

Public Questions - Full Council: Wednesday, 10th December 2025

	From / Date	To	Question
1	Hannah Roberts Wed 12/11/2025 13:48	Councillor Abdul Jabbar – Cabinet Member for Finance, Corporate Services & Sustainability	I welcome the Labour Government's proposals to implement sweeping reforms to strengthen standards and rebuild confidence in local government and share the widespread support expressed in the consultation for a mandatory code of conduct. Local authorities will get powers to suspend councillors and mayors for serious misconduct and to withhold allowances where behaviour falls short. The Coalition Government removed all effective sanctions which has helped to undermine confidence in local councils. Could the Leader comment further and does she have any information about how soon these overdue reforms will be in place?
2	Matthew Broadbent Thu 13/11/2025 06:21	Councillor Elaine Taylor – Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods	In April, planning permission was refused for a Battery Energy Storage System in Failsworth's Green Belt. In October, the decision was overturned by the Planning Inspectorate on the back of the Council not meeting the deadline to submit the necessary paperwork to defend the decision. In addition, the Inspectorate awarded substantial costs against the Council for "unreasonable behaviour", which Oldham ratepayers will now have to foot the bill for. Does the Leader take responsibility for the Council dropping the ball, and what actions will the Council take to ensure that such negligence never happens again?
3	Karen Moore Thu 13/11/2025 09:30	Councillor Chris Goodwin – Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways	I reported sinking pavement on 9/10/25 on Livingstone Street, Springhead. Council please explain the Council's response that the street was unadopted and repairs were the responsibility of the houses fronting the street.

			<p>The information links provided in the Council's email clearly indicated the street to be firstly, maintained at public expense by Oldham and secondly, adopted; as listed in Oldham Council Street Index. Given these facts could the Council please advise therefore, when the maintenance will begin to repair the pavement to stop the sinking, before an accident happens to the general public or the adjacent properties areu damaged?</p>
4	<p>Stephen Ingham Thu 13/11/2025 13:21</p>	<p>Councillor Chris Goodwin – Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways</p>	<p>Parking is an ongoing problem in Oldham especially outside schools at dropping off and, more particularly, picking up time. The council has had time to assess the effectiveness of the School Street scheme and it is time to role it out on a wider scale. I realise it will take time but the residents around Leesbrook Academy need help now. There are times when it is chaos, people late for appointments, late getting children to nursery and primary school because of the gridlock around the school.</p> <p>What can the council and the police do to sort matters out?</p>
5	<p>Amy Wrigley Fri 14/11/2025 00:23</p>	<p>Councillor Fida Hussain – Cabinet Member for Enterprise</p>	<p>Oldham has been highlighted as having a large proportion of women who are unemployed. Based on the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics website, it gives us a figure that's more than double the national average for female unemployment.</p> <p>What is Oldham Council doing to support and encourage women specifically into employment aside from Jobcentre initiatives?</p>
6	<p>Jane Macdonald 17/11/2025 13:53</p>	<p>Councillor Chris Goodwin – Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways</p>	<p>Can the council please explain what they are doing about flooding issues in Well-I-hole Road Greenfield. The road floods each time there is heavy rainfall. The situation has got worse since the installation of traffic lights at the junction by the Royal George.</p> <p>A culvert by bungalows on the Manchester Road is blocked. This overflows and the drains on the Manchester Road are inadequate to cope with the volume of water. The water pours over the dropped curb</p>

			at the lights, down Well-I-hole Road and into the yard of Well-I-hole Farm and the driveway of West View.
7	Shona Farnworth Mon 17/11/2025 21:03	Councillor Chris Goodwin – Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways	Please can I ask why the tram station lifts are out of order at Free hold tram station as this vital for people like myself who is in a wheelchair require accessibility by using the lift. Please can you confirm when this will be operating along side all the lifts to trams in greater Manchester this makes it unfair for wheelchair users?
8	Tom Penketh Tue 18/11/2025 14:04	Councillor Chris Goodwin – Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways	<p>I regularly walk around Oldham town centre whilst commuting to meetings and events, on the dark mornings and afternoons I choose to stay in well lit areas for personal safety and peace of mind like many others do.</p> <p>However there's several areas in the town centre including outside your Old Library building on union street that have no street lighting whatsoever. It's in these areas that I and others feel particularly vulnerable.</p> <p>All pedestrians should feel safe in our town so my question is how much longer before this Council gets the basics right and switches on the lights.</p>
9	Lynne Thompson Wed 26/11/2025 14:45	Councillor Elaine Taylor – Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods	<p>I am delighted to see that 'Don't Trash Oldham' is to be relaunched, though in truth I missed the announcement that it had been discontinued.</p> <p>What local people want day-to-day from council services is to get the basics right. That means keeping rubbish, weeds and potholes under control</p> <p>But as money is scarce, I must ask: where are the resources coming from? Are our parks teams, for example, downing their weed sprayers to pick up this job?</p>

10	Abid Sardar Wed 03/12/2025 19:46	Councillor Goodwin – Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways	<p>I have lived on Frederick Street, Coppice, Oldham for 23 years. We have seen the area deteriorate. We are seeing an increasing amount of rubbish being discarded in the area, particularly the rear alleyway.</p> <p>I have seen recent social media posts from local councillors arranging for alleyways to be cleaned. I have contacted my local councillors requesting a similar service, with limited responses.</p> <p>Can you please advise what criteria is being used to allocate these public resources to clean alleyways.</p> <p>Historically we had litter pickers go through the area weekly, can you please advise why this has stopped.</p>