

Report to CABINET

Draft Oldham Local Plan for Public Consultation

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Elaine Taylor, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member
Housing and Licensing

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

Report Author: Elizabeth Dryden-Stuart, Strategic Planning and Information

Ext. x.1672

11 December 2023

Reason for Decision

To approve the publication and consultation of the draft version of a new Local Plan for Oldham (referred to as the Draft Local Plan in this report).

Executive Summary

The council must prepare a Local Plan to ensure that we have an up-to-date and comprehensive planning framework to support the borough's economic, environmental and social objectives. Oldham's Local Plan will guide development in the borough up to 2039. Once adopted, it will replace the current Local Plan (the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD) which was adopted in November 2011 and any saved older planning policies from the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2006.

The Draft Local Plan follows on from public consultation that was carried out on the Issues and Options for a new Local Plan in Summer 2021. It builds upon the comments we received and has been informed by on-going studies and pieces of evidence that have been completed since the Issues and Options consultation.

The Draft Local Plan is accompanied by an Integrated Assessment (IA), which incorporates the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment, an

Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) and Health Impact Assessment (HIA), and by a Habitat Regulations Assessment. The Draft Local Plan and associated appendices, IA, IA Scoping Report Update, HRA, Consultation Statement and Issues and Options Comments and Response Schedule are attached at Appendix 1 to 8. Approval is sought to publish and consult on the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents, with consultation commencing no earlier than 10 January 2024 for six weeks. Note, following approval there may be further formatting amendments made to the documents to address accessibility requirements prior to publication for consultation.

Topic Papers on key themes and the Site Allocations Background Paper will also be published alongside the Draft Local Plan and accompanying documents. These topic / background papers help to explain the current guidance and requirements and pull together the evidence available.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents, including the Integrated Assessment and Habitat Regulation Assessment, be approved for publication and consultation commencing no earlier than 10 January 2024 for six weeks.

Draft Oldham Local Plan for Public Consultation

1 Background

1.1 The council must prepare a Local Plan to provide an up-to-date and comprehensive planning framework that will support the borough's economic, environmental and social objectives. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 set out the requirements for local authorities producing and consulting on their Local Plan. There are various stages in the production of a Local Plan and Oldham Council is at the 'Regulation 18' stage. As part of the Regulation 18 stage, consultation was undertaken on Issues and Options in summer 2021 and the proposed Draft Local Plan public consultation being sought approval for in this report provides a further opportunity for the local community and other stakeholders to shape the contents of the Local Plan.

1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the framework for the preparation of a Local Plan, with paragraph 16 stating that plans should be:

- prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development;
- be prepared positively, in a way that is aspirational but deliverable;
- be shaped by early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees;
- contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals;
- be accessible, through the use of digital tools, to assist public involvement and policy presentation; and
- serve a clear purpose, avoiding unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to a particular area (including policies in this Framework, where relevant).

Oldham's current Local Plan

1.3 What is usually referred to as Oldham's Local Plan is actually a collection of Development Plan Documents (DPDs). Oldham's Local Plan currently comprises a series of documents which together provide the statutory development plan for the borough and are:

- The Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (Joint DPD), adopted in November 2011;
- Proposals Map, dated April 2013;
- The Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan, adopted in April 2012;
- The Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan, adopted in April 2013.

1.4 In addition to the above, there are a limited number of policies from the Oldham Unitary Development Plan (2006) that have been 'saved'.

Places for Everyone and Oldham's Local Plan

- 1.5 Places for Everyone is the strategic spatial plan for Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan, and as such sets out a collective planning policy framework. All policies within the Plan are 'strategic policies' and it:
- provides the strategic framework for the Oldham Local Plan;
 - sets out specific requirements to be taken forward through the Oldham Local Plan in relation to housing, offices, and industry and warehousing, and identifies the main areas where this will be focused;
 - identifies the important environmental assets which will be protected and enhanced;
 - allocates sites for employment and housing outside of the urban area – in Oldham this is JPA2 Stakehill, JPA12 Beal Valley, JPA13 Bottom Field Farm, JPA14 Broadbent Moss, JPA15 Chew Brook Vale, JPA16 Cowlshaw, JPA17 Land south of Coal Pit Lane' and JPA18 South of Rosary Road;
 - supports the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities; and
 - defines a new Green Belt boundary the borough.
- 1.6 Once Places for Everyone is adopted it will form part of Oldham's development plan. As such Oldham's local plan will need to be consistent with it. As with the Local Plan, Places for Everyone will cover the whole of the borough of Oldham except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park.
- 1.7 The evidence that underpins the Places for Everyone Plan will also inform Oldham's local plan but, as a strategic plan, it does not cover everything that Oldham's local plan would. Therefore, Oldham's Draft Local Plan (see Appendix 1 and 2) sets out more detailed policies including both strategic and non-strategic policies, as appropriate, reflecting local circumstances.
- 1.8 As part of the public examination into the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan consultation on proposed modifications to the Plan is taking, or has taken, place between 11 October to 6 December 2023. Following the conclusion of the consultation, the Inspectors will consider all the representations made on the proposed main modifications before finalising the examination report and the schedule of recommended changes. If the Inspectors conclude that no further consultation is necessary following the modifications' consultation, the Plan will then go forward for adoption by each of the Full Councils of the nine participating local authorities.

