

ANDY BURNHAM

**MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER**

Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
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Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your letter regarding Oldham Council's Resolution around Changes to the Planning System to Fast-Track Fracking. Please accept my apologies for the delay in my response.

As you may be aware I am a strong supporter of these changes to the planning system and it was announced in the Guardian, in January, that Greater Manchester has told fracking firms that they are not welcome in the city region:
https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jan/04/greater-manchester-tells-fracking-firms-they-are-not-welcome?CMP=tw_t_gu.

The Combined Authority has committed to putting in place planning measures that create a "presumption" against fracking for shale gas and this forms part of the work around GM becoming carbon neutral by 2038. It is important that cities like Greater Manchester join the group of leading cities on the world stage that are driving fast towards carbon neutrality.

I am aware that this is a big challenge and it must be embraced wholeheartedly, with a full commitment to renewable energy, if it is to be a success.

Best wishes,

Andy

Andy Burnham
Mayor of Greater Manchester

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