



Councillor **Amanda Chadderton**

Leader of Oldham Council

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26th October 2022
Cllr Graham Sheldon
Leader of the Oldham & Saddleworth Conservative Group
Joint Leader of the Opposition

Dear Graham,

I write to invite you to join us in our 'Don't Take It Out On Us' plea to the Government, I enclose my letter to the Chancellor on this topic and ask that you use your influence within the Conservative Party to ensure that a wrecking ball isn't taken to Oldham Council's finances again.

You know, as I do, that over the last decade the Local Government Finance Settlement's have not been kind to Oldham, we have lost over 45% of our core funding from central Government, just as you know that the Finance Settlement assumes that Local Authorities raise council tax by the maximum amount.

For over a decade Conservative Governments have forced councils – of every political persuasion – to raise council tax in order to run necessary services, leading to an abhorrent situation where the council runs less services despite increasing Council Tax. This is not sustainable.

My message to you is as simple as my message to the current occupant of Number 11 Downing Street, Don't Take It Out On Us, many of our residents are having a difficult time at the minute with the rising cost-of-living.

We cannot afford more cuts, adult social care and children's services are the two biggest items in the Council's budgets. Cuts to these services would be hugely regressive and frankly put our residents across the Borough in danger.

Please put the people of Oldham before your Party and add your voice to the defence of Oldham's vital public services. Tell this Government that they cannot take their mistakes out on Oldham. Local residents cannot afford to pay for them.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Amanda Chadderton
Leader of Oldham Council & Oldham Labour Group
Member for Royton South