The need for a review of Oldham's Local Plan

- 1.9 The Joint DPD is the currently the main DPD within this collection of documents, and this is now over 10 years old. A new DPD is therefore required to provide a succinct and up-to-date plan that:
- accords with Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (see below);
 - meets the latest national planning policy and guidance; and

-
- reflects changes in the council's ambitions for Oldham and our Creating a Better Place agenda.

This new DPD will be known as Oldham's Local Plan.

Progress to date

- 1.10 To begin preparation of the Local Plan the council carried out a Regulation 18 Notification between July and August 2017, through which we asked what the local community and other interested parties thought the Local Plan should contain, the key planning issues Oldham, and what the main aims of the Local Plan should be.
- 1.11 Following on from the Regulation 18 Notification Issues and Options were prepared and consultation was carried out on these from 5 July to 29 August 2021. Comments were also sought on the accompanying Integrated Assessment.
- 1.12 The Issues and Options document set out questions covering a range of topics to gather views about the future of the borough. These included questions on homes, economy and employment, our centres, addressing climate change, the natural environment and open land, green infrastructure, the built environment, transport and improving connectivity, communities and infrastructure. In total around 100 individuals and organisations submitted over 850 comments to the consultation. These comments have been considered in the formulation of the Draft Local Plan. There was general support for the vision, which was considered positive in its intent and ambition, and plan objectives. Encouraging an appropriate scale of housing and employment growth and protecting the natural and historic environment were supported. Whilst comments highlighted the need to include reference to improving health and wellbeing for the residents of Oldham. Pages 11 to 15 of the Draft Local Plan provide a summary of the issues raised and further details regarding the individual comments received can be found in the Issues and Options Response Schedule (see Appendix 3).
- 1.13 A Consultation Statement (see Appendix 4) has been prepared to demonstrate how consultation on the Local Plan review to date (so for the Regulation 18 Notification and Issues and Options stages) has been consistent with Oldham's Statement of Community Involvement. The Consultation Statement will be updated at each of stage of consultation and when the council submits the Local Plan to the Secretary of State for Independent Public Examination.

2 Current Position

Draft Local Plan

- 2.1 Oldham's Local Plan will guide development in the borough up to 2039, to reflect the plan-period of Places for Everyone. Underpinning the Plan will be the principles of sustainable development, and it will meet the needs of Oldham and its residents while also achieving high quality design, addressing climate change and increasing accessibility for all.
- 2.2 The Local Plan will cover the whole borough except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park and its main purposes will be to:

-
- Set out the policies through which the council will manage development coming forward and use to determine planning applications;
 - Identify designations for the protection of the borough's environmental and historical assets, our town centres, employment areas and infrastructure;
 - Allocate land to meet our future housing and employments needs; and
 - Support the development of supporting infrastructure, such as transport, education and utilities.
- 2.3 Upon adoption the Local Plan will replace the Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD, which was adopted in November 2011, and any saved planning policies from the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) 2006.
- 2.4 The Local Plan will sit alongside the emerging Places for Everyone (see paragraphs 1.5 to 1.8 above), as part of a suite of documents that form the development plan for the borough that also includes the Greater Manchester Joint Waste and Minerals Plans (see paragraph 1.3 above). Together these documents will inform decision-making on planning applications in the borough of Oldham.
- 2.5 The policies contained within the Draft Local Plan are organised by theme, for example Homes, Economy and Employment, and Addressing Climate Change. Policy text is bold and shown within a 'policy box' for clarity, after which sits a reasoned justification that provides further detail regarding how the policy will be applied and what detail may be needed to accord with the policy requirements.
- 2.6 At the end of each policy and chapter there are linkages boxes. These boxes show:
- The plan objective(s) the policy is seeking to address;
 - The indicators through which the policy will be monitored;
 - Other policies within the Local Plan that may be relevant to the policy; and
 - Relevant PfE policies that regard should be had to.
- 2.7 Whilst these boxes have been inserted to provide clarity for the reader, it is important that the Local Plan, including Places for Everyone, is read as a whole, and this is made clear throughout the Draft Local Plan.

