

OYC Year Recap

2022

Includes December 2022 Monthly Recap

Firstly... the December 2022 Recap

YouthForia - Sunday the 4th of December 2022

The last Youthforia of 2022 was held in the Oldham Civic Council Chambers with the theme of the **environment**.

We worked on our debating skills around the dependency on plastic & making a plantable pledge on how to make our personal lives more environmentally effective. We ended the conference by electing members to the YouthForia Steering Group.



Above: the words "Welcome to YoFo" projected on a screen.



Above: a piece of seeded paper, shaped like a heart with an image of a bee, on top of a piece of paper saying "Plantable Pledge" including instructions on planting the paper.

Meeting - Wednesday the 14th of December 2022

As a reward to all of our members after a long year (see the 2022 Yearly Recap slides), youth workers made this meeting a special one for Youth Councillors, which included fun team building games, secret Santa and even a guest appearance from Santa.

More: <https://oldhamyc.com/blog/2022/12/14/oyc-meeting-minutes-14-12-2022/>

2022 Yearly Recap

Andy Burnham

Various Occurrences



GMYCA representatives from across Greater Manchester, including Ying Shi from Oldham in a photo with Andy Burnham (Mayor of Greater Manchester) & Cllr Mark Hunt (Leader of Stockport Council), taken on Thursday the 13th of October 2022.

The Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority (GMYCA) representatives have met the mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, a few times, discussing county-wide issues we as young people have.

You can see what GMYCA have been doing on their Twitter: [@youthgreatermcr](https://twitter.com/youthgreatermcr)

Council Motions

Various Occurrences

We had **three successful motions** to Oldham Council, where youth councillors attended an Oldham Council meeting to say what we want to the councillors. The motions were on:

1. Safer Streets (March 16th) - [Watch](#)
2. Holidays Activity & Food Programme (November 2nd) - [Watch](#)
3. Green, Brown, Blue Roofs & Living Walls (December 14th) - [Watch](#)



Olivia Everitt (L) & Hamza Iqbal (R) delivering the motion on the HAF Programme on Wednesday the 2nd of November 2022.

Discussions

All Time

We have had numerous discussions, on how to make [your Oldham](#) better.

This includes discussions on the current issues in Oldham, as well as possible solutions, for example our campaigns of this year:

- [Tackling Racism & Xenophobia](#)
- [Safer Public Transport](#)

We have discussed matters both internally and to decision makers such as Oldham Council councillors & employees (some of who attended our meetings).

Elections

January & February 2022

We had a few internal elections over the span of three meetings. These were for our vice chair (who would move on to being chair and eventually Youth Mayor), an election for a Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) for the current year and two Deputy MYPs (DMYP) who would become MYP in the following year, two GMYCA (Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority) representatives and five officer roles, who says what goes on internally.

The table to the right shows our roles throughout 2022.

**Promoted from previous roles and not elected in this year*

Role	People
Youth Mayor	Tia Henderson (till June)* Hamra Hanif-Ali (from June)*
Chair	Charlotte Clasby*
Vice Chair	Isaac Quinn
MYP	Prem Raghvani Zoe Cummins*
DMYP	Louie Wild Tom Penketh
GMYCA	Ying Shi Callum Oliver
Officers	(Communications): Prem Raghvani (Inclusivity): Zoe Cummins (Priorities): Tom Penketh (Events): Aaliyah Ahmed (Campaigns): Joshua Aspin



Of course, to treat our members, we have had [moments of fun](#), after discussing many topics.

This has included some fun activities such as a residential (more on the slide labelled 'R'), which did also involve discussing some youth council topics, and relaxed meetings, for example our Christmas meeting.

Green Summit

October 2022



(L-R) Jennifer Whitcombe, Isaac Quinn, Andy Burnham (Mayor of Greater Manchester), Ying Shi, Penelope Spencer-Simpson & Amelia Chauhan, at the Green Summit.

On Monday the 17th of October, some Youth Councillors and some students of Waterhead Academy attended the **Greater Manchester Green Summit** at the Manchester Metropolitan University.

Over there, they showcased many brilliant innovations, such as Manchester **fuel cell innovation** centres, environmentally friendly **3D printing** and **our impact** on the climate, as Oldham and as Greater Manchester.

Hull Annual Conference

July 2022

British Youth Council (BYC) do an annual conference lasting 3 days, where young people discuss local issues to be dealt with on a national scale.

Oldham's MYPs submitted [3 proposed policies](#) on tackling racism & xenophobia, tackling sexual harassment and cheaper & safer public transport.

