

Oldham Borough Council



Council Meeting
Wednesday, 15th July 2026

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

**To: ALL MEMBERS OF OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL,
JR CLYNES BUILDING, GREAVES STREET, OLDHAM, OL1 1AL**

Tuesday, 7th July 2026

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 15th July 2026 at 6.00 pm in the JR Clynes Building, Greaves Street, Oldham, OL1 1AL, for the following purposes:

Item No

- 1 To receive apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 12)

To order that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20th May 2026 (adjourned to 15th June 2026 and 1st July 2026) be approved and signed as a correct record.
- 3 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 4 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 5 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 6 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council

There are no petitions for this meeting of the Council to consider.
- 7 Youth Council

There is not a Youth Council Motion for this meeting of the Council to consider.
- 8 Public Questions

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.4.4h, Council is requested to proceed to the next item of business.
- 9 Questions to Leader and Cabinet

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12.4.4h, Council is requested to proceed to the next item of business.
- 10 To appoint the Deputy Mayor for 2026/27 (Pages 13 - 14)
- 11 Leader of the Council (Pages 15 - 18)

To appoint a Leader of the Council, in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended.

- 12 Appointment of the Deputy Leader, Cabinet Members and Deputy Cabinet Members and allocation of portfolios and delegation of Executive functions

Report to follow.

- 13 Main Opposition Nominations to the Shadow Cabinet 2026/27

Report to follow

- 14 Appointment to Committees and Compositions of Political Groups (Pages 19 - 36)

To appoint to committees of the Council in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to consider some committees that are not allocated strictly in accordance with proportionality under the Act. *Council appointed to Committees and Sub-Committees on 15th June 2026, therefore consideration s to be given to the appointment of Chairs, Vice Chairs, District Leads and Deputy District Leads.*

- 15 Appointment to Outside Bodies 2026/27 (Pages 37 - 42)

To appoint Councillors to serve on Outside Bodies in 2026/27 (Council appointed to certain Outside Bodies on 15th June 2026 – Council is requested to appoint to the remaining Outside Bodies)

Appendices to follow

- 16 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 43 - 76)

To update on actions from previous Council meetings.

- 17 Notice of Motions

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 12.4.4n, Council is requested to suspend Procedure Rules 2.1.3J and 2.1.3k to consider the following three Notices of Motion in the order that they were received.

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1: A new Start for Oldham Borough

To be Moved by Councillor Harkness

To be Seconded by Councillor Al-Hamdani

This Council believes that:

Residents of Oldham Borough want their Council to change to reflect the priorities of the people.

They want their Council to get the basics right, with a laser-focus on improving the performance and effectiveness of frontline services including drain clearance, road repairs and park and green space maintenance.

Residents want their Council to tackle environmental crimes like littering, dog-fouling, fly-tipping and graffiti.

It is also time to deliver fair funding to all districts and communities in Oldham Borough and not just keep pouring capital investment into Oldham Town Centre.

This Council resolves:

The administration will commit to presenting an emergency mini budget, to Council before the end of July 2026, in line with 12.6 of the Council Procedure rules of the Constitution, outlining how funding will be rebalanced to address the priorities set out in this motion, specifically getting the basics right, tackling environmental crime and delivering fair district funding.

Motion 2: Managing HMO Proliferation and Prioritising Oldham Residents

To be Moved by Councillor Ford

To be Seconded by Councillor Jackson

This Council notes with serious concern that:

1. Many Oldham residents increasingly feel unsafe, unheard, and overlooked in their own communities as a result of national policies which have intensified pressures through asylum/migrant dispersal and associated housing demand. Residents—particularly women and girls—have expressed growing concern about safety and community cohesion.
2. The Victoria Hotel in Chadderton continues to operate as asylum/migrant accommodation. Residents remain deeply concerned about the scale and nature of its use, coupled with a persistent lack of transparency from the Home Office regarding occupants, management arrangements, and associated impacts on the local area.
3. Oldham is experiencing a sharp and accelerating rise in Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), driven by low property values which attract speculative investment. These properties are increasingly used to house high-density occupancies, including migrant dispersal populations, placing unsustainable pressure on infrastructure, waste services, parking, and neighbourhood stability.
4. Oldham is already one of the most deprived boroughs in England, with approximately 37% of neighbourhoods falling within the top 10% most deprived nationally. This significantly limits the borough's capacity to absorb additional pressures without consequences for existing residents and services.
5. The national Asylum Dispersal Scheme continues to allocate placements to areas like Oldham without sufficient regard for deprivation levels, infrastructure capacity, or the cumulative effect on local communities, and against a backdrop of continued high levels of small boat arrivals.

This Council believes that:

1. It is wholly unacceptable for central Government to treat towns such as Oldham as convenient default locations for asylum accommodation and associated housing pressures, without proper regard for local impact or consent.
2. The unchecked growth of HMOs, combined with the pressures of dispersal accommodation, is undermining community cohesion and placing intolerable strain on already stretched services.

3. The dispersal of predominantly fighting age men from high-risk countries, without proper checks or security, fuels legitimate public concern and erodes confidence.
4. Oldham residents did not consent to bearing the frontline consequences of national border failures, and their interests must be prioritised in all local and national decision-making.

This Council therefore resolves to:

1. **Write to the Prime Minister and Home Secretary to:**
 - Demand an end to asylum dispersal arrangements;
 - Call for the end to any further placements into the borough;
 - Demand that those who come to this country illegally should be immediately deported.
2. **Call for full and immediate transparency from the Home Office** regarding all migrant/asylum accommodation within Oldham, including clear data on occupancy, status, and management arrangements.
3. **Press for the closure of the Victoria Hotel as a asylum/migrant hotel**, with a clear and time-limited exit strategy.
4. **Make HMO proliferation a central planning priority** by:
 - Referring, wherever permissible within planning law, all HMO conversion and creation applications to the Planning Committee for rigorous scrutiny;
 - Applying a strong presumption against approval in areas where developments would exacerbate overconcentration, damage residential amenity, or undermine community cohesion;
 - Undertaking an urgent review of planning policies, including consideration of tighter controls, to prevent excessive clustering of HMOs.
5. **Undertake a full review of all council policies, partnerships, and commitments relating to asylum/migrant and sanctuary-style initiatives** in order to withdraw Oldham from any sanctuary schemes in an efficient and legal manner, with the focus shifting to the needs and expectations of Oldham residents first.

That the government changes the law to make sure that local residents and veterans come first in housing allocation, planning decisions, and the deployment of local services. That no new build housing should go to those who have just arrived on these shores.

Motion 3: Fair and Affordable School Uniforms for Oldham Families

To be Moved by Councillor Zaheer Ali

To be Seconded by Councillor Shabir Hussain

This Council notes that:

- Families across Oldham continue to face significant financial pressures due to the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, with many parents and carers struggling to meet the rising costs of everyday essentials.
- The cost of school uniforms places an additional and unnecessary burden on

households—particularly where schools require numerous branded items available only from a single supplier or a limited number of retailers.

- The Department for Education's statutory guidance requires schools to keep uniform costs to a minimum, prioritise value for money, and avoid limiting competition between suppliers.
- The Government intends to make further requirements statutory from September 2026, including limiting the number of compulsory branded items schools can require.
- Exclusive supply arrangements can create local monopolies, restrict competition, reduce choice for parents, and drive-up prices—often with no clear evidence of better quality or durability.
- Seventy per cent of schools in Oldham are academies, including all secondary schools. While the Council does not have direct control over all uniform policies, it has a vital leadership and campaigning role on behalf of residents.
- Pre-loved and recycled uniform schemes can significantly reduce costs, support family budgets, and contribute to environmental sustainability.

This Council believes that:

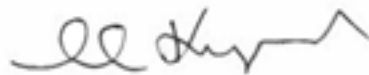
- No child should be disadvantaged or stigmatised because their family cannot afford an expensive school uniform.
- Parents and carers should have the widest possible choice of retailers, including high-street and online options.
- Where branded items are essential, schools should ensure these are available through multiple retailers wherever possible, avoiding exclusive contracts that inflate costs.
- Affordable, accessible, and durable school uniform provision is a key part of tackling child poverty and supporting family resilience in Oldham.

This Council therefore resolves to:

1. Write to all schools, governing bodies, and multi-academy trusts operating in Oldham, urging them to:
 - Minimise the number of compulsory branded items;
 - Avoid exclusive single-supplier arrangements;
 - Permit multiple retailers to stock branded uniform items;
 - Ensure uniforms are affordable, durable, and widely accessible;
 - Expand and actively promote pre-loved and recycled uniform schemes.
2. Request that all schools and academy trusts provide a written response to the Council within six months, detailing:
 - The number of compulsory branded items they require;
 - Whether they have an exclusive supplier arrangement and the reasons for it;
 - The steps taken to ensure value for money and quality for parents;

- The measures in place to support low-income families and promote uniform reuse.
3. Instruct appropriate Council officers to engage with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the Greater Manchester People Inclusion Standards to develop a region-wide approach to affordable uniforms and greater supplier competition.
 4. Establish an Oldham School Uniform Charter, inviting schools and trusts to voluntarily commit to:
 - Keeping costs and the number of branded items to a minimum;
 - Promoting fair competition between suppliers;
 - Maximising choice and quality for parents and carers;
 - Supporting uniform recycling, reuse, and swap shop initiatives.
 5. Request that the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertake a formal review of school uniform affordability in Oldham within 12 months, gathering evidence on exclusive supplier arrangements and their impact on families and reporting back with recommendations.
 6. Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education, calling for stronger national action to prevent monopolistic uniform supply arrangements and to ensure all families can access affordable uniforms from a range of retailers.
- This Council further resolves to** stand with Oldham families and campaign unapologetically for a fair, competitive, and affordable school uniform system that puts the interests of children and parents before commercial monopolies.