The Draft Local Plan and Creating a Better Place

- 2.8 The Local Plan provides an opportunity to bring together and express spatially those parts of The Oldham Plan and the council's Corporate Plan that can be shaped and delivered through the planning system. Their aspirations and priorities are the golden thread that runs through the Draft Local Plan, along with supporting and facilitating the delivery of the council's ambitious Creating a Better Place agenda which are also embedded into the planning framework provided through its policies. This relationship is illustrated in Figure BP1 (page 6) of the Draft Local Plan.
- 2.9 Underneath the overarching theme of Creating a Better Place there also sit several key issues that policies within the Local Plan seek to address such as the creation of healthy communities and tackling the climate emergency.

-
- 2.10 For example, through the policies contained within the Local Plan the council will encourage and facilitate development in the borough that provides opportunities for healthy lifestyles, contributes to the creation of healthier communities, and helps to reduce health inequalities. For example, they will help to:
- Create healthy, inclusive and safe places that are well connected to key services and facilities and high-quality open spaces and with sustainable and accessible transport that enables active travel.
 - Provide a diverse, and affordable, housing offer that addresses local housing needs with homes that are energy efficient and adaptable.
 - Support healthy eating and promote healthy food choices through, for example, increasing opportunities for community food growing spaces and restrictions on hot food takeaways.
- 2.11 The policies set out within the Draft Local Plan also provide a robust framework for ensuring that all development proposals mitigate the impact of climate change, make their contribution to meeting nationally binding targets to reduce greenhouse emissions and increase resilience, through:
- Ensuring that development is located in a way that takes account of flood risk and that it is designed in such a way as to increase water efficiency, reduce demand on water resources and protect water quality.
 - Encouraging the use of decentralised, renewable and low carbon energy and sustainable construction techniques so as to minimise energy consumption.
 - Ensuring the effective and efficient use of land and reducing the need to travel and promoting active travel.
- 2.12 Our approach to tackling the climate change emergency has many benefits and outcomes that link to our health and wellbeing priorities in that it will help to ensure Oldham residents can afford to live comfortably in their homes; will increase access to an enhanced Green Infrastructure network; and promote active travel choices, including walking and cycling.

The Green Belt, Local Green Space and Oldham's Draft Local Plan

- 2.13 PfE proposes the revised Green Belt boundary for each of the nine Greater Manchester PfE authorities, including Oldham, and these will be incorporated into the Local Plan, following the adoption of PfE. As such, the Local Plan does not address strategic Green Belt boundary revisions.
- 2.14 However, a 'tidy up' of Oldham's Green Belt boundaries has been carried out to identify minor changes of a technical nature that have arisen primarily from the move to GIS mapping. These minor technical boundary revisions proposed to the Green Belt are set out within the appendices of the Draft Local Plan.
- 2.15 Importantly, the council is not proposing to allocate greenfield sites in the Green Belt for development within this plan.
- 2.16 The Draft Local Plan proposes to designate areas as 'Local Green Spaces' (LGS) in line with national planning policy. Local Green Spaces are spaces that are

important to local communities due to their proximity to the community and because they are demonstrably special and hold local significance due to beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, or richness of its wildlife.

- 2.17 Most LGSs are currently designated Other Protected Open Land (OPOLs) in the adopted Joint DPD. A review of the current OPOL, available online at [Local Green Space Assessment | Oldham Council](#), has been undertaken against LGS criteria to ensure the policy approach is robust and up to date. As a result of this updated evidence:
- Some proposed LGSs include boundary changes to the OPOL boundaries currently designated. These are shown in the appendices of the Draft Local Plan.
 - A new LGS has also been identified in Sholver.
 - Five OPOLs are proposed to be de-designated, meaning they would lose their status as protected open land under the new Local Green Space policy:
 - Three of these OPOLs (OPOL 9; OPOL 10 and OPOL 22) are proposed to be de-designated through PFE as they form part of strategic allocations JPA14 Broadbent Moss, JPA12 Beal Valley and JPA16 Cowlshaw).
 - Two OPOLs are proposed to be de-designated through the Local Plan (Rumbles Lane and Land South of Oaklands Road).

