

Partnership Award for Sustainable Communities

Executive Summary

The Oldham Partnership's vision is to make 'Oldham – a place where everyone is proud to belong'. For people to be proud of Oldham, a strong, confident community has to be built – economically, socially, physically and environmentally.

The Oldham Partnership has imbued a passion into this vision with Oldham Beyond – a nationally recognised regeneration scheme, which encompasses all facets of a sustainable community. These ambitious plans have been incorporated into the revised Community Strategy, which was subjected to a thorough Sustainability Appraisal during its inception. The Oldham Partnership's attention and resources are focused on turning this vision into reality, and a strong culture of performance management ensures progress is continually analysed.

An impressive sense of community empowerment and community led initiatives have been taking Oldham forwards. Training programmes such as Bridging The Gap and Building Good Relations have increased community engagement, and the results are already evident in initiatives such as the Festival of Diversity, the Green Olympics and Neighbourhood Solutions – an innovative approach to neighbourhood and community management that cuts across traditional service boundaries. In conjunction with the major regeneration milestones that have already been achieved as part of Oldham Beyond, such as the opening of University Centre Oldham and the refurbishment of Alexandra Park, Oldham is creating a unique signature within Greater Manchester, the Northern Way, and the wider national and international picture.

Crucially, this activity is both sustainable, and will build communities. In Oldham, it's not just what we do, it's the way that we do it.