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



Shelley Kipling
Chief Executive

PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS **NO AMENDMENT**

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE



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



DEBATE ON THE MOTION: Include Timings



MOVER of Motion – Right of Reply



VOTE – For/Against/Abstain



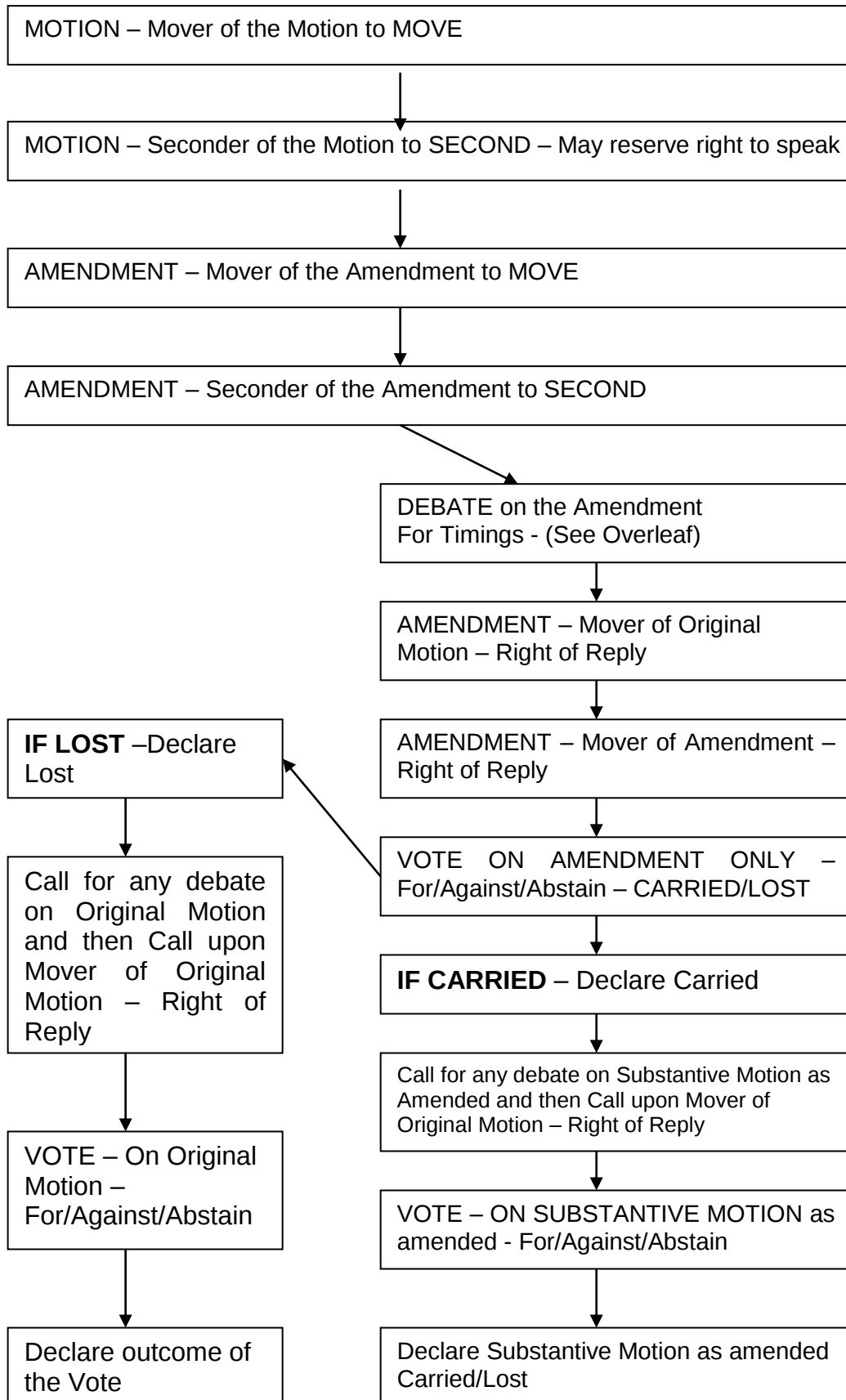
Declare outcome of the VOTE

RULE ON TIMINGS

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

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

WITH AMENDMENT



Present: The Mayor – Councillor Moores (in the Chair)

Councillors Akhtar, Al-Hamdani, M Ali, Z Ali, Arnott, Arstan, Aslam, Azad, Ball, Barnes, Bishop, Brooks, Brownridge, Byrne, Charters, Chauhan, Chowhan, Eyre, Ford, Ghafoor, Hanlon, Harkness, Harrison, Hince, Hobin, Hughes, Hurley, F Hussain, J. Hussain, Sajed Hussain, Shabir Hussain, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Islam, Jabbar, Jackson, Kenyon, Klonowski, Kouser, Murphy, Nasheen, Navesey, Pinder, Quigg, Rustidge, Ruthven, Shah, Sharp, Sheldon, Shuttleworth, Taleb, Tarbuck, E. Taylor, P. Taylor, Wilkinson, Williamson, Williams and Woodvine.

1 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence. However, Councillor Hughes wasn't present at the start of the meeting, on 20th May 2026, arriving after the meeting had adjourned at 12.30pm and she was present when the meeting reconvened at 4.30pm.

2 **TO ELECT THE MAYOR FOR THE 2026/27 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

The Mayor MOVED and Councillor Shah SECONDED a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which advised the meeting that the election of the chair of the Council (Mayor) was a Council function in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Council was required therefore, to elect a Mayor for the municipal year 2026/2027 and to receive nominations for the position.

Councillor Wilkinson MOVED and Councillor Ball SECONDED the election of Councillor Brooks as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Chauhan MOVED and Councillor Navesey SECONDED the election of Councillor Hobin as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Ghafoor MOVED and Councillor Al-Hamdani SECONDED the election of Councillor Woodvine as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

In accordance with Council Procedure Rules, 8.4(k) it was MOVED that this Council meeting be adjourned, at 12.30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 4.30pm.

The Chair permitted Councillor Quigg to address Council.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rules, 8.4(k) it was MOVED that this Council meeting be adjourned until Monday, 15th June 2026 at 6.00 p.m.

On being put to the VOTE, the MOTION was CARRIED.

RESOLVED: That the Council meeting be adjourned until Monday, 15th June 2026, at 6.00 p.m.

The meeting commenced at 12.00pm and was adjourned at 4.45 pm.

The Council reconvened at 6.00pm on Monday, 15th June 2026

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Arnott and Fida Hussain

TO ELECT THE MAYOR FOR THE 2026/27 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Councillor Al-Hamdani MOVED and Councillor Sharp SECONDED the election of Councillor Woodvine as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Chauhan MOVED and Councillor Navesey SECONDED the election of Councillor Hobin as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

Prior to the vote being taken Councillors Hobin and Paul Taylor addressed Council.

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

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Jabbar SECONDED the election of Councillor Rustidge as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

Prior to the vote being taken Councillor Elaine Taylor addressed Council.

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

Councillor Byrne MOVED and Councillor Wilkinson SECONDED the election of Councillor Pam Byrne as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.



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

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

The retiring Mayor (Councillor Eddie Moores) invested the newly elected Mayor with the chain of office.

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

The Mayor then made a speech of acceptance of office.

RESOLVED

1. That Councillor Pam Byrne be elected Mayor of Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council and Chair for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year.
2. That the sincere thanks and appreciation of the Council be recorded to Councillor Eddie Moores for his valuable services during his term of office as Mayor of the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council.

3

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor Shuttleworth MOVED and Councillor Elaine Taylor SECONDED a vote of thanks to the retiring Mayor, Councillor Moores and to his Mayoress Mrs Kath Moores.

Councillor Hobin addressed the Council paying tribute to Councillor Moores.

The Mayor then invited Councillor Moores to address the Council.

4

TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2026/27

Council received a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which advised that, in accordance with the provisions in the Council's constitution, the appointment of the vice-chair of the Council (Deputy Mayor) was a Council function.

The Council was required therefore, to appoint a Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2026/2027 and to receive nominations for the position.

Councillor Hurley MOVED and Councillor Kouser SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Bishop as Deputy Mayor of the Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Wilkinson MOVED and Councillor Ball SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Brooks as Deputy Mayor of the

Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Elaine Taylor MOVED and Councillor Jabbar SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Rustidge as Deputy Mayor of the Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

5 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council, held on 25th March 2026, be approved and signed by the Mayor, as a correct record.

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

There were no declarations of interests.

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

There was no urgent business for this meeting of the Council to consider.

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

The Mayor referred to the recent death of former Councillor James Kevin Leyden, who was a longstanding member who at different times represented the Waterhead and Coldhurst Wards and who served as Mayor of the Borough in 1984/85. Accordingly, Councillor Jabbar addressed Council paying his individual condolences and tribute.

Council held a minute's silence in memory of former Councillor Leyden.

The Mayor referred to the recent publication of the King's Birthday Honours List, noting that the following 'Oldhamers' were honoured: Sir Kevin Sinfield, Carl Cox OBE, Lisa Riley MBE and Alison Brittle BEM.

The Mayor noted that several Councillors were not re-elected at the local elections on 7th May 2026:

- a. Councillor Chauhan paid tribute to the work of Councillor Shaid Mushtaq, during his time served on the Council.
- b. Councillor Moores paid tribute to the work of Councillor McLaren during his time served on the Council.
- c. Councillor Harrison paid tribute to the work of Councillor Goodwin during his time served on the Council.

- d. Councillor Jabbar paid tribute to the work of Councillor Malik during his time served on the Council.
- e. Councillor Kenyon paid tribute to the work of Councillor Hamblett during his time served on the Council.
- f. Councillor Hobin paid tribute to the work of Councillor Hindle during his time served on the Council.
- g. Councillor Rustidge paid tribute to the work of Councillor Davis during his time served on the Council.
- h. Councillor Kouser paid tribute to the work of Councillor Wahid during his time served on the Council.
- i. Councillor Woodvine paid tribute to the work of Councillor Adams during her time served on the Council.
- j. Councillor Al-Hamdani paid tribute to the work of Councillor Marland during her time served on the Council.
- k. Councillor Charters paid tribute to the work of Councillor Cosgrove during her time served on the Council.
- l. Councillor Shah paid tribute to the work of Councillor Aftab Hussain during his time served on the Council.

RESOLVED:

That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the recipients of Honours, in the recent King's Birthday List, noted above, conveying the Council's congratulations.

9

RESULTS OF THE LOCAL ELECTIONS HELD ON 7TH MAY 2026

Consideration was given to a report of the Returning Officer which informed members of the results of the Local Election which had taken place on 7th May 2026.

RESOLVED:

That the results of the Local Election be noted.

10

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Council considered a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which asked that consideration be given to a report regarding the appointment of the Leader of the Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended.

In considering the report, the Mayor advised Members that two Amendments to the submitted report that were to be Moved and Seconded by Councillor Taylor and Shuttleworth and by Councillors Al-Hamdani and Kouser respectively, had been withdrawn.

Council RESOLVED to suspend Council Procedure Rule 13.1, for this item, so that the meeting can consider further Amendments to the report.

AMENDMENT

Councillor Quigg MOVED and Councillor Wilkinson SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

"That Councillor Quigg be appointed Leader of the Council and the Reform UK Group form a minority administration."

Councillors Paul Taylor and Al-Hamdani addressed Council, in relation to the Amendment and Councillor Quigg exercised his right to reply.

On being put to the vote the AMENDMENT was LOST.

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

11

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

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

12

MAIN OPPOSITION NOMINATIONS TO THE SHADOW CABINET 2026/27

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

13

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND COMPOSITIONS OF POLITICAL GROUPS

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

Council RESOLVED under Council Procedure Rule 14.9(b), to delete recommendation (e) in the submitted report “that Council appoints a Chair and Vice Chair of each of the various Committees for the 2026/27 Municipal Year, as detailed in Appendix 1, except for the Appointments and Appeals Committees and appoints a District Lead and Deputy District Leads for the North and East Districts.” The meetings of Committees will therefore appoint their own Chair for the duration of the meeting until Council makes the appointments.

