

Full council 10th July 2024 – Notice of Opposition Motion

Removing Oldham Borough from Places for Everyone

Proposed by: Councillor Howard Sykes

Seconded by: Councillor Max Woodvine

This council recognises that:

- Places for Everyone is based on 'housing need' calculations which are already the better part of a decade old.
- Places for Everyone does not give guarantees with regards to the delivery of affordable and socially rented homes.
- 'Places for Everyone' represents a developer-led approach.
- It would see the irreparable loss of Green Belt sites and green spaces which is not necessary.
- It uses Green Belt for the delivery of a housing strategy focused solely on developer profit.
- It does not deliver the right mix of affordable housing types and tenures in the places people want to live.
- We also believe the Adoption Statement for the Plan presented at the last Full Council meeting in March 2024 was misleading by implying that all the main modifications had been consulted on. This was not the case, as none of the main modifications related to HS2 have been consulted upon.

This council resolves to:

- 1) Request that Council consider at its next meeting in September, that the Secretary of State be requested to revoke the 'Places for Everyone' plan in the interest of all Oldham's residents, businesses and other stake holders for the reasons stated above.
- 2) In order for Council to consider this decision at its next meeting in September, the relevant council officers are requested to present a full report on the planning, legal, equalities and all other considerations of such a revocation.
- 3) Should the request be approved Oldham Council' withdraw engagement and support for the defence of the judicial review of 'Places for Everyone'.
- 4) Should the Plan be revoked the Green Belt boundaries should be restored to their pre-adoption state.
- 5) If the Plan is revoked develop an Oldham-led housing strategy that prioritises brownfield and ex-industrial sites, while protecting greenbelt and green spaces for future generations.