Integrated Assessment

- 2.18 The Draft Local Plan is supported by an Integrated Assessment (IA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment, attached at Appendices 5 and 6 to this report, that incorporates the following:
- Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA);
 - Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA);
 - Oldham Impact Assessment Tool (including Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA); and
 - Health Impact Assessment (HIA).
- 2.19 The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (including opportunities for net gain). Significant adverse effects should be avoided and wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered).
- 2.20 The purpose of a Habitat Regulations Assessment of land use plans to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at the local level. The findings of the HRA will be integrated into the IA.
- 2.21 The Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to consider how different people will be affected by their activities, helping them to deliver policies and services which are efficient and effective, accessible to all, and which meet different people's needs. This is done as part of the Oldham Impact

Assessment Tool. In this instance through completion of the Oldham Impact Assessment Tool consideration has been given to the aims and effects of the Draft Local Plan on the following groups – Disabled people; Particular ethnic groups; Men or women (including impacts due to pregnancy / maternity); People of particular sexual orientation/s; People in a marriage or civil partnership; People who are proposing to undergo, are undergoing or have undergone a process or part of a process of gender reassignment; People of low incomes; People in particular age groups; and Groups with particular faiths and beliefs. The findings of the Oldham Impact Assessment have been fed into the Integrated Assessment.

- 2.22 The HIA is not a statutory requirement however it is considered an important and necessary tool to evaluate and understand the health impacts of the Draft Local Plan.
- 2.23 In addition to the above, as part of the Issues and Options consultation that was carried out between July and August 2021 an IA Scoping Report was produced. The Scoping Report has been updated for the Draft Local Plan and can be found at Appendix 6. A Non-Technical Summary of the Integrated Assessment has been prepared and is available at Appendix 7.

Evidence

- 2.24 Since preparation and consultation on the Issues and Options report, further evidence has been produced to inform the review of the Local Plan. These are:
- The Oldham Green Infrastructure Strategy; and
 - The Oldham Employment Land Review.
- 2.25 These will be published alongside the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents.
- 2.26 Several thematic Topic Papers will also be published alongside the Draft Local Plan as part of the consultation. These pull together the evidence in one place and set out how this and previous consultations have helped to inform the Draft Local Plan and are on the following themes:
- Built Environment
 - Climate Change and Flood Risk
 - Communities
 - Employment and Economy
 - Housing
 - Natural Environment
 - Our Centres
 - Transport
- 2.27 A Background Paper will also be published on the Site Allocations.
- 2.28 Further evidence will continue to be prepared to support the preparation of the Local Plan.

Consultation on the Draft Local Plan

- 2.29 Consultation on the Draft Local Plan will be carried out in accordance with our Statement of Community Involvement, most recently adopted 2021.
- 2.30 There are a range of consultation methods that the council could use to engage the community in the preparation of the Local Plan. However, it must be recognised that different consultation methods may be better suited to engaging different sections of the community. The consultation methods used may also depend on the type of Local Plan document in preparation and the stage it is at.
- 2.31 In line with paragraph 4.65 of the SCI 2021 the council will, as a minimum:
- Publish a Public Notice outlining details of the Draft Local Plan;
 - Issue a press release with details of the Draft Local Plan;
 - Publish the Draft Local Plan documents on the council's website;
 - Make the Draft Local Plan documents available at public libraries across Oldham and at the council's principal office; and
 - Inform those on our Local Plan mailing list, Oldham Partnership and Oldham Councillors that the Draft Local Plan documents are available for consultation and where they may be viewed.
- 2.32 In addition to those in paragraph 4.65 of the SCI, as outlined above, the council may also make use of additional engagement tools where appropriate as outlined in paragraph 4.67 and Table 1 of the SCI 2021.
- 2.33 The council will also make use of Engagement HQ, our council-wide web engagement platform.
- 2.34 A Statement of Common Ground (see Appendix 8) has also been prepared to support the review of Oldham's Local Plan. As part of the review and the preparation of Oldham's updated Local Plan, there is a requirement to co-operate effectively on strategic priorities that cross boundaries and the Statement provides the evidence of such co-operation to date. The Statement will be updated at each stage of the Local Plan review process, providing updates on cross-boundary matters, as we continue to work collaboratively with our neighbouring authorities and the relevant public bodies.

