



**Oldham**  
Council

## **Report to COUNCIL – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023**

### **Cabinet Report of Neighbourhoods Portfolio**

#### **Portfolio Holder: Cllr Chris Goodwin, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods**

---

#### **Hate Crime**

Raising awareness of hate crime and providing support to victims is a key area of work for both the Council and partner agencies. In recent months, this has included delivering training to frontline staff, delivering work in schools and community groups to build confidence to report hate crimes. The Council is currently working in partnership with Victim's Services and the Crown Prosecution Service to deliver an event for frontline staff who work with residents to help them understand what happens when a hate-crime is reported.

#### **Community Safety**

Community Safety Services continue to work in partnership with our Domestic Abuse team, providing advice to victims of Domestic Abuse to enable them, wherever possible, to remain in their homes. The Service has completed 90 Sanctuary surveys within the past 6 months. The Community Safety Service has also carried out surveys on behalf of partners in the homes of individuals who have been subject to threats of serious violence to reduce their risk of becoming the victims of significant harm. The learning is used to improve prevention and enhance safety.

Anti-Social Behaviour continues to have a significant impact on Communities and the Community Safety Service continue to challenge such behaviour, working closely with partners, Ward Members and the Community to identify those engaging in Anti-Social Behaviour and Criminality using both informal and formal interventions to ensure that Communities are made safer for the Boroughs residents.

A particular issue is youth disorder in and around the town centre. We are working with the Police and other partners to identify causes and to develop solutions. Significant work has also been carried out in response to residents concerns, Ward Members and partners around key issues, such as Off-Road motorbikes and Firework nuisance. Firework nuisance has been an ongoing issue and we are working to identify solutions whilst also collaborating with partners and other local authorities to seek their support. Community Safety Services have also worked closely with key partners including Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and Greater Manchester Police in developing the Bonfire strategy, to try and ensure that the Community is kept safe.

The Community Safety Service is also working with partners to develop a strategy in response to the Serious Violence Duty legislation, that came into force in January 2023.

---

This is a significant piece of work, which is intended to reduce the risk of serious violence within the Oldham Borough and to make the Borough a safer, more desirable place to live.

### **Environmental Services**

- Service continues to deal with the major challenge of Ash dieback across Oldham – this has resulted in the large-scale removal of trees
- Service is working with colleagues to produce a new Pitch strategy for the Borough and aims for a Summer 2024 completion
- Work in the vicinity of the Spindles has started and as part of this, the WOW bed has been removed and will be relocated after works have been completed
- Service is working with colleagues to complete preparations for the Council organised bonfire at Oldham Edge
- The refurbishment of the frontage at Hollinwood Crematorium has been completed
- October sees the start of the tree planting season - 100's of trees to be planted between now and the end of March 2024
- Residents have an 85% satisfaction rate with Oldham parks. Improvements to facilities have taken place at Daisy Nook and £64,000 of investment is taking place in Woodhouses Park.
- There have been 612 penalties issued for littering & flytipping since DTO started and at the same time, there have been 71 successful prosecutions with more due in the near future

### **Waste, Fleet & Highway Operations**

- In cab technology (Bartec) for domestic bin collection completed successfully. To expand to other areas in due course (Bulky Waste) to increase efficiency
- Christmas schedules for bin collection on track and information shared with residents
- Winter maintenance on track and all preparations complete
- Name the gritter competition going well with well over 300 entries submitted so far

### **Traffic & Engineering**

- All capital projects including resurfacing, major bridge works, public realm and active travel type schemes progressing on schedule
- New zebra crossing on Chew Valley Road outside school is complete and operational for students to use
- Next phase of the Town Centre (Accessible Oldham) public realm works progressing, including recent planning application approved for the section of the Linear Park on Rock St/St Marys Way section
- School Streets programme is ongoing –
  - Installed at 1 location and operational
  - 1 trial starts on 30 October 2023
  - 4 more in development
- School active travel audit has been completed and report due imminently – this will highlight additional areas/locations where intervention would be beneficial for safer/active travel school schemes

**Recommendations:** Council is requested to note the report.