RESOLVED:

1. The composition of the political groups as shown in paragraph 1.1, of the report, be noted.
2. The committees detailed in paragraph 1.2 of the report be appointed with the Terms of Reference and delegated powers as detailed in the Constitution.
3. The number of seats on the various Committees for the 2026/27 Municipal Year, be as detailed in paragraph 1.5, of the report.
4. Council confirms the allocation of seats to the political groups and makes appointments to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, as far as is practicable.

5. The Co-opted Members detailed at paragraph 1.9 of the report be appointed to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Board and the Co-optees be given full voting rights in respect of education matters only.
6. Any outstanding appointments to be delegated to the Chief Executive in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group.
7. That consideration of recommendations (e), in the submitted report, be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

14 **APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2026/27**

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

15 **COUNCIL MEETINGS AND MUNICIPAL CALENDAR 2026/27**

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which set out the Calendar of Meetings for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED that:

1. The meetings of Full Council be held on the undermentioned dates during the 2026/2027 Municipal Year, commencing at 6.00pm unless otherwise shown:
 - 15th July 2026
 - 16th September 2026
 - 18th November 2026
 - 16th December 2026
 - 3rd March 2027
 - 17th March 2027
2. The Council's calendar of meetings for 2026/2027 be approved.
3. Approval of any outstanding dates or changes to dates to be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Leaders.

16 **COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

Council considered a report of the Director of Legal, which invited Council to re-affirm the Council's Constitution as a matter of good governance.

Council RESOLVED to suspend Council Procedure Rule 13.1, for this item, so that the meeting can consider an Amendment to the report.

AMENDMENT

Councillor Quigg MOVED and Councillor Barnes SECONDED the following AMENDMENT

To Split the role of the Mayor of Oldham from being Chairman of Council Business and creating a standalone role for the Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Oldham and creating a standalone role for the Chairman of Council Business.

Councillor Al-Hamdani MOVED and Councillor Murphy SECONDED that consideration of the AMENDMENT, detailed

above be referred to the Governance, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board for consideration. On being put to the Vote, this was CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

1. That Council re-affirms the Council's Constitution.
2. That the Amendment above, submitted by the Reform UK Group, be referred to the Governance, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board for consideration.

17 **NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS**

There were no items of Administration Business for this meeting of Council to consider.

18 **NOTICE OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS**

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 1st July 2026.

RESOLVED: That the Council meeting be adjourned until Wednesday, 1st July 2026, at 6.00 p.m.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and was adjourned at 8.05pm.

The Council reconvened, for the second time at 6.00pm on Wednesday, 1st July 2026

19 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Al-Hamdani, Barnes, Hince, Hurley and Robinson.

20 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

21 **TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2026/27**

Further to Minute 4, above, Council received a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which advised that, in accordance with the provisions in the Council's constitution, the appointment of the vice-chair of the Council (Deputy Mayor) was a Council function.

The Council was required therefore, to appoint a Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2026/2027 and to receive nominations for the position.

Councillor Quigg MOVED and Councillor Ball SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Brooks as Deputy Mayor of the Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Hughes MOVED and Councillor Kouser SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Bishop as Deputy Mayor of the

Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Chauhan MOVED and Councillor Jabbar SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Rustidge as Deputy Mayor of the Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

Councillor Ghafoor MOVED and Councillor Kouser SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Zaheer Ali as Deputy Mayor of the Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

The Mayor, Councillor Byrne MOVED and Councillor Ball SECONDED the appointment of Councillor Wilkinson as Deputy Mayor of the Borough and Vice Chair of Council, for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

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

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

22

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Further to Minute 10, above, Council considered a report of the Assistant Director of Governance which asked that consideration be given to a report regarding the appointment of the Leader of the Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended.

In considering the report, the Mayor advised Members that two Amendments to the submitted report that were to be Moved and Seconded by Councillor Taylor and Shuttleworth and by Councillors Al-Hamdani and Kouser respectively, had been withdrawn.

Council RESOLVED to suspend Council Procedure Rule 13.1, for this item, so that the meeting can consider further Amendments to the report.

AMENDMENT 1

Councillor Quigg MOVED and Councillor Wilkinson SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

“That Councillor Quigg be appointed Leader of the Council and the Reform UK Group form a minority administration.”

On being put to the vote AMENDMENT 1 was LOST.

AMENDMENT 2

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Elaine Taylor SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:



“That Councillor Shah be appointed Leader of the Council and the Labour Group form a minority administration.”

On being put to the vote AMENDMENT 2 was LOST.

AMENDMENT 3

Councillor Kenyon MOVED and Councillor Woodvine SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

“That Councillor Ghafoor be appointed Leader of the Council.”

On being put to the vote AMENDMENT 3 was LOST.

AMENDMENT 4

Councillor Ghafoor MOVED and Councillor Kouser SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

“That Councillor Kenyon be appointed Leader of the Council.”

On being put to the vote AMENDMENT 4 was LOST.

AMENDMENT 5

Councillor Ghafoor MOVED and Councillor Kouser SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

“That Councillor Akhtar be appointed Leader of the Council.”

On being put to the vote AMENDMENT 5 was LOST.

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

23

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

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

24

MAIN OPPOSITION NOMINATIONS TO THE SHADOW CABINET 2026/27

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

25

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND COMPOSITIONS OF POLITICAL GROUPS

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

26

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2026/27

Council considered appointments to certain Outside Bodies, in 2026/27, as detailed in the Supplementary Agenda that was published and circulated prior to the meeting.

As the Council had still to appoint a Leader, Deputy Leader, an Administration and a formal Opposition, it was suggested that the remainder of the Outside Body appointments for 2026/27 be deferred until 15th July 2026.

RESOLVED:

1. That the appointment to certain Outside Bodies, as detailed in the Supplementary Agenda, that was published and circulated prior to the meeting, be approved.
2. That the consideration of the remaining Outside Body appointments for 2026/27, be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

27

NOTICE OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS

RESOLVED:

That consideration of this item be adjourned until 15th July 2026.

RESOLVED: That the Council meeting be adjourned until Wednesday, 15th July 2026, at 6.00 p.m.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and ended at 6.30pm.

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Report to Council

Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Officer Contact: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Email: heather.moore@oldham.gov.uk

15th July 2026

Reason for Decision

In accordance with the provisions in the Council's constitution, the appointment of the vice-chair of the Council (Deputy Mayor) is a Council function.

Recommendations

1. That the Council appoints a Deputy Mayor for the municipal year 2026/2027 and receives nomination(s) for the position.

Election of Mayor

1 Background

- 1.1 The appointment of the Deputy Mayor is a council function as set out in the Council's constitution. If the Mayor is absent at meetings of the Council, the Deputy Mayor shall preside.

2 Options/Alternatives

- 2.1 The Constitution states that the annual meeting of the Council will appoint the Deputy Mayor.

3 Consultation

- 3.1 N/A.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 N/A.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 N/A.

6 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People

- 6.1 None.

7 Key Decision

- 7.1 No.

8 Key Decision Reference

- 8.1 N/A.

9 Appendices

- 9.1 None.

10 Background Papers

- 10.1 None.



Report to Council

Leader of the Council

Officer Contact: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Peter Thompson, Interim Head of Constitutional Services

15th July 2026

Reason for Decision

The election of the Leader of the Council is a Council function in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended.

Recommendations

1. The Council receives nomination(s) for the office of the Leader of the Council.
2. The Council elects the Leader of the Council for a term of office starting on 21st May 2026 and ending on the day when the Council holds its first annual meeting after the Leader's normal day of retirement as a Councillor, subject to paragraph 2.1 of the report.

Leader of the Council

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The appointment of the Leader of the Council is a Council function in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Leader of the Council (the “Leader”) will be a Councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council. The Council will decide on the term of office of the Leader which must expire no later than the day of which the Council holds its first Annual meeting after the Leader’s normal day of retirement as a Councillor unless:
- a. He or she resigns from the office, or
 - b. He or she is no longer a Councillor, or
 - c. He or she is removed from office by the resolution of the Council when a successor shall be appointed.
- 2.2 It is the responsibility of the Leader to determine the size and membership of the Cabinet (providing the membership comprises between two and nine members, not including the Leader). The Leader shall also determine the remit of each portfolio. The Council does not have any decision-making role in this regard.
- 2.3 All executive functions are vested in the Leader and it is the Leader’s responsibility to determine how such functions shall be delegated. This responsibility can be a simple re-affirmation of the existing delegation of executive functions to the Cabinet, and Officers. The Council does not have any decision-making role in this regard.

3 Current Position

- 3.1 A Leader is required to be appointed in light of the resignation that has been received.

4 Options/Alternatives

- 4.1 N/A.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 N/A.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 N/A.

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 The appointment of the Leader of the Council is a Council function in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended.

.

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

8.1 None.

9 **Key Decision**

9.1 No.

10 **Key Decision Reference**

10.1 N/A.

11 **Appendices**

11.1 None.

12 **Background Papers**

12.1 None.

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Report to COUNCIL

Appointment of Committees and Composition of Political Groups

Officer Contact: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Peter Thompson, Constitutional Services

15th July 2026

Reason for Decision

The Council is asked to review the political composition of committees and to note the composition of the political groups as previously notified under Regulation 8 (1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and under Section 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The Council is asked to constitute and appoint members to serve on the several Committees detailed in the constitution and listed in Appendix 1 to this report.

Recommendations

- (a) The composition of the political groups as shown in paragraph 1.1 be noted.
- (b) The several Committees detailed at paragraph 1.2 and 1.5 be constituted with the Terms of Reference and delegated powers as detailed in the Constitution as amended if the report on the constitution is agreed later in this meeting.
- (c) The number of seats on the various Committees for the 2026/27 Municipal Year be as detailed in paragraph 1.5.
- (d) Council confirms the allocation of seats to the political groups and makes appointments to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as detailed in Appendix 1 as far as is practicable.

-
- (e) Council appoints a Chair and Vice-Chair of each of the various Committees for the 2026/27 Municipal Year, as detailed in Appendix 1, except for the Appointments and Appeals Committees and appoints a District Lead and Deputy District Leads for the North and East Districts.
 - (f) The Co-opted Members detailed at paragraph 1.9 of the report be appointed to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Board and the Co-optees be given full voting rights in respect of education matters only.
 - (g) Any outstanding appointments or changes during the municipal year to be delegated to the Chief Executive in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group.

Appointment of Committees and Composition of Political Groups

1 Background

The Council is asked to review the political composition of committees and to note the composition of the political groups as previously notified under Regulation 8 (1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

1.1 Political Groups

Council is asked to note that the composition of the political groups, as previously notified under Regulation 8 (1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, is:-

(i)	The Labour Group	18 Members
(ii)	The Reform UK Group	16 Members
(iii)	The Oldham Group	10 Members
(iv)	The Liberal Democrat Group	6 Members
(v)	The Conservative Group	4 Members
(vi)	Royton Independents	2 Members

There are four Independent Members not aligned to a political group.