Oldham's Local Plan and the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023

- 2.35 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURB Act 2023) comes into force in December 2023. Further legislation is still required to implement those parts relating to the preparation of the Local Plan and we await revised national planning guidance.
- 2.36 Consultation has recently been carried out by central government on the implementation of the plan-making measures. They include proposals for making local plans more succinct, accessible and user friendly whilst being shaped by the local community and reflecting an areas priorities and ambitions and with a greater emphasis on the use of digital plans and tools through the introduction of standardised templates and a digital toolkit.

2.37 More significantly the changes proposed will see the:

- Use of gateway assessments at key stages, acting as ‘check-in points’ and culminating in a final ‘stop/go’ assessment before a local plan is submitted for examination;
- The introduction of a 30-month timeframe within which local plans should be prepared; and
- The removal of Supplementary Planning Documents and Area Action Plans, which will be replaced by Supplementary Plans that, with the exception of Design Codes, are intended to focus on site-specific matters.

2.38 The consultation also included the proposed transitional arrangements for moving from the current plan-making system to that which will be under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023:

- Confirmation that the latest date for plan-makers to submit (for examination) local plans under the current system will be 30 June 2025. With a need for these plans to be adopted by 31 December 2026.
- The introduction of the new-style local plans will be phased, in part to ensure there is sufficient resources and skills capacity to prepare them within the 30-month plan timeframe.

2.39 As such, Oldham’s Local Plan continues to be prepared in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 and NPPF and it will be necessary to finalise our Local Plan for submission for Examination before 30 June 2025, otherwise the council will have to start again in the preparation of the new Local Plan, and prepare it in accordance with the regulations and guidance for the new-style Local Plans.

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 **Option 1** – To publish and consult on the proposed Draft Local Plan and supporting documents commencing no earlier than 10 January 2024 for six weeks.

Advantages - this will be in accordance with NPPF and provide certainty to residents and developers that work is under way on preparing an up-to-date Local Plan. It will also help to ensure that the council is keeping to its programme for preparing a new Local Plan for submission for Examination before 30 June 2025.

Disadvantages - there are no disadvantages to publishing and consulting on the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents as it is positive to engage and seek the views of residents, businesses and stakeholders as we prepare such an important document for the council.

3.2 **Option 2** – To delay publishing and consulting on the proposed Draft Local Plan and supporting documents.

Advantages - if there are concerns by Members on any aspects of the proposed Draft Local Plan, there may be some advantages to working these concerns through before publishing for consultation.

Disadvantages - not publishing and consulting on the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents would likely mean that the council is not able to prepare a new Local Plan under the current regulations for submission for Examination by 30 June 2025. This will result in the council having to start Local Plan preparation again under the new regulations for the new-style Local Plan and mean that the Council would have to continue to rely on the Joint DPD (elements of which are somewhat out of date) and the high-level GM-wide policies in Places for Everyone when making decisions on planning application. This would mean that developers may be more likely to challenge our planning application decisions on appeal and be more likely to succeed with that challenge as the Joint DPD becomes more and more out of date.

3.3 **Option 3** – To not take forward a Draft Local Plan at this stage and cease work on a new Local Plan.

Advantages - this option would reduce costs for the council, given that preparing a new Local Plan does require significant investment in evidence studies, the preparation of the Local Plan and supporting documents, public consultation and the examination of the Local Plan by a Planning Inspector.

Disadvantages - not preparing a new Local Plan would not be in accordance with government guidance and planning legislation, which now requires councils to prepare a new Local Plan every five years. The council would also be reliant on the Joint DPD (elements of which are somewhat out of date) and the high-level GM-wide policies in Places for Everyone when making decisions on planning applications for the foreseeable future. This would mean that developers may be more likely to challenge our planning application decisions on appeal and be more likely to succeed with that challenge as the Joint DPD becomes more and more out of date.

4 **Preferred Option**

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Draft Local Plan and supporting documents, including the Integrated Assessment, be approved for publication and consultation commencing no earlier than 10 January 2024 for six weeks. Note, following approval there may be further formatting amendments made to the documents to address accessibility requirements prior to publication for consultation.

