Actions from Council – 15th March 2023

ISSUE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED	RESPONSE
1. That the Council recognises that care experienced people are a group who are likely to face discrimination. 2. That the Council recognises that Councils have a duty to put the needs of disadvantaged people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration. 3. That future decision, services and policies made and adopted by the Council should be assessed through Equality Impact Assessments to determine the impact of changes on people with care experience, alongside those who formally share a protected characteristic. 4. That in the delivery of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council includes care experience in the publication and review of Equality Objectives and the annual	All to note the resolutions and to incorporate into future actions	Work is ongoing	Work Ongoing with officers

publication of information relating to people who share a protected characteristic in services and employment. 5. That this Council will treat care experience as if it were a Protected Characteristic. 6. To formally call upon all other bodies to treat care experience as a protected characteristic until such time as it may be introduced by legislation. 7. For the council to continue proactively seeking out and listening to the voices of care experienced people when developing new policies based on their views. RESOLVED: That the Council 1. Ensures that it continues its ambitious plans for the council to be operating as a carbon neutral council by 2025. 2. Continues to work towards a carbon neutral Greater Manchester by 2038. 3. Explores further options for renewable energy schemes across the Borough.	Executive Director (Place and Economic Growth)	17 th March 2023	Letter sent by Chief Executive on 17 th March 2023 and response is detailed at Appendix 2.
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Specifically, by identifying	
companies who could be	
involved in running a Mine	
Water Heat Network and	
working with them to develop	
a successful plan for Oldham	
Borough.	
4. Commits to re-evaluating	
all council owned assets for	
the viability of having solar	
panels installed to maximise	
the renewable energy	
generated by the Council.	
5. Explores the creation of a	
Local Energy Market to sell	
excess energy generated by	
council renewable assets to	
residents at a reasonable	
price, independent of the main	
energy providers, and to	
support the development of	
privately owned renewable	
energy generation in Oldham	
which can also help residents	
and businesses to reduce	
their energy bills through	
schemes likes the Oldham	
Energy Futures project -	
piloted in Sholver and	
Westwood – and the Oldham	
Green New Deal Delivery	
Partnership.	

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6. Requests that Greater	
Manchester Pension Fund	
(GMPF) divest from fossil fuel	
companies by 2030 at the	
latest	
7. Requests that GMPF	
provide an annual report -	
until such a time that they are	
fully divested - to record active	
interventions they are making	
to change those companies'	
policies to become carbon	
neutral.	
8. Works alongside the	
partner agencies to identify	
more sites in the Borough	
which could potentially help	
Oldham reduce its reliance on	
fossil fuels.	
9. Works alongside future	
governments to support the	
creation of a national public	
energy company, where the	
income generated will be	
reinvested into the UK, rather	
than into the pockets of	
shareholders or other nations	
who own energy companies	
operating in the UK.	
10. Reaffirms its commitment	
to a true windfall tax on the	
runaway profits of oil and gas	
giants. This tax revenue is	

needed to support families			
who are struggling. The Council resolved: 1. That the Council instructs the Managing Director of Children and Young People to organise a campaign to further increase take up of Healthy Start vouchers in the Borough. 2. That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Secretary of State for Education asking the Government to increase the value of the Healthy Start vouchers by at least 14% to match general food inflation to support residents with the cost-of-living crisis. 3. That the Council continues to push for reform to provide affordable childcare to all Oldhamers. 4. That the responsible Cabinet member(s) be requested to explore whether any extra support can be provided to early years providers in the Borough. 5. That the Council continued to work with	Managing Director for Children and Young People/Chief Executive	17 th March 2023	A reply from the Department of Education is attached at Appendix 3
schools on our poverty			

proofing audits – to make sure children from low-income backgrounds can participate fully in all aspects of learning and reduce stigma attached to poverty. 6. That the Council commits to use the newly developed Equality Impact Assessment Tool to determine the impact of council decisions on Children and Young People.			
Further to Council on 14 th December Keira Arnold and Hannah Miah attended to receive their Civic Appreciation Award 2023	Chief Executive	Council approved the report on 14th December 2022	Award ceremony was held prior to the meeting on 15 th March 2023
 To ensure that the council continues it's joined up approach to supporting residents during the cost-of-living crisis, working across all areas to ensure that no resident suffers hardship due to their financial situation. Continue to support residents to access all the benefits they are entitled to 	Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth and Director of Finance	4 th November 2022	No response received to date from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