- a. The Labour group comprises: Councillors Mohon Ali, Aslam, Brownridge, Charters, Chauhan, Harrison, F. Hussain, J. Hussain, Sajed Hussain, Iqbal, Islam, Jabbar, Moores, Nasheen, Rustidge, Shah, Shuttleworth and Taylor.
- b. The Reform UK Group comprises: Councillors Ball, Barnes, Brooks, Eyre, Ford, Hanlon, Jackson, Klonowski, Pinder, Quigg, Robinson, Ruthven, Tarbuck, Taylor, Wilkinson and Williams.
- c. The Oldham Group comprises: Councillors Akhtar, Zaheer Ali, Azad, Chowhan, Ghafoor, Ibrahim, Shabir Hussain, Kouser, Shah Arstan and Sheldon.
- d. The Liberal Democrat Group comprises: Councillors Al-Hamdani, Bishop, Harkness, Kenyon, Murphy and Williamson.
- e. The Conservative Group comprises: Councillors Arnott, Byrne, Sharp and Woodvine.
- f. The Royton Independents comprises; Councillors Hughes and Hurley.
- g. The Independent Group comprises Councillor Hince.
- h. The Failsworth Independent Party comprises Councillor Hobin.
- i. Councillors Hince, Hobin, Navesey and Taleb are independent members not aligned to a political group.

1.2 Terms of Reference and Delegated Powers

Council is asked to constitute and appoint members to serve on the several Committees detailed in the Constitution and listed in Appendix 1 to this report, namely: -

- (i) The Regulatory Committees: -
 - Licensing
 - Planning
 - Appeals
 - Commons Registration
 - Charitable Trust Committee

- (ii) The Overview and Scrutiny Boards (x4):-
- (iii) The Audit Committee
- (iv) The Standards Committee
- (v) The Employment Committee
- (vi) Appointments Committee
- (vii) Highway Regulation Committee

The terms of reference, and delegated powers where applicable, are as detailed in the Council's Constitution.

Council is also asked to ratify the Leader's nominations to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Board is not a politically balanced Committee of the Council and is listed in Appendix 1 to this report.

1.3 Political Balance

There are four statutory principles of political balance which have to be applied in filling appointments to Committees. These are contained in S15(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The principles have to be applied in priority order as follows:-

- (i) That not all seats on the body are allocated to the same political group.
- (ii) That the majority of the seats on the body are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group are a majority of the Authority's membership.
- (iii) Subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary committees of a relevant Authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees of that Authority as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Authority; and,
- (iv) Subject to paragraphs (i) to (iii) above, that the number of seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the same number of all seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Authority.

The political group sizes as a percentage of the total membership of the Council are:-

Labour Group	$18/60 \times 100 = 30\%$	$121 \text{ seats} \times 30\% = 36.30$	36 seats
Reform UK Group	$16/60 \times 100 = 26.66\%$	$121 \text{ seats} \times 26.66\% = 32.25$	32 seats
Oldham Group	$10/60 \times 100 = 16.66\%$	$121 \text{ seats} \times 16.66\% = 20.16$	20 seats
Liberal Democrat Group	$6/60 \times 100 = 10\%$	$121 \text{ seats} \times 10\% = 12.10$	12 seats
Conservative Group	$4/60 \times 100 = 6.66\%$	$121 \text{ seats} \times 6.66\% = 8.05$	8 seats
Royton Independents	$2/60 \times 100 = 3.33\%$	$121 \text{ seats} \times 3.33\% = 4.02$	4 seats

There are four Independent Member not within a Group. Unallocated seats will be offered to them.

The application of these percentages to the number of seats on individual Committees gives the following allocation of seats:-

Committee Size	Labour (L)	Reform UK (RUK)	Oldham Group (OG)	Liberal Democrats (LD)	Conservatives (C)	Royton Independents (RI)
16	4.80	4.26	2.66	1.60	1.06	0.53
15	4.50	3.99	2.50	1.50	1.00	0.50
14	4.20	3.73	2.33	1.40	0.93	0.47
13	3.90	3.46	2.16	1.30	0.86	0.43
12	3.60	3.20	2.00	1.20	0.80	0.40
11	3.30	2.93	1.83	1.10	0.73	0.37
10	3.00	2.66	1.66	1.00	0.66	0.33
9	2.70	2.40	1.50	0.90	0.60	0.30
8	2.40	2.13	1.33	0.80	0.53	0.27
7	2.10	1.87	1.17	0.70	0.47	0.24
6	1.80	1.60	1.00	0.60	0.33	0.16
5	1.50	1.33	0.92	0.50	0.30	0.15
4	1.20	1.07	0.83	0.40	0.27	0.14
3	0.90	0.80	0.50	0.30	0.17	0.08

- 1.4 Under the political balance rules after these percentages have been applied to the total number of seats on Committees of the Council any remaining seats must be allocated to members who are not Members of any political group. Applying political balance as detailed above, the allocation of seats, to the current committee structure, would be as follows:

Committee	Seats	L	RUK	OG	LD	C	RI	IND
Licensing	15	4	4	3	1	1	1	0
Planning	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
Governance, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
Children and Young People Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
Audit Committee	9	3	2	2	1	1	0	0
Employment Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
Appointments Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
Commons Registration	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Highway Regulation Committee	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Charitable Trust Committee	6	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
Standards Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
Appeals Committee	5	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
Total	121	33	32	22	12	7	1	0

The above calculation leaves 14 committee places to be allocated.

1.5 Adjustment of Seats

In accordance with the rules of political balance , so far as practicable, the number of seats must be allocated to accord with the rules above. It is therefore proposed that the number of seats on the various Committees for the 2026/27 Municipal Year be fixed as follows:-

Committee	Seats	L	R UK	OG	LD	C	RI	IND
Licensing	15	5	4	3	1	1	0	1
Planning	11	3	3	2	1	1	1	0
Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board	11	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
Governance, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board	11	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board	11	3	4	2	1	0	1	0
Children and Young People Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	1
Audit	9	3	3	1	1	1	0	0
Employment Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	1
Commons Registration	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Highway Regulation Committee	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
Appointments Committee	7	2	2	1	1	1	0	0
Charitable Trustee Committee	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	1
Standards Committee	7	2	2	1	1	1	0	0
Appeals Committee	5	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
Total	121	36	34	21	13	8	4	6

- a. The Health and Well Being Board is not included in the calculation above. Although the Committee is appointed by Council, the Local Authority (Public Health and Well Being Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 provide for the disapplication of Section 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989
 - b. Council is also asked to appoint a District Lead for each District Area and 2 Deputy District Leads for North and East District.
 - c. It is recommended that the standards sub-committee dealing with assessments or hearings consist of 5 members, with 1 Member from each of the Labour, Reform UK, Oldham Group, Liberal Democrat and Conservative groups, that are represented on the Standards Committee, be appointed to the Standards Sub- Committee.
- 1.7 Substitutes are to be appointed by the political groups in accordance with the Substitute Scheme contained in the Constitution. Substitutes for Overview and Scrutiny Boards and Planning Committee may be nominated up to a maximum of the number of Members of that Group serving on the Board. Substitutes are not permitted for Licensing. Council is also asked to appoint substitutes to the Audit Committee. For clarity therefore, it is

recommended that substitutes are permissible for the Planning Committee, all Overview and Scrutiny boards, Audit Committee, Appointments Committee, Commons Registration Panel and the Highway Regulation Committee, and the Substitute Scheme be clarified accordingly.

- 1.8 Council is asked to review the political composition of the Committees; to determine the allocation of seats to political groups; and to make the appointments to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations.

- 1.9 The Children and Young People Scrutiny Board has Co-opted Members serving as follows:

Statutory Co-opted Members (with voting rights)

Cannon Jean Hurlston	Manchester Church of England Diocese
Vacant	Salford Roman Catholic Diocese
Vacant	Parent/Governor Primary School
Vacant	Parent/Governor Secondary Schools

Council is asked to approve that the Co-opted Members listed above be re-appointed. Statutory Co-opted members may attend for the whole of the meeting and may speak on all matters if they wish.

2 Options/Alternatives

- 2.1 To approve the report.
Not to approve the report

3 Preferred Option

- 3.1 To approve the report and the committee's composition and membership at Appendix 1.

4 Consultation

- 4.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant officers and Councillors.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 n/a

6 Legal Implications

- 6.1 n/a

7 Equality Impact – including implications for Children and Young People

- 7.1 n/a

8 Key Decision

- 8.1 No

9 Key Decision Reference

9.1 n/a

10 **Background Papers**

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 include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

20. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Membership of Committees.

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APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES – 2026/27

LICENSING COMMITTEE*

Council Members 15 Quorum 4

Lab (5)	RUK (4)	OG (3)	LD (1)	C (1)	IND (1)
Chair:			Vice Chair:		
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C	IND
Brownridge	Wilkinson	Chowhan	Bishop	Byrne	Taleb
F. Hussain	Klonowski	Sonny Shah			
Sajed Hussain	Tarbuck	Shabir Hussain			
Moore	Taylor				
Shuttleworth					

*** NO SUBSTITUTES**

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council Members 11 Quorum 4

Lab (3)	RUK (3)	OG (2)	LD (1)	C (1)	RI (1)
Chair:			Vice Chair:		
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C	RI
Charters	Brooks	Zaheer Ali	Harkness	Woodvine	Hurley
Iqbal	Jackson	Akhtar			
Nasheen	Pinder				

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C	RI
	Harrison	Williams	Chowhan	Murphy		Hughes
	Islam	Quigg				
	S. Hussain	Taylor				
		Klonowski				

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY BOARD**

Council Members 11

Quorum 3

Lab (3)	RUK (3)	OG (2)	LD (1)	C (1)	IND (1)
Chair:					
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C	IND
M. Ali	Ford	Zaheer Ali	Bishop	Sharp	Navesey
Harrison	Hanlon	Nyla Ibrahim			
Nasheen	Ruthven				

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C	
	Charters	Eyre	Sonny Shah	Al-Hamdani		
	Iqbal	Tarbuck				
	Moores					

Children and Young People Scrutiny Board**Co-opted Members (With voting rights on Education matters only): -**

Canon Jean Hurlston – Manchester Church of England Diocese

Vacant – Salford Roman Catholic Diocese

Vacant – Parent/Governor representative Primary Schools

Vacant – Parent/Governor representative Secondary Schools

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH SCRUTINY BOARD**

Council Members 11

Quorum 3

Lab (3)	RUK (4)	OG (2)	LD (1)	RI (1)
Chair:				
LAB	RUK	OG	LD	RI
Brownridge	Ball	Ibrahim	Williamson	Hurley
Moores	Eyre	Kouser		
Rustidge	Klonowski			

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	RI
	M. Ali	Ruthven	Sonny Shah	Bishop	Hughes

	Charters				
	Iqbal				

PLACE, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY BOARD**

Council Members 11

Quorum 3

Lab (4)	RUK (3)	OG (2)	LD (1)	C (1)
Chair:			Vice Chair:	
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
Charters	Barnes	Ghafoor	Murphy	Sharp
J. Hussain	P. Taylor	Kouser		
Shah	Williams			
Taylor				

