

# ADEPT President's Awards 2024

## Entry form

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**Award category** Delivering Clean Growth

**Project Title** Oldham Green New Deal

**Local authority entrant** Oldham Council

**Headline summary (150 characters max.)**

Oldham Green New Deal - the first Local Authority strategy of its kind in the UK - brings organisations and people together to tackle climate change.

**Please note we need at least one supporting image per award submission. Upload your image/s below.**



**Video - please paste links to any video evidence here. (Leave blank if not relevant.)**

Green Summit video: <https://vimeo.com/922402056/583fade40e?share=copy>

**Delivering clean growth: How is this project delivering clean growth, not just now but into the future – demonstrating ambition and vision, anticipating future challenges and future proofing growth including developing the workforce for the future? (150 words max)**

The Oldham Green New Deal Strategy (OGNDS), adopted in March 2020, was the first such Local Authority strategy of its kind in the UK.

Setting stretching carbon neutrality targets for the Council and the borough, it sets out Oldham Council's unique approach to achieving these targets: aiming to maximise the local economic co-benefits of inward investment from the commercial sector and central government for low carbon infrastructure.

It uses Community Wealth Building principles to deploy investment in a way which ensures maximum participation of Oldham's Green Technology and Services supply chain companies, as well as deeply engaging communities to ensure that infrastructure will be delivered according to local needs and priorities.

This will in turn help to tackle the 'cost of living crisis' by building local energy security and supporting local businesses to become more competitive.

### **Delivering clean growth: How is this project working across boundaries and with different partners to achieve long lasting clean growth? (150 words max)**

The Oldham Green New Deal brings together organisations from all sectors both in Oldham and more widely across Greater Manchester.

In Oldham, the OGND Delivery Partnership includes large energy users in the borough from both public and private sectors, local businesses including Green Tech & Services sector, The Oldham College and other educational establishments, local charities and third sector organisations, local housing providers, and of course multiple services from the Council.

All of these organisations will work with the commercial partner being procured by the Council to create a pipeline of decarbonisation projects for the borough, and the partnership will co-ordinate the delivery programme to ensure that the workforce and skills are available for Oldham and GM suppliers involved in project delivery.

Other key regional and national partners are also involved, including GMCA, Electricity North West, United Utilities, Cadent, DESNZ, the GM Growth Hub (Green Economy), CLES and Carbon Co-op.

### **Delivering clean growth: How is this project proactively engaging with business to tackle problems and find solutions, stimulating the clean growth sector at the same time? (150 words max.)**

Oldham's Local Area Energy Plan identifies all the low carbon infrastructure the borough requires to achieve Net Zero, and shows a need for around £5.6bn of investment in low carbon energy infrastructure.

There's around 100 local businesses in the Green Technology and Services (GTS) supply chain, employing around 2,000 people. To support growth in the sector, the Council is implementing projects including £20m of Levelling Up funded infrastructure including a new £10m Green Shoots Business Centre and a new education centre at Oldham's ambitious Northern Roots eco-park.

The Council chairs the Oldham Green New Deal Delivery Group, bringing together Oldham's GTS businesses with the wider economy and key local, regional and national organisations.

We also recently organised the first Oldham Green Summit, with presentations from major Oldham businesses who have used local GTS sector companies to help them achieve Net Zero, and a marketplace to support networking and B2B activity.

### **Delivering clean growth: How is this project going beyond the 3-5 year budget cycle to prepare for future challenges including the use or consideration of innovative funding solutions? (150 words max.)**

The Council has developed a delivery model for the £5.6bn of investment set out in the LAEP to achieve Net Zero – the Oldham Green New Deal Delivery Partnership (OGNDDP).

The Council will this year publish a tender for a long-term strategic infrastructure partner for an initial 15-year programme, with options to extend if successful.

The successful delivery partner will first deliver the £27m Oldham Low Carbon Heat Network project and will then be tasked with creating a project pipeline for the borough, working with the Council and local businesses and landowners.

In this way, the Council will secure long-term commercial investment in its local energy infrastructure. However, a key feature of the partnership will be the way it will ensure that the economic co-benefits of inward investment (jobs, training opportunities and the improvement of local infrastructure and facilities) are secured through a Community Wealth Building approach.

### **All categories: please add anything else that supports your award entry**

Oldham has been awarded around £1.5m from the DESNZ Local Net Zero Accelerator programme, via the GM Combined Authority, to implement the Oldham Green New Deal Delivery Partnership model.

It is intended that the grant funded programme will demonstrate the value of Oldham's unique approach and also its replicability in other local authority areas across the region and the UK.