

Report to Council

Oldham Council Annual Report 24/25

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Building a Better Oldham

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Reason for Decision

The Oldham Council Annual Report 2024/25 marks the first opportunity to reflect on the progress made since the launch of our Corporate Plan 2024–2027. It highlights the difference the Council has made over the past year – from delivering better services and investing in our neighbourhoods, to supporting residents and businesses through change. The report is designed to celebrate success, show how our priorities are being turned into action, and give a clear picture of the positive impact we are making for Oldham.

Executive Summary

The Oldham Council Annual Report 2024/25 reflects on the first year of delivering our Corporate Plan 2024–2027. It captures the progress made against our key priorities and highlights how the Council is working to make a real difference for residents, communities and businesses. Achievements over the past year include progress on the regeneration of Oldham town centre, the delivery of new housing, improvements to frontline services, and investment in cleaner, greener initiatives that support our climate ambitions.

Recommendations

1. Note the content of the Oldham Council Annual Report 24/25

1. Background

- 1.1. In 2024, Oldham Council published its Corporate Plan 2024–2027, setting out a clear vision and priorities for the borough over a three-year period. The Corporate Plan provides a shared framework that guides decision-making, directs resources, and ensures the Council remains focused on delivering the outcomes that matter most to residents, communities and businesses.
- 1.2. As part of this commitment, the Council publishes an Annual Report to track progress against the Corporate Plan and demonstrate the impact of our work. The 2024/25 Annual Report is the first of these updates. It highlights what has been achieved in the first year of delivery and provides a foundation for accountability, transparency and continuous improvement.

2. Current Position

- 2.1. This Annual Report provides a comprehensive overview of the Council's progress in the first year of delivering the Corporate Plan 2024–2027. It captures achievements across our priorities, from investing in services and regeneration to improving the quality of life for residents.
- 2.2. The report features case studies that bring this progress to life – including the development of Family Hubs, which are providing joined-up support for children and families, and the recognition of Oldham's Children's Services as Good by Ofsted, reflecting the dedication of our workforce. It also highlights major investments such as the £20 million to get Oldham growing, significant improvements in housing standards and new housebuilding, and the Council's leadership of regeneration projects that are reshaping the town centre and neighbourhoods. Together, these achievements show the Council delivering on its commitments and building strong foundations for the years ahead.
- 2.3. Another key development in the past year was Oldham Council's award for Most Improved Council from the LGA. This was a significant milestone following numerous measures of improvement which have been undertaken since the LGA peer review in 2023.

3. Options/alternatives

- 3.1. Option 1: Note the content of the Oldham Council Annual Report 24/25.
- 3.2. Option 2: Do not note the content of the Oldham Council Annual Report 24/25.

4. Preferred Option

- 4.1. Option 1 would be the preferred option, acknowledging the work of the council over the past year and supporting the missions and priorities outlined in the Corporate Plan.

5. Consultation

- 5.1. N/A

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. All actions outlined within the Oldham Council Annual Report have been funded through existing resources. No additional financial obligations are anticipated.

(Matthew Kearns – Finance Manager)

7. Legal Services Comments

- 7.1. The report simply seeks to note the Council's annual report. There are no legal implications contained in this report's options. The recommended option is however supported to help ensure maximum resident focus and a regular update on the objectives of the Council. (*Alex Bougatef – Director of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer*)

8. Community cohesion, including crime and disorder implications in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

- 8.1. None

9. Equality Impact – including implications for Children and Young People

- 9.1. N/A (James Mulvaney, Policy Manager)

10. Key Decision

- 10.1. No

11. Background Papers

- 11.1. None

12. Appendices

- 12.1. The Oldham Council Annual Report 24/25