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
	Jabbar	Quigg	Zaheer Ali	Kenyon	Woodvine
	Nasheen	Robinson			
	Rustidge				

GOVERNANCE, STRATEGY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY BOARD**

Council Members 11

Quorum 3

Lab (4)	RUK (3)	OG (2)	LD (1)	C (1)
Chair:			Vice Chair:	
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
Jabbar	Brooks	Montaz Ali Azad	Kenyon	Woodvine
Rustidge	Quigg	Sheldon		
Shah	Robinson			
Taylor				

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
	Aslam	Jackson	Ibrahim	Harkness	Arnott
	Charters				
	J. Hussain				

**Cabinet Members should not be part of the scrutiny boards.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Council Members 9

Quorum 3

Lab (3)	RUK (3)	OG (1)	LD (1)	C (1)
Chair: Mr. G. Page (Independent member)			Vice Chair: Mr. S. Green (Independent member)	
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
Chauhan	Quigg	Chowhan	Kenyon	Arnott
Jabbar	Robinson	Sonny Shah		
Shah				

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
	Aslam	Wilkinson	Akhtar	Al-Hamdani	Sharp
	Charter				
	Taylor				

Audit Committee Independent Persons

G. Page

S. Green

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

Council Members 7

Quorum 3

A Member of the Cabinet (preferably with responsibility for corporate affairs) is to be one of the appointments

Lab (2)	RUK (2)	OG (1)	LD (1)	IND (1)	
Chair:		Vice Chair:			
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	IND	
Taylor	Ruthven	Ghafoor	Al-Hamdani	Taleb	
Harrison	P. Taylor				

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Council Members 7 Quorum 3

Lab (2)	RUK (2)	OG (1)	LD (1)	C (1)
Chair:				
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
Shah	Quigg	Ghafoor	Al-Hamdani	Woodvine
Taylor	Wilkinson			

COMMONS REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council Members 6 Quorum 3

Lab (1)	RUK (1)	OG (1)	C (1)	RI (1)	IND (1)
Chair:					
Lab	RUK	OG	C	RI	IND
Islam	Ford	Kouser	Byrne	Hughes	Taleb

HIGHWAY REGULATION COMMITTEE

Council Members 5 Quorum 3

Lab (1)	RUK (1)	OG (1)	LD (1)	RI (1)
Chair:			Vice Chair:	
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	RI
Shuttleworth	Eyre	Chowhan	Murphy	Hughes
	Jackson			

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	LD	RI
		Hanlon	Kouser	Kenyon	Hurley

CHARITABLE TRUST COMMITTEE

Council Members 6 Quorum 3

Lab (2)	RUK (2)	OG (1)	IND (1)
Chair:		Vice Chair:	
Lab	RUK	OG	IND
M. Ali	Ball	Zaheer Ali	Hobin
Aslam	Wilkinson		

Substitutes (ordered)	Lab	RUK	OG	IND
	Chauhan	Hanlon	Sonny Shah	
	Harrison			

STANDARDS COMMITTEE***

Council Members 7 Quorum 3 (OMBC Councillors)

Lab (2)	RUK (2)	OG (1)	LD (1)	C (1)
Chair:		Vice Chair:		
Lab	RUK	OG	LD	C
Shah	Tarbuck	Ghafoor	Williamson	Byrne
Taylor	Barnes			

Independent Persons	Parish Councillors
G. McCarthy	TBC
M. Reynolds	TBC
K. Williams	

***** NO SUBSTITUTES**

<u>APPEALS COMMITTEE</u>				
Council Members 5		Quorum 3		
Lab (1)	RUK (1)	OG (1)	LD (1)	IND (1)
To be appointed as required				

The Leader nominates Council representation to the following:

<u>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (Outside Political Balance)</u>	
Council Members 6	Quorum 3 (OMBC Cllrs)
Chair:	Vice Chair:
NHS GM Integrated Care Board	
Director of Adult Social Care	
Director of Children's Services	
Director of Public Health	
Healthwatch	
NHS Commissioning Board	

District Leads (Outside Political Balance)

<u>CENTRAL DISTRICT LEAD</u>
Councillor

<u>NORTH DISTRICT LEAD</u>
Councillor
Deputy – Councillor

<u>EAST DISTRICT LEAD</u>
Councillor
Deputy – Councillor

<u>SOUTH DISTRICT LEAD</u>
Councillor

<u>WEST DISTRICT LEAD</u>
Councillor

Code:

Abbreviation	Group / Affiliation
Lab	Labour
RUK	Reform UK
OG	Oldham Group
LD	Liberal Democrats
C	Conservative
TIG	The Independent Group
FIP	Failsworth Independent Party
RI	Royton Independents
IND	Independent Members



Report to Council

Appointments to Outside Bodies 2026/2027

Officer Contact: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Peter Thompson, Interim Head of Constitutional Services

15th July 2026

Reason for Decision

To confirm various appointments as nominated by the Political Groups represented on the Council, to be made to a number of Outside Bodies for the 2026/27 Municipal Year, as outlined in the appendices to this report.

Recommendations

1. That appointments to the Outside Bodies listed in the Appendices, for the 2026/27 Municipal Year, be agreed.
2. That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to make any in-year changes to appointments, where notified.

Outside Bodies 2026/2027

1. Background

- 1.1 The Council is represented on a variety of trusts, limited companies, joint boards, joint committees and other outside bodies.
- 1.2 At the annual meeting of the Council, Elected Members are required to make appointments to the various bodies. The Appendices set out the number of Elected Members the Council can appoint to each body, and any particular requirements over which Members are eligible for appointment.
- 1.3 Upon accepting the appointment and in some circumstances, Members should note that they may find themselves taking on additional legal duties, e.g. as a trustee of a charity or a director of a company, where they will, in essence be obliged to act in the best interests of that organisation. The exact nature of these legal duties will depend upon the nature of the organisation in question and the role they are appointed to. There is also potential for future conflicts of interests between such a role and their role as an Elected Member.
- 1.4 Any Member appointed is requested to undertake, as required, any Member training arranged on the appointment to the outside body, and the associated legal duties of directors and trustees.

2. Consultation

- 2.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant officers and councillors.

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 n/a

4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications.

5 Equality Impact including implications for Children and Young Persons

- 5.1 None.

7 Key Decision

- 7.1 No,

8 Key Decision Reference

- 8.1 Not applicable.

9 Appendices

-
- 9.1 The proposed appointments to outside bodies are detailed in appendices 1 - 6 to the report.

10 **Background Papers**

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

Outside Bodies – 2026/27 files

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

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Agenda Item 14:

Council notes the appointments to the following Outside Bodies for 2026/27

LGA General Assembly – 4 Places (1 Labour, 1 Reform UK, 1 Oldham Group, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillor Arooj Shah
Councillor Lewis Quigg
Councillor Kamran Ghafoor
Councillor Sam Al-Hamdani

Oldham United Charity – 1 Place (The Mayor (Ex-Officio))

Councillor Pam Byrne

Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee for the NHS Northern Care Alliance – 3 Places (1 Labour, 1 Reform UK, 1 Oldham Group)

Councillor Barbara Brownridge
Councillor Peter Klonowski
Councillor Graham Sheldon

Pennine Care NHS Trust – Joint Mental Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 3 Places (1 Labour, 1 Reform UK, 1 Oldham Group)

Councillor Barbara Brownridge
Councillor Steve Eyre
Councillor Zaheer Ali

Corporate Parenting Panel – 6 Places (2 Labour, 2 Reform UK, 1 Oldham Group, 1 Liberal Democrat)

Councillor Mohon Ali
Councillor Josh Charters
Councillor Robert Barnes
Councillor Jon Ford
Councillor Shoab Akhtar
Councillor Helen Bishop

Northern Roots -3 Places available as advisory trustees (1 Labour, 1 Reform UK, 1 Oldham Group)

Councillor Abdul Jabbar
Councillor Peter Klonowski
Councillor Sonny Shah Arstan

Royton Sick and Needy Charity – 6 places (Royton Councillors)

Councillor Lewis Quigg
Councillor Tony Pinder
Councillor Paul Robinson
Councillor Dave Arnott
Councillor Maggie Hurley
Councillor Jade Hughes

Arthur Vernon Davies Charity – 2 Places

Howard Sykes (Appointed by the Council in 2024 for a four-year term noting that Council appointments do not have to be a member of the Council, as per the deed of trust)
Councillor Pam Byrne – Mayor (ex-officio)



Report to COUNCIL

Update on Actions from Council

Portfolio Holder: Various

Officer Contact: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Peter Thompson, Constitutional Services
peter.thompson@oldham.gov.uk

15th July 2026

Reason for Decision

The decision is for Members to note the updates on actions from the Council meetings held on 25th March 2026 and any updated responses from meetings earlier in this municipal year.

Executive Summary

This report provides information to the Council on actions taken at the most recent Council meetings.

Recommendations

Council is asked to: Note the report.

Update on Actions from Council**1 Background**

- 1.1 This report sets out the actions that officers have taken on motions approved at the Council meetings on 25th March 2026 and which also informs Members on any updated responses to motions approved at previous meetings in this municipal year.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The current position on actions is set out in the table at Appendix 1.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 N/A

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 N/A

5 Consultation

- 5.1 N/A

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 N/A

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 N/A

8 Equality Impact, including Implications for Children and Young People

- 8.1 N/A

9 Key Decision

- 9.1 No

10 Key Decision Reference

- 10.1 N/A

11 Background Papers

- 11.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act

1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

- The agenda and minutes of the Council meetings are available online at:
<http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails>

12 **Appendices**

- 12.1 Appendix 1 – Current Position
Appendix 2 – Armed Forces Covenant
Appendix 3 - Fair Funding for Local Government and Standards of conduct in local Government.
Appendix 4 – Fair Funding Review
Appendix 5 – Fair Funding Review – reply from Jim McMahon MP
Appendix 6 – Online Safety
Appendix 7 - Tackling Fly-Tipping, Waste Crime and Litter

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Actions from the Council meeting on 16 July 2025

Council Agenda item	Action/Issue	Responsible Member/Officer	Update	Completed ✓ In progress ●
Opposition Motion 3: Request for a Revision of Don't Trash Oldham	This Motion asks for a revision of the 'Don't Trash Oldham' Policy with regards to Gully Clearing Gully cleaning and Don't Trash Oldham Policy. Councillor Goodwin to provide information to Councillors Byrne and Hamblett	Nasir Dad	Information provided to Councillor Byrne two active vehicles - one is our permanent vehicle, one is leased. It is our intention to maintain a minimum of two vehicles at any time given the demand for gulley cleaning across the borough To date, 18,000 gulleys have been treated – a number of those treated need to be revisited due to more substantial works being needed (significant blockage / collapse or blocked by parked car on the day we did the work in the area). This will take place once the current wards have been completed and 1 wagon will begin to address blockages/repairs and those that were inaccessible. HM has asked for timescales for this. The Cabinet Member committed to bringing this back to a future council meeting.	●