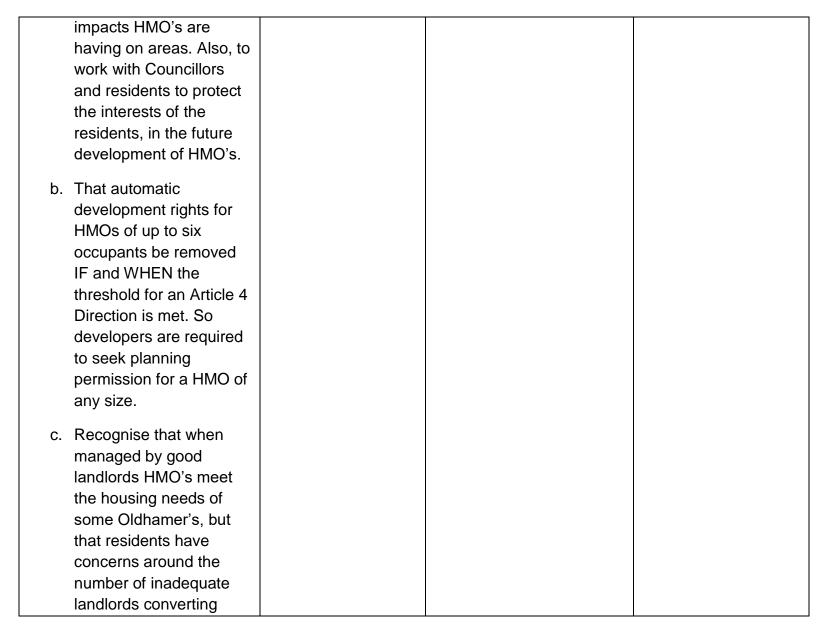
access, through the Council's Welfare Rights Team.		
Commit to working alongside		
Age UK to identify how the		
council can support older		
people during the cost-of-living		
crisis, including ensuring that		
everyone has access to food		
and heating.		
3. The Chief Executive to write		
to the Secretary of State for		
Work and Pensions, asking		
them to make changes to the		
benefits system to ensure that		
eligible residents receive		
benefits automatically, rather		
than having to claim them;		
asking them to commit to		
raising all social security		
benefits in line with inflation.		
4. To work alongside the		
Greater Manchester Combined		
Authority Ageing Hub to identify		
more avenues of support for		
older people in the borough.		

The Leader of Oldham	Leader of the	4 th November 2022	No response received
Metropolitan Borough Council	Council, Chief		to date from the
continues to use her position on	Executive and		Secretary of State for
the Greater Manchester	Executive Director		Transport
Combined Authority to monitor	for Place and		
the Places for Everyone plan	Economic Growth		
and ensure that Oldham's			
housing needs are met.			
Brownfield sites to continue to			
be prioritised over Green Belt			
development by the			
administration.			
To continue to ensure 'shovel			
ready' projects on brownfield			
sites are not held back by			
delays, and notes that they are			
included in the overall housing			
supply (SHLAA) in the Oldham			
Metropolitan Borough.			
Oldham Council to continue to			
rationalise its brownfield site			
assets where reasonable and			
practicable, including the			
regeneration of the civic centre			
site after the council moves into			
the Spindles Shopping centre.			

The Council confirms that		
homeownership is one of the		
fundamental tenets of building		
stronger communities and		
regrets that due to the recent		
Conservative Government		
crashing the economy home-		
ownership is now unattainable		
by many Oldhamers.		
The Council continues to		
The Council continues to		
deliver its plans for Place		
Based Integration, as set out in		
the Oldham and Corporate		
Plans, to district and		
neighbourhood level.		
The Leader of Oldham		
Metropolitan Borough Council		
will look to create a Pennines		
Economic Co-operation Board		
which works with the GMCA,		
WYCA and both Mayors, to		
maximise the potential		
economic benefits of		
maximising the opening of new		

road and rail links between		
Oldham and West Yorkshire.		
Oldinam and West Torkshire.		
The Chief Executive to write to		
the Secretary of State for		
Transport to:		
a Cook a monting with the		
a. Seek a meeting with the		
Department of		
Transport, TfGM, and		
the relevant Oldham		
Council Cabinet member		
to restore public		
transport funding that		
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has been cut by		
consecutive		
Conservative		
Governments.		
b. Build on the initial work		
done by Oldham's		
Members of Parliaments		
regarding the option of		
reopening existing		
railway stations such as		

those at the Middleton Junction in Chadderton, Diggle in Saddleworth or a new Oldham line which connects to Oldham, Manchester and West Yorkshire for both freight and passenger services which can service the Borough more widely			
c. Request that the government restore brownfield remediation funding to help make brownfield sites more attractive to developers, instead of insisting that Oldham meet its housing targets			
The Council resolved to: a. Continue to gather the evidence to monitor the situation, paying attention to minimise any potential negative	Chief Executive and Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth	4 th November 2022	No response received to date from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities



	decent homes into HMOs solely for profit in particular neighbourhoods.
d.	Where HMOs are developed that require Planning Permission, the council will continue to consult with neighbouring residents, when development opportunities are sought by landlords to develop HMO's.
e.	That the Chief Executive will write to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities and request that the current planning regulations are reviewed and insist that local planning authorities are able to have more control over developments and

changes of use in their boundaries.			
That letters be forwarded, on behalf of Oldham Councill as follows: 1. Oldham Council will write to the three MPs representing Oldham Borough, asking them to confirm their commitment to action to cut the costs of energy for residents. 2. Oldham Council will write to the Secretary of State for Energy to demand investment into the Oldham Mine Water Heat Network, which would provide an alternative way of delivering a secure heating source for hundreds of homes in the borough and	Chief Executive	9 th September 2022	A response letter received from the relevant department and provided to Council on 2 November. Still awaiting response on Part 4 of the resolution, from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

commits to finding funding for this project at the soonest possible opportunity.			
 Oldham Council will write to the Secretary of State for Education to ask that damaging cuts to Free School Meals are reversed. 			
4. Oldham Council will write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, urging him to reinstate the uplift for Universal Credit and extend Free School Meals to all families on Universal Credit.			
Letter sent to the Prime Minister 'demanding an end to 'fire and rehire' and keep his promise to local residents to protect their employment terms and conditions, and to ask that all key workers get a pay-rise that is at least equal to inflation'	Chief Executive	26 th July 2022	No response received to date from the Prime Minister's office