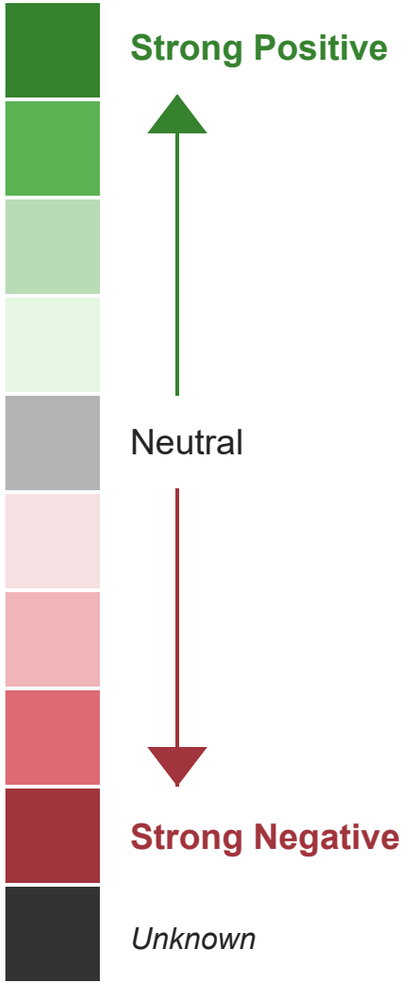
13.1 Appendix A – Impact Assessment Report

School Backlog Maintenance

completed/last updated by Richard Roberts on 25/11/2025

Portfolio	**Building a Better Oldham**
Directorate	**Place**
Service/Team	**Economy**
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	**No**





Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Care leavers	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0	
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0	
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0	
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0	
Religion or belief	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0	
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0	
Age	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Upgraded school building fabric and services will improve learning and teaching experiences for pupils and teachers.
Disability	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Upgraded school building fabric and services will improve learning and teaching experiences for pupils and teachers.
Race	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Upgraded school building fabric and services will improve learning and teaching experiences for pupils and teachers.
Sex	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Upgraded school building fabric and services will improve learning and teaching experiences for pupils and teachers.

Our Mission / Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Green And Growing	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	2	Procurement exercise will create opportunities for local business to win short term contracts with Oldham Council.
A Great Place To Live	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Future awarded contracts will potentially improve school buildings across Oldham to keep them in good repair.
Happier Healthier Lives	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4	Upgraded school building fabric and services will improve learning and teaching experiences for pupils and teachers.

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IA TITLE

School Backlog Maintenance

IA OWNER

Richard Roberts

IA REFERENCE

$qvlplov5

PORTFOLIO

Building a Better Oldham

DIRECTORATE

Place

SERVICE

Economy

BUDGET REDUCTION?

No

STATUS

In Development

Group	Category
Equality Characteristic 1	Age
Equality Characteristic 2	Disability
Equality Characteristic 3	Gender Reassignment
Equality Characteristic 4	Marriage and civil partnership
Equality Characteristic 5	Pregnancy and maternity
Equality Characteristic 6	Race
Equality Characteristic 7	Religion or belief
Equality Characteristic 8	Sex
Equality Characteristic 9	Sexual orientation
Equality Characteristic 10	Care leavers
Corporate Priority 1	Green And Growing
Corporate Priority 2	A Great Place To Live
Corporate Priority 3	Happier Healthier Lives

Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Overall Impact Score
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4
Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0
Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0
Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4
Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4
Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0
Neutral	Possible	Long Term	0
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	2
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4
Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	4

Required comment
ng experiences for pupils and teachers
ng experiences for pupils and teachers
ng experiences for pupils and teachers
ng experiences for pupils and teachers
hort term contracts with Oldham Council
oss Oldham to keep them in good repair
ng experiences for pupils and teachers

Columns to the right only require completion where indicated.

For any category where there is a Negative Impact

Mandatory

Optional

For any category where there is a Strong Positive Impact, but Likelihood is Possible

Mandatory

Optional

What action can be taken to mitigate the potential negative impacts?	Actions	Owners	Timescales

If the negative impacts can't be mitigated, why should the project/decision proceed?	What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

Action	Owner	Timescale

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

Document is Restricted

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