Actions from the Council meeting on 12 November 2025

Council Agenda item	Action/Issue	Responsible Member/Officer	Update	Completed ✓ In progress ●
Notice of Administration Business – Motion 1: Improving Parking Provisions at ROH	1. Request that Oldham Council works collaboratively with the Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust (NCA) and relevant partners to explore options for: - Developing a multi-storey or expanded car park at or near Royal Oldham Hospital; - Introducing fair and affordable parking arrangements for patients attending A&E, those with regular appointments, and NHS staff; - Creating dedicated parking directly opposite the A&E department for patients attending A&E only; - Improving access and facilities for wheelchair users and those with mobility needs.	Mike Barker	The Deputy Chief Executive (Health and Care) has met with Defibrillators Saves Lives to progress the actions of the Council	✓
	2. Write to the Chief Executive of the NCA and the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (ICB) expressing this Council's support for urgent improvements to parking provision at Royal Oldham Hospital.	Chief Executive	NCA undertook to report on this matter to the Joint Scrutiny Committee for the Northern Care Alliance	✓
	3. Request that Oldham's Members of Parliament lobby the national government and publicly support a campaign for better parking provision for Oldham residents attending Royal Oldham Hospital.	Chief Executive	Letters sent to Oldham's MP's. Jim McMahon indicated his ongoing support	✓

Notice of Administration Business – Motion 2: Strengthening Standards and Transparency for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)	1. To review and strengthen local HMO Standards by: a. Undertake a comprehensive review of current HMO licensing and amenity standards within the borough. b. Introduce enhanced minimum requirements for space, fire safety, sanitation, and kitchen facilities, drawing on best practices from other councils. c. Ensure that all licensed HMOs are subject to regular inspections and compliance checks. 2. To Improve Transparency and Accessibility for Complaints by: a. Developing a clear, accessible online portal for residents to report concerns or complaints about HMOs. b. Publishing quarterly data on HMO complaints, enforcement actions, and outcomes to improve public accountability. 3. To Enhance Resident Engagement and Support, by launching a public awareness campaign informing residents of their rights and how to report unsafe or poorly managed HMOs.	Nasir Dad	Officers have reviewed and started to implement revised standards in accordance with the approved Motion	✓
Notice of Opposition Business: Motion 1: Tackling the Anti-Social Use of Off-Road Motorbikes, E-Bikes and E-Scooters	1. Write to the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police Sir Stephen Watson QPM thanking him, the Officers and staff of GMP and the National Police Air Service (NPAS) for their continued hard work and dedication in tackling the anti-social use of these vehicles and ask him to ensure that this remains a priority for Greater Manchester Police. 2. To write to the Home Office and ask for further dedicated funding for GMP to use in	1. & 2. Chief Executive 3.& 4. Mike Barker & Nasir Dad	Letters and reminders sent, awaiting replies	●

tackling the anti-social use of off-road motorbikes, electric bikes and electric scooters.

3. To use Oldham Council's Media team and ask them to carry out a campaign educating the public into the legalities of these vehicles and encouraging residents to help build up an intelligence-led picture so that GMP can carry out targeted operations by reporting instances and homes suspected of housing anti-social users which can be done anonymously.

4. Ask housing providers such as First Choice Homes, Great Places, Guinness Partnership to work with Oldham Council's media team and develop and plan of education and intelligence to support GMP in operations to tackle the anti-social use of off-road motorbike, e-scooters, and e-bikes.

Officers liaising with Oldham's housing providers to increase awareness of the dangers associated with the anti-social use of off-road motorbike, e-scooters, and e-bikes.

Work is ongoing to expedite this resolution

Actions from the Council meeting on 10th December 2025

Council Agenda item	Action/Issue	Responsible Member/Officer	Update	Completed ✓ In progress ●
Youth Council Motion – Young Men's Mental Health	RESOLVED: 1. That Oldham Council acknowledges and recognises the scale of the challenge to prioritise men's mental health within local strategies, and to work with partners to reduce stigma, improve	Chief Executive	Letters sent. Reply from the Department of Health is attached	✓

	access to support, and ultimately, save lives. 2. That the Chief Executive, on behalf of Oldham Council be requested to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, the Rt. Hon. Wes Streeting MP, to advocate for urgent and targeted investment in young men's mental health services.			
Motion 1 – Administration Business: Strengthening Standards and Restoring Faith in Local Democracy	RESOLVED: 1. That the Council welcome the Government's proposals to strengthen the standards regime and restore confidence in local democracy. 2. That the Council commits to adopting the mandatory minimum code of conduct once implemented in legislation. 3. Ensure that the Council's Standards Committee be fully prepared to meet the new requirements, including publishing investigation outcomes transparently and regularly reporting these outcomes to Council. 4. Request that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government expressing our support for these reforms and urging timely implementation. 5. Request that the Chief Executive write to the Local Government Association, urging them to consider the development of a training programme aligned with the new standards regime.	Director of Legal Director of Legal Chief Executive Chief Executive	Letters sent Reply from Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, is attached, at Appendix 3.	✓

	6. Request that the Council's Standards Committee work with the relevant Officers locally to review Oldham's elected member behaviour standards training programme and ensure it is fit for purpose, with a view to making it a mandatory training unit.	Director of Legal		
Motion 2 – Administration Business: Fairer parking at Manchester Airport	RESOLVED 1. That the Council formally supports Jim McMahon MP's campaign for fairer and more transparent parking charges at Manchester Airport. 2. That the Council requests that the Chief Executive write to Manchester Airport Group urging: ○ A review of the current charging structure with a view to reducing costs. ○ Improved signage and introduction of a "tap-out" payment option at exit points. ○ Publication of data on income from drop-off and pick-up charges. ○ A fair and accessible appeals process that does not increase penalties for unsuccessful appeals. ○ That the Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester and Leaders of the other 9 GM Local	Chief Executive	Letters and emails sent awaiting replies. Further letters and emails forwarded still awaiting appropriate replies. Similar Motions proposed and approved at other Greater Manchester Authorities	●

	Authorities to share this motion seek wider regional support.			
Opposition Motion 2 – Fair Funding in Local Government	RESOLVED: 1) That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to welcome action taken by the Government to urgently reform local government funding including: - The introduction of a Fair Funding Formula that recognises deprivation, need and areas with low council tax bases. - A commitment to rebuilding a sustainable funding foundation for local government after years of cuts. - The move towards multi-year settlements, giving councils the certainty and stability required for long-term planning. - A review of local government fiscal arrangements, ensuring fairness and long-term stability. 2) That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and to the three local MPs, who represent the Borough in Parliament, outlining this council's support for a fair funding system for local government and thanking them for their work in resolving this, especially the work of the MP for Oldham West, Chadderton and Royton,	Chief Executive	Letters and emails sent Reply from Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Jim McMahon MP are attached at Appendices 3, 4 and 5	✓
		Chief Executive		

	who spearheaded this approach as a shadow minister and as the Minister for Local Government. 3) That the Council continue to work with the Local Government Association (LGA) and other partners to lobby collectively for fair and sustainable funding.			
Opposition Motion 3: Ensuring Statutory Scrutiny and Enforceability for Places for Everyone Masterplans	RESOLVED: 1) That the Beal Valley-Broadbent Moss masterplan (and future PfE masterplans) shall be pursued and adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), requiring: Council-led public consultation (min. 4 weeks, Regulation 12). Sustainability appraisal. Formal adoption by Cabinet, with Overview and Scrutiny Committee review. 2) That the Council's Monitoring Officer shall: Confirm the masterplan's progression to SPD status within 3 months. Advise on any procedural adjustments. Ensure no non-statutory "agreement" precedes SPD adoption. 3) That all PfE-related planning applications shall reference the adopted SPD as a material consideration, decided by the Planning Committee or delegated officers, with full transparency. 4) That Officers be requested to report progress to the Cabinet meeting, scheduled to be held on 19th January	Executive Director of Place/Deputy Chief Executive	Reports presented to Scrutiny Board and Cabinet	✓

	2026, including timelines for consultation and adoption.			
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Actions from the Council meeting on 25th March 2026

Council Agenda item	Action/Issue	Responsible Member/Officer	Update	Completed ✓ In progress ●
Youth Council Motion: Opposing the Under 16 Social Media Ban	Council resolved: 1. That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Prime Minister, the Minister for Children and Families, and his team who are carrying out the consultation, to invite them to visit Oldham during the current national consultation period. The Youth Council will happily host a dedicated consultation session with young people from across Oldham with the aim of allowing those young people to voice their specific concerns regarding the proposed social media regulations. 2. That the Chief Executive be requested to write to all school heads, asking that they support young people's engagement in the current consultation survey and that Oldham Council promote the consultation to young people, parents and carers, and all professionals who work with young people.	Chief Executive	Letters and emails forwarded. A reply from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Department for Science, Innovation & Technology, is attached at Appendix 6	✓
Administration Motion 1: Tackling Fly-Tipping, Waste	RESOLVED 1. That the Council lobby the Labour Government to strengthen national enforcement powers. Ask the Chief	Director of Environment	Letter sent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and to Oldham's three MP's.	✓

Crime and Litter in Oldham	Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs calling for: an increase in the maximum fixed penalty notice for fly-tipping and littering to reflect the true cost of clean-up operations; the introduction of a national licensing scheme for all waste carriers, with mandatory identification and real-time verification available to residents; the power for councils to issue civil penalties to commercial fly-tippers; the right for councils to recover the full cost of clearing fly-tipped waste from those responsible; the establishment of a national fly-tipping enforcement fund to support councils with high levels of environmental crime; the introduction of driving licence penalty points for fly-tipping offences; and strengthened oversight of private enforcement companies. 2. That the Council continue and strengthen local enforcement in Oldham. By continuing to prioritise cleansing services and fly-tip removal across the borough; expanding high-visibility enforcement patrols in known fly-tipping and littering hotspots; increasing intelligence-led joint operations with Greater Manchester Police, the Environment Agency, and neighbouring Greater Manchester authorities; reviewing Oldham's fixed penalty policy to ensure full alignment with new		Letter in reply from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, is attached at Appendix 7	
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	national statutory standards; and continuing to invest in the Don't Trash Oldham campaign, community environmental education, and support for volunteer litter-picking groups, including reviewing locations of on street litter bins. 3. That the Council support the Local Government Associations' call for a review of sentencing guidelines for fly-tipping and environmental crime, to ensure that the courts are equipped to issue fines and sanctions that genuinely deter offenders and reflect the harm caused to communities. 4. That the Council work across Greater Manchester and with Oldham's MPs. To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority to ensure that new powers such as vehicle seizure are coordinated across Greater Manchester and to Oldham's Members of Parliament, calling on them to support these legislative reforms in Parliament.			
Administration Motion 2: Tackling the anti-social use of Fireworks	Resolved: 1. To request that the Chief Executive write to the three MPs representing the Borough of Oldham, asking them to continue supporting Yasmin Qureshi MP's Bill on Fireworks which would introduce a maximum decibel level of 90dB.	Chief Executive	Letters forwarded to the Borough's three MP's and to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government	●