5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 Consultation on the Draft Local Plan will be carried out in accordance with our Statement of Community Involvement, most recently adopted 2021. Further details can be found at paragraphs 2.24 to 2.28 above.

6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The cost for the publication and consultation of the Oldham Draft Local Plan is expected to be circa. £5k and will be revenue expenditure.

6.2 These costs will be funded from the £257k earmarked reserve allocated for the implementation and management of the local plan within Strategic Planning.

(John Hoskins)

7 **Legal Services Comments**

7.1 In accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation for Local Planning matters approved in 2022, approval of documents for public consultation as part of Regulation 18 of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 is delegated to the Cabinet. Under Regulation 18(3) of the Regulations, in preparing the Local Plan the Council must take into account any representations made to it in response to the consultation.

(A Evans)

8. **Co-operative Implications**

8.1 The proposal to develop and establish Oldham's Local Plan is welcomed. The concept of a Local Plan aligns with the Council's Co-operative agenda as well as Corporate priorities, as the Plan is essential in guiding comprehensive planning objectives that are required to support the borough's economic, environmental and social objectives. Ensuring Oldham is an attractive place for residents to work and live in is a key Corporate priority. Additionally, the draft plan supports the Council's Creating a Better Place agenda and recognises and embeds Oldham's Resident First focus throughout, addresses climate change and accessibility for all

(Mahmuda Khanom, Policy Support Officer)

9 **Human Resources Comments**

9.1 None

10 **Risk Assessments**

10.1 Oldham Council work within the National Planning Policy Framework and appropriate legislation, including the Town and Country Planning Regulations. The Local Plan aligns with the GM Places for Everyone Plan but reflecting Oldham's local circumstances and provides a plan which will guide development in the borough up to 2039. The refresh to the plan will provide more certainty for Oldham communities, business and investors and a framework for guiding decisions on individual planning applications.

Vicki Gallacher (Head of Insurance and Information Management)

11 **IT Implications**

11.1 None

12 **Property Implications**

12.1 The publication of the Oldham Draft Plan and consultation period will have no direct property implications. However, it should be noted that the Council's development of its own land and property assets will be subject to the planning policies set out in the Oldham Plan once it is adopted.

12.2 It is anticipated that a number of council owned sites might become allocations within the draft local plan which will impact on their potential future uses and values.

(Katy Webster)

13 **Procurement Implications**

13.1 None

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1 The Draft Local Plan is supported by an Integrated Assessment (IA) that incorporates a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The role of a SA is to promote sustainable development through assessing the emerging Local Plan against economic, environmental and social objectives (see paragraphs 2.13 to 2.18 above). A HRA has also been carried out to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at the local level. The findings of the HRA will be integrated into the IA.

15 **Community cohesion disorder implications in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

15.1 In line with the Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act) an equalities impact assessment for the Draft Local Plan has been undertaken as part of the Oldham Impact Assessment Tool.

16 **Oldham Impact Assessment Completed (Including impact on Children and Young People)**

16.1 Yes. As set out at paragraph 2.13 the Draft Local Plan is supported by an Integrated Assessment (IA) that incorporates a Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental assessment (SEA), Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and the conclusions of the Oldham Impact Assessment (OIA) which includes consideration of those equality characteristics previously considered through the equalities impact assessment.

17 **Key Decision**

17.1 Yes

18 **Key Decision Reference**

18.1 ESR-35-23

19 **Background Papers**

19.1 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:

Details of the previous stages in the preparation of the Local Plan review can be found online as follows:

- Regulation 18 Notification - [Local Plan Review Regulation 18 | Local Plan Review Regulation 18 | Oldham Council](#)
- Issues and Options - [Issues and Options | Issues and Options | Oldham Council](#)

Details of evidence prepared to date to inform the Local Plan review can be found online at [Evidence | Oldham Council](#).

20 **Appendices**

20.1 Attached to this report are the following appendices:

- Appendix 1 - Draft Local Plan
- Appendix 2 - Draft Local Plan Appendices
- Appendix 3 - Issues and Options Comments and Response Schedule
- Appendix 4 - Consultation Statement
- Appendix 5 - Integrated Assessment (incorporating the Sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Oldham Impact Assessment Tool and Health Impact Assessment)
- Appendix 6 – Integrated Assessment Scoping Report Update
- Appendix 7 - Non-Technical Summary of the Integrated Assessment
- Appendix 8 – Statement of Common Ground