Emergency Powers Decision Report

Zoning Co-ordination Boday - Approval of model & grant acceptance

Decision Maker: Chief Executive

Service Area: Creating a Better Place
Directorate: Place
Report Author: Andrew Hunt, Green Energy & Sustainability Manager
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Date of Decision: 2nd November 2026

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1. Power to make the decision

The decision is being taken under the authorisation contained in Section 9C – Delegations to Specific Officers of Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council Constitution for the Chief Executive to take any emergency decisions in respect of the Council's executive functions which cannot be delayed until the next Cabinet meeting.

2. Decision Sought

Zoning Co-ordination Body – approval of model and acceptance of grant funding

3. Reason for urgency

This decision is required in parallel to similar decisions being taken in Stockport and Trafford Councils in support of a GMCA decision to establish a Zoning Co-ordination Body under the proposed model.

4. Risk(s) of not taking the decision

Oldham may not be able to participate in the GMCA ZCB and may have to establish and potentially fund its own ZCB to comply with forthcoming national secondary legislation.

5. Financial impact if decision not taken forward

Oldham will forego the circa £1m of revenue grant funding associated with ZCB implementation in Oldham and may have to self-fund its own ZCB.

6. Statutory Officer clearances

a. Section 151 Officer

Name Lee Walsh
Date 7 October 2026
Comments

This report seeks approval to accept up to £400k of DESNZ revenue grant funding for 2026/27 to support the implementation of the Heat Network Zoning Co-ordination Body (ZCB) and related programme activities within Oldham.

The programme is fully funded through external grant resources and therefore there are no additional financial implications for Council budgets.

The report also notes potential future grant funding of approximately £565k for the period 2027-2030, subject to DESNZ approval and annual funding allocations. Expenditure will be monitored to ensure compliance with grant conditions.

b. Monitoring Officer

Name: Alex Bougatef
Date: 30th September 2026
Comments:

The exercise of emergency powers should be undertaken in consultation with the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council. However, the Council has not yet appointed a Leader or Deputy Leader for the current municipal year, so it is not possible to consult them. In addition, there is no certainty about when a Leader or Deputy Leader will be appointed, as the Council has failed at successive meetings to do so. For the reasons given in the report an urgent decision is required, and the matter cannot await the appointment of a Leader and Deputy Leader at some undetermined future date.