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To request that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, urging the introduction of legislation giving councils' powers to regulate and enforce firework usage. 3. Renew our call for Government to introduce legislation to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Limit the maximum noise level of fireworks sold for private use to 90dB. b. Review current laws on sale and use, including requiring purchasers to state when, how and where fireworks will be used. c. Strengthen restrictions on how, when and where fireworks can be purchased, including online sales and transaction volumes. d. Restrict sales to 'all year round' retailers to reduce risks from temporary 'pop-up' sellers. 4. Write to all local event venues reminding them of the law and exploring the possibility of requiring registration/licensing for firework use. 5. Introduce a requirement for community notification of firework use by venues hosting private events. 6. Require all public firework displays within the borough to be advertised in advance, allowing residents to take precautions for animals and vulnerable people. | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|

Opposition Motion 1: Time to Scrap the Spin and Get the Basics Right	Council resolved to: 1. Prioritise frontline neighbourhood maintenance in future budget cycles. 2. Continue to invest in frontline services including: a. Pothole prevention and permanent repairs. b. Regular weed clearance on highways and pavements. c. Systematic drain and gully cleaning. d. Increased park maintenance. e. Stronger enforcement and rapid response to fly-tipping. 3. Produce a public action plan within six months setting out clear service standards and response times for environmental and highways issues. 4. Report annually to Full Council on performance in tackling fly-tipping, potholes and street cleanliness.	Director of Environment	Director of Environment to commence annual reporting to Council with effect from December 2026.	✓
Opposition Motion 2: Armed Forces Covenant	Council resolved to: 1. That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Minister for Veterans and People, Louise Sandher-Jones MP, in support of The Royal British Legion's 'Keep the Covenant Promise' campaign.	Chief Executive	A reply from the Minister for Veterans and People, Louise Sandher-Jones MP, is attached, at Appendix 2	✓

	2. To call for improved statutory guidance and funding to all public bodies in scope of the extended Duty, including local authorities, to deliver better support through the expanded Covenant Duty. 3. To ask that the UK Government implements a dedicated programme of promotional activity on the Armed Forces Covenant, in order to improve public awareness and positively recognise those who serve/have served in HM Armed Forces. 4. To ensure that the impact of the expanded Covenant Duty is thoroughly monitored, and that members of the Armed Forces community can access effective means of redress in cases where the Duty is not fulfilled.			
Trans-Pennine Route Upgrade (Stalybridge to Diggle) Transport and Works Act Order – Formal Objections by Oldham Council	RESOLVED That the Council: 1. Formally endorses the submission of the earlier letter of objection to the TransPennine Route Upgrade (Stalybridge to Diggle) Transport and Works Act Order, as set out in the submitted report and its Appendix. 2. Authorises the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways, to: Continue engagement and negotiations with Network Rail and the Department of	Director of Environment	Director of Environment has written to the Department of Transport, as per the resolutions approved by Members	✓

	Transport; to make minor amendments to the objection where necessary, provided these did not materially alter the Council's position; and to withdraw individual objections on behalf of the Council should satisfactory assurances and mitigation be secured.			
Civic Appreciation Awards	Council resolved: that the Oldham Scottish Pipe Band to be granted a Civic Appreciation Award 2026, in recognition of their service and dedication to the local community and the borough of Oldham.	Chief Executive	Civic Appreciation Ceremony held and the Oldham Scottish Pipe Band received their award	✓

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LOUISE SANDHER-JONES MP
Minister for Veterans and People

Our ref: POA2026/09300

2 June 2026

Dear Ms Kipling,

Thank you for your email of 6 May 2026, regarding the Armed Forces Covenant.

I would like to begin by thanking you and Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council for all the support you have shown the Armed Forces, as demonstrated by your commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant since 2013, and your accreditation with the Gold Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Award. The Government is greatly appreciative of councils, such as yours, who support our Armed Forces Community in various ways, and I personally thank you for this support.

As you may be aware, on 15 January 2026, the new Armed Forces Covenant Legal Duty Extension was introduced to Parliament as part of the Armed Forces Bill. This is currently making its way through its parliamentary stages, with royal assent expected before the end of the year.

To support organisations in meeting their obligations under the new Armed Forces Covenant Legal Duty, the Ministry of Defence are developing a range of comprehensive resources, including training materials, online learning modules, downloadable tools, and updated statutory guidance.

As part of these efforts, we have strengthened communication and collaboration with Other Government Departments (OGDs), Devolved Governments, Local Authorities, and the third sector to ensure we deliver these effectively. Feedback sessions to refine the materials and approach are currently ongoing to ensure effective support and guidance is provided to help organisations meet their legal obligations under the Covenant Legal Duty. Officials are already reviewing feedback to refine the products and, as the training and guidance products continue to evolve, updated versions will continue to be shared to ensure they remain practical, relevant, and informed by stakeholder experience. The aim is to enhance understanding and raise awareness of the unique sacrifices and challenges faced by the Armed Forces community, equipping service providers to deliver better support.

We are actively working with OGDs to see the various ways in which they may be able to meet their covenant commitments, helping to demonstrate how they will be able to show 'due regard' to the Covenant in practice. We know this is essential to delivering the intended benefits of the legislation, providing meaningful support to the Armed Forces

Ms Shelley Kipling
Chief Executive
Oldham Council

community, and reaffirming the Government's commitment to serving personnel, veterans, the bereaved, and their families.

It is of course important to note, the Legal Duty is intentionally designed to be flexible, allowing service providers to honour the Covenant in ways that best address local needs. Mandating UK-wide minimum standards for service delivery to the Armed Forces community may not be appropriate or proportionate, as it could inadvertently disadvantage members of the local general population with greater needs.

You will be interested to know, that as part of ensuring the impact of the Covenant is properly measured, officials are currently working on refining the Covenant Annual Report, leveraging this established mechanism to assess the impact of the Covenant and measure its success. This report is a key tool for ensuring transparency and accountability, as it is subject to parliamentary scrutiny. The Secretary of State for Defence is legally required to report annually to Parliament on progress in delivering the Covenant across the UK.

As part of this work, officials are exploring ways to improve data collection and develop more robust methods for measuring the impact and success of the Legal Duty. These efforts aim to provide a clearer understanding of how the Covenant is being delivered, ultimately driving improvements in support for the Armed Forces community. Defence will continue to identify opportunities to enhance data collection processes, ensuring that the information gathered is comprehensive, accurate, and reflective of the needs of the Armed Forces community.

I hope this information is helpful. We remain grateful to the work done by all our partners in the third sector and united in our efforts to help support the wider Armed Forces community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Sandher-Jones', with a stylized, flowing script.

LOUISE SANDHER-JONES MP



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Alison McGovern MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and
Homelessness*

2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Our reference: MC2026/17245

Shelley Kipling
Chief Executive
Oldham Borough Council
JR Clynes Building
Cultural Quarter
Greaves Street
Oldham
OL1 1AL

29 June 2026

Dear Shelley,

Thank you for your email of 17 June to the Secretary of State, the Rt Hon Steve Reed OBE MP, regarding two Council Motions from your meeting on 10 December 2025 in relation to funding and standards of conduct in local government. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

Regarding the Council Motion on Fair Funding for Local Government, as you note, we are committed to rebuilding a sustainable funding foundation for local government and delivering a system that is fair, transparent, and better reflects local need.

As a result of the reforms, nine in ten councils will receive funding that broadly matches their assessed need by the end of the multi-year Settlement, up from around a third before our reforms.

The Government recognises the significant pressures that councils face and we are investing in local government. The final 2026-27 Local Government Finance Settlement made available £78 billion in Core Spending Power for local authorities in England in 2026-27, a 6.1% increase compared to 2025-26.

We are also giving local authorities greater flexibility and certainty by streamlining over 38 funding streams worth over £57 billion over three years and driving the biggest transformation of children's social care in a generation with the Families First Partnership programme - backed by nearly £3 billion investment over four years, including a historic £2.4 billion over this multi-year Settlement.

I also recognise the importance you place on certainty for local authorities. The move to multi-year settlements is intended to provide greater stability and enable councils to plan effectively over the longer term, supporting sustainable service delivery for local communities.

Turning to the Council Motion on Strengthening Standards and Restoring Confidence in Local Democracy, we welcome your support in championing these proposed reforms. The reforms aim to ensure misconduct is dealt with swiftly and fairly across the country in every type and tier of local government - from the smallest town or parish council to the largest mayoral authority. We want to ensure that local government is empowered, fully accountable and deserving of people's trust and confidence.

Due to pressures on the wider legislative programme for the forthcoming Parliamentary session, there is not capacity for a dedicated Bill at this time. This does not represent a change in the Government's commitment to improving standards and conduct arrangements in local government.

The Government's position remains as set out in the published response to the consultation in November 2025. We intend to legislate when Parliamentary time allows.

Thank you again for writing on these important issues.

Yours sincerely,



ALISON MCGOVERN MP

Minister of State for Local Government and Homelessness

Thank you for your letter regarding the Council's motion on fair funding for local government.

Jim welcomes the Council's continued support for a fair, transparent and sustainable funding system that reflects local need, deprivation and the ability of councils to raise income locally. He has long argued that councils like Oldham should receive funding that properly reflects the pressures they face and supports the delivery of essential local services.

The Government's commitment to introducing a new Fair Funding Formula and moving towards multi-year funding settlements is an important step towards giving councils the certainty and stability they need to plan for the future.

Jim appreciates the Council's recognition of his work on local government finance and sends his thanks for your kind words. In response to the Council's resolution, he will also write to the Minister for Housing and Local Government to reinforce the importance of delivering a fair funding settlement for towns like Oldham.

Thank you again for writing.

Kind Regards,

Kath Buckley
Caseworker
On behalf of

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Oldham West, Chadderton & Royton
Chadderton Town Hall
Middleton Road
Oldham OL9 6PP
Tel: 0161 652 8485

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Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Alison McGovern MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and
Homelessness*

2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Your reference: JM52597

Our reference: MC2026/18378

Jim McMahon MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

6 July 2026

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your email of 30 June regarding Oldham Council's recent motion on fair funding for local government. I am responding as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

I appreciate you setting out your views on future local government funding reforms. We welcome your support for the Fair Funding Review 2.0 and the multi-year Local Government Finance Settlement. As the Council noted in the motion, we are committed to rebuilding a sustainable funding foundation for local government and delivering a system that is fair, transparent, and better reflects local need.

As a result of the reforms delivered through the Fair Funding Review 2.0, nine in ten councils will receive funding that broadly matches their assessed need by the end of the multi-year Settlement, up from around a third before our reforms. We continue to review the wider local government finance system to ensure it remains fit for the future, delivers value for taxpayers, and maintains the principles of the Fair Funding Review 2.0.

