A productive place to invest where business and enterprise thrive

- In March 2012, extensive plans for the town centre were unveiled at a launch at Gallery Oldham. The scheme announced 11 prime sites, identified as ideal locations for investors to transform the town centre.

- In October, the borough’s regeneration plans were showcased in London in a bid to attract investors to Oldham.

- Town centre regeneration continues with the launch of plans for the Old Town Hall and completion of the Coliseum refurbishment.

- The number of new jobs created (via direct leads) is now almost double the target amount and the number of NEETs is well below target.

- Arrival of Metrolink to Oldham and extension to Shaw.

- Successfully secured funding from Arts Council England and Heritage Lottery Fund for the first stages of the new Coliseum and Heritage Centre.

- Completion of Oldham Academy North, Blessed John Henry Newman College and Waterhead Academy.

- KS2 Level 4 attainment is now above the national average of 79% and is in line with the statistical neighbour average of 79.8%.

- We have invested an additional £2m into repairing the highways, including investing in a Velocity patcher.

- 91.6% of Oldham pupils progressed by at least two levels in KS2 English, 6% more than in 2011 and 89.7% progressed by at least 2 levels in KS2 Maths, which is 5% more than in 2011.
The new Metrolink stop at King Street will significantly improve people’s first impression of Oldham.
• Back with a Bang! Oldham’s civic bonfire returned and was a massive success. Over 14,000 residents enjoyed a night filled with music, arts performances and a spectacular fireworks display.

• We are the first council in Greater Manchester to set up a Local Authority Mortgage Scheme, which has helped 55 first time buyers access the housing market.

• We completed our first community asset transfer – for land at Fulwood Nature Reserve, to the Rangers Foundation for Youth and Community in the Environment.

• Link Centre relaunched as the Centre for Independent Living and Oldham Women’s Centre opened to provide holistic support to some of Oldham’s most vulnerable women.

• Oldham’s Health and Wellbeing Strategy was approved and the first statutory meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board took place in April 2013.

• Oldham’s Public Health Charter is now in place and recognised nationally as good practice.

• District Family Panels are now operational across the borough. These panels have co-ordinated efforts across the public sector and have, to date, provided intensive support to 50 of our most vulnerable families.

• The levels of anti-social behaviour are below target levels and a new Go! Oldham phone app has been launched to help promote activities over the summer months.

• Through the Gateways to Oldham scheme, over 300 homes were refurbished and 72 new homes completed and our Housing Advice Service has prevented over 1600 people becoming homeless.

• We scooped a prestigious Britain in Bloom award for ‘Best City’ and also picked up a Pride of Place Award for our ‘Love Where You Live’ campaign.
New housing on St. Marys
A Co-operative Council creating responsive and high quality services

• We ran the largest local authority-led energy switching scheme in the country with over 8,500 people signing up, delivering potential savings to residents totalling £1.4m.

• We secured a deal with First Bus giving Oldham residents a huge 28% discount on daily and weekly travel tickets.

In support of the regeneration of the town centre and its high street, the Council provided free car parking in the run up to Christmas, followed by the introduction of free parking for three hours at weekends across all town centre car parks all year round.

• We signed a 10-year deal with Oldham Community Leisure to kickstart sports and leisure provision, including a new town centre sports centre.

• Our annual accounts were submitted faster than anywhere else in the country and our Finance Team now provide an advisory service to other local authorities.

• Our new website received a 4-star rating from the Society of IT Management and is rated as one of the top 20 local authority websites in the country.

• We are the only local authority in the region to be awarded the internationally recognised ISO14001 standard for our Environmental Management System.

• We launched the Co-operative Oldham Fund which brings together nearly a million pounds of funding intended to support voluntary action across the borough.

• We have successfully identified £40m worth of savings that are to be made over the next two years.

• We’ve recently implemented an Early Payment scheme with Oxygen Finance which could potentially save £2m by ensuring payments are made to suppliers within five to eight days.