We will continue to work closely with the local government sector as we take this work forward and consult through the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement in each year in the usual way.

Thank you again for writing on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

ALISON MCGOVERN MP

Minister of State for Local Government and Homelessness

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26 June 2026

Shelley Kipling
shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

Your Ref: 2026-0067712
Our Ref: MC2026-00022772

Thank you for your correspondence regarding online safety. I am responding as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for AI and Online Safety.

Over the past few months, I have received a very high volume of correspondence on online safety, reflecting how many people care deeply about this rapidly evolving area. This means I have not been able to respond as quickly as I would like to individual correspondence, and I want to apologise for this.

Please be assured that your correspondence has been carefully considered by officials, and your views are valued. They will be taken into account as my officials continue to develop advice and policy in this area.

This letter covers the key topics raised with me and what action we have taken over the last few months and future steps we be taking to improve people's online experiences.

Online safety is a critically important issue, and this government is clear that everyone – especially children – should be able to enjoy the benefits of being online while being protected from harm. We know many parents, carers and members of the public are concerned about the risks people can face online, and we are committed to ensuring there are stronger protections in place.

Children's Online Safety:

The government has taken action to strengthen online safety protections, particularly for children. In the last 12 months, we have legislated to make content that encourages self-harm a priority offence under the Online Safety Act ('the act'). We have committed to require AI chatbots to protect users from illegal content. We have acted to ensure that, following the tragic death of a child, relevant data is automatically preserved so that bereaved families can get the answers they deserve.

Alongside this, we launched the '*You Won't Know Until You Ask*' campaign and the [Kids Online Safety website](#), providing parents and carers with practical support to talk to children about what they see online.

You may also be aware that we recently consulted on further measures to prepare children for the future in an age of rapid technological change.

On 15 June, the government published a progress statement on the consultation announcing that it will:

- Ban social media companies from providing their services to under-16s;
- Prevent under 16s from accessing harmful functions on other online services, including

gaming services;

- Require default restrictions for 16- and 17-year-olds from harmful functions;
- Prevent under-18s from accessing AI chatbot services that primarily offer sexualised content. Other AI chatbot services will not be able to offer children features that enable sexually explicit or sexual role-playing content;
- Give children access to more educational and positive content and experiences, both online and offline.

You can find more details on this announcement [here](#).

This followed the government announcing that we will become the first country in the world where it is impossible for children to take, share or view naked pictures on their devices.

We will continue to hold technology companies to account where they fall short, and ensure the internet is a space where children feel safe and respected.

We also know that a lot of young people feel socially isolated. To help address this, the government is currently investing over £3 billion in: building or refurbishing up to 250 youth centres; school sport; building new and upgraded grassroots sport facilities across the country; and saving more than 1000 arts venues, museums, libraries and heritage buildings from closure.

Violence Against Women and Girls:

Tackling violence against women and girls in all its forms, including online and technology-facilitated abuse, is a priority for this government and central to its mission to halve violence against women and girls in a decade. This abuse is abhorrent and should never be tolerated. Over recent months, the government has taken further steps to tackle violence against women and girls online, including legislating to make cyberflashing a priority offence under the act, criminalising the creation of intimate image abuse, banning so-called nudification apps, and requiring platforms to take down non-consensual intimate images within 48 hours of being reported.

The government has also required platforms to act faster to address strangulation pornography and pornography depicting adults role-playing as children. Through its Violence Against Women and Girls strategy, the government has set out further action, including launching a call for evidence to improve understanding of online misogynistic image-based abuse and strengthening media literacy to tackle misogynistic content.

The government has also called on all platforms to implement the measures recommended in Ofcom's guidance for ensuring '*A Safer Life Online for Women and Girls*'.

The Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, the Rt Hon Liz Kendall MP, has also written to Ofcom asking them to continue to implement the act at pace and effectively enforce its requirements to: protect children; address violence against women and girls; tackle the spread of harmful content online impacting our communities; and focus on other areas of illegal activity of deep concern to the public such as child sexual abuse material and online fraud and scams.

Social Cohesion:

While social media can play an important role in society, it is unacceptable that people use it to spread hate and threaten our communities.

The Online Safety Act lays the foundation for strong protections against illegal content and harmful material for children online, including some content that is extremist, hateful or can undermine social cohesion.

Services must take proactive steps to tackle certain forms of illegal content, including threats which are likely to stir up hatred based on race, religion or sexual orientation. This includes taking proportionate measures to ensure their algorithms do not promote this kind of material and acting swiftly to remove illegal material once they are aware of it.

Services that are likely to be accessed by children must also protect them from content that is legal but nonetheless harmful to children, including content that is abusive or hateful. These services must put in place measures like filtering harmful content from children's algorithmic feeds. From Spring next year, social media companies will be banned from offering their services to children under 16 years old.

Ofcom, as the independent regulator for online safety, has strong powers to hold platforms to account where they fail to act. On 15 May, Ofcom announced that it had secured [commitments from X](#) to improve the speed at which it reviews and removes illegal and terror content, and to provide regular performance data to enable regulatory oversight.

The government is also taking broader action to address the conditions that allow harmful content to spread online. In March, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government published '*Protecting What Matters*', a cross-government action plan that sets out the initial steps the government will take towards more confident, cohesive and resilient communities.

The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) has committed to a range of actions in '*Protecting What Matters*', including increasing transparency about how online platforms operate, reviewing crisis response powers in the act, and exploring options to better understand online hate. We are also considering measures relating to tackling both the algorithmic amplification and monetisation of harmful content, and ways of improving the evidence base on online hatred and division.

Regulation alone is not enough; children and adults must also have the skills to navigate online services safely. That is why, in March, DSIT published a cross-government Media Literacy Action Plan, setting clear priorities for the next three years, including preparing children and young people for a digital future.

Alongside this, as I have set out, we have launched practical support for families. The '*You Won't Know Until You Ask*' campaign and Kids Online Safety website provide parents and carers with simple, accessible tools to build children's critical thinking and resilience to misinformation. We are now considering options to extend and adapt the campaign with a focus on mis- and disinformation that undermine social cohesion and democracy.

The government is resolute in confronting foreign interference online. We continue to work together closely to prevent attempts by hostile actors targeting the UK to threaten our national security, distort our democratic processes, or sow division in our communities. Through our whole-of-government approach, DSIT is the department responsible for the UK's policy on disinformation aimed at UK users online, supporting Foreign Office and Home Office led work on countering information operations directed at UK interests abroad and state threats respectively.

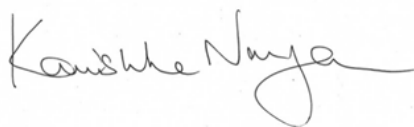
The government will not hesitate to act where credible threats are identified, using the full range of tools available under the National Security Act, the Online Safety Act, and other relevant UK law. The Online Safety Act requires social media companies to tackle online mis-

and disinformation proportionately, by focusing on the worst kinds - that which is illegal or harmful to children. State-sponsored disinformation is illegal under the Foreign Interference Offence, which is a priority offence under the Online Safety Act. Platforms must proactively prevent users encountering foreign interference content and remove it swiftly.

You may also find it helpful to read more about the government's approach to the Online Safety Act, alongside useful information about Ofcom, the independent regulator for online safety [here](#). You can also write to Ofcom directly here: contact@ofcom.org.uk.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I hope this letter provides clarity and reassurance that the government is committed to improving people's online experiences ensuring they are safe, fulfilling, and empowering, while protecting users' rights, including freedom of expression and privacy.

Yours sincerely,



Kanishka Narayan MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the
Department for Science, Innovation & Technology



Department
for Environment,
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Mary Creagh CBE MP
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Our ref: PO2026/10197/NA

26 May 2026

Dear Ms Kipling,

Thank you for your letter of 8 April to the Secretary of State about Oldham Council's motion on tackling fly-tipping, waste crime and litter. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area and I apologise for the delay in doing so.

I am grateful to you for setting out the Council's concerns so clearly, and I recognise the significant impact that environmental crime can have on communities.

Fly-tipping is a serious crime which blights communities and the local environment, and I share your view that it must be addressed robustly. The government's role is to support and enable strong local action by providing a clear legal framework and national standards, while local authorities remain responsible for keeping their land clear of litter and for taking enforcement action against offenders.

Councils already have a range of powers to tackle fly-tipping and littering. These include the ability to issue fixed penalty notices of up to £1,000 for fly-tipping and up to £500 for littering; prosecute offenders, and seize vehicles used in committing offences. Updated guidance introduced earlier this year supports councils in using these powers effectively and proportionately, including new provisions enabling action against littering from vehicles and strengthening enforcement approaches more broadly.

In addition, we are exploring further measures such as the introduction of penalty points on driving licences for those convicted of fly-tipping offences. We are also committed to supporting local authorities directly. Through the National Fly-Tipping Prevention Group, chaired by Defra, we are working with councils, enforcement bodies and partners to share best practice and provide practical tools to strengthen local enforcement and prevention activity. We have also published guidance to support councils in making full use of powers such as vehicle seizure and in building robust cases for prosecution.

I note the specific proposals set out in your Council's resolution, including increasing financial penalties, introducing a national licensing scheme for waste carriers, enabling cost recovery, and strengthening sanctions. The government is already taking forward a number of measures aligned with these objectives through our Waste Crime Action Plan, which represents the most comprehensive crackdown on illegal waste to date.

This plan will tighten regulation to prevent waste crime, including reforms to the waste carriers, brokers and dealers regime: we are closing the loopholes that let rogue operators dump waste illegally and our new reforms mean waste handlers must pass enhanced background checks to get a permit, while those caught mishandling waste risk up to five years in prison. Find out more here [New reforms to stop waste criminals from exploiting loopholes - GOV.UK](#).

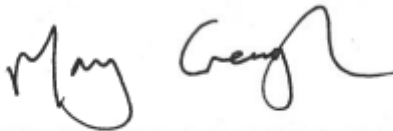
The Waste Crime Action Plan also strengthens enforcement by increasing funding for the Environment Agency, enhancing intelligence-gathering capabilities, and improving prosecution outcomes to ensure offenders face appropriate penalties. The introduction of digital waste tracking also helps to improve transparency

On sentencing, this remains a matter for the independent courts, which consider each case in line with the Sentencing Council's guidelines. However, we continue to work with partners to ensure that enforcement action is proportionate, effective and acts as a genuine deterrent to offending.

I also welcome the proactive steps Oldham Council is taking locally, including targeted enforcement and community engagement. Strong local leadership, combined with national action, is essential to tackling environmental crime effectively.

Please be assured that tackling fly-tipping and waste crime remains a clear priority for this government, and we will continue to keep our approach under review to ensure that the powers and tools available are effective and fit for purpose.

Thank you once again for taking the time to contact the Secretary of State about this important issue. I hope this response is helpful, and I look forward to ongoing collaboration with local authorities, including Oldham Council to address these issues.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Creagh', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

MARY CREAGH CBE MP