Here is more information on that:

<https://myp.premraghvani.xyz/update?id=8>

The outcome of the conference determines the limited topics debated at Parliament, see the "P" slide.



Youth Councillors Griff Rostrom (pictured) and Louie Wild DMYP representing Oldham on behalf of both of the MYPs who unfortunately could not make it to the conference.



Youth Councillors pictured with members of Greater Manchester Police, including Chief Constable Watson, in March 2022 after discussing Operation AVRO.

The Independent Advisory Group (IAG) youth members have a monthly meeting with the Greater Manchester Police and Oldham panel about different issues significantly occurring in Oldham and Manchester like domestic issues.

Youth members represent the youth voice and their views of officials and how they can **break the disconnect** of young people and the police force such as forces coming into Oldham Youth Council meetings themselves.

Jobs, Money, Homes & Opportunities

September 2022

On Sunday the 11th of September, Youth Councillors went to a YouthForia in Blackpool, and was themed on Jobs, Money, Homes and Opportunities.

YouthForia is a conference with young people from across the North West attending, where regional issues are discussed, alongside topical discussions, for example on this topic and other topics (as seen under the “K”, “L” and “O” sections of these slides).



Prem Raghvani MYP at the front, in front of a slideshow saying "Questions?:" after presenting and discussing about personal finance.

Knowsley YouthForia

October 2022



A photo taken at the towards the end of the YouthForia, where young people across the North West sat and listened to a presentation.

On [Saturday the 29th](#) of October, Youth Councillors went to [YouthForia](#), held in [Huyton](#) (Knowsley, Merseyside), more on what YouthForia is on the previous slide.

This YouthForia was on [Black History month](#), and included learning about the current curriculum and what is missed out.

Liverpool YouthForia

June 2022

On Saturday the 25th of June, Youth Councillors went to another YouthForia (more on YouthForia on the “J” slide).

This YouthForia was held at Liverpool Hope University, and was themed on Health and Wellbeing, where we learned about period poverty and the issues in the system when transitioning from a child to an adult. We additionally learned skills such as campaigning skills and how to hold a focus group.



A photo taken at the start of the YouthForia, with a projector projecting "Welcome to YoFo"

Make Your Mark

February 2022

In February, we surveyed young people (11-18 year olds) through schools and colleges, in order to collect what **national and local issues** young people believed were an issue.

We managed to get the views of **10,888 young people** on national issues and 10,086 on local issues, with an approximate turnout of 42%, **the highest turnout in the North West** and 3rd highest nationally, **thanks to you!**

Here is a link to our Make Your Mark report, containing all information including the highest voted topics:

<https://oldhamyc.com/blog/2022/06/14/make-your-mark-2022/>

NetZero Conference

October 2022



A photo taken at the conference, with a projector projecting "Welcome to the North West Net Zero Youth Conference"

In October 2022, a member of OYC attended the North West Net Zero conference in Salford, learning about ideas such as how we can grow [plants on buildings](#), which can reduce flooding, reduce CO₂ emissions and help regulating building temperature.

Some ideas on this conference were taken to a [motion to Oldham Council](#) (in December 2022), discussing how Oldham Council should use such concepts on newer council buildings.

Oldham YouthForias

April & December 2022

Oldham had the honour in hosting two YouthForias (more on what that is on the “J” slide).

The themes were:

- **Disabilities** (April 2022)
Where young people learned about deaf people and their accessibility requirements, and other forms of hidden disabilities.
- **The Environment** (December 2022)
Where young people were asked what we should do to protect the environment e.g. more reliance on public transport, alongside introducing young people to the problems and potential solutions.



An image taken at the December 2022 YouthForia, where young people were seated in the Oldham Council Chambers and the words "Welcome to YoFo" was projected on a screen to the side.

Parliament

November 2022

On **Friday the 4th of November**, Oldham's Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) Prem Raghvani and Zoe Cummins went to the Houses of Commons, to debate Oldham's issues on a national level.



Zoe Cummins MYP (L) & Prem Raghvani MYP (R) on a green bench in Parliament.

They sat through 5 debates on: Discrimination, The Environment, Education, Cost of Living and Mental Health.

Cost of Living will be the main campaign on the national scale for 2023.

Neither MYPs managed to get chosen to debate, however you can read Prem's debate at: <https://myp.premraghvani.xyz/update?id=14>

Queen's Jubilee

June 2022

Youth Councillors got the opportunity to represent Oldham at the Queen's Jubilee Pageant. They were placed into individual groups and all worked at different time frames to help **create the flags** using wax melted onto silk and then dyeing it with vibrant colours to **represent cultures and acceptance of vast personalities**. Written on the flags were poems that participants produced to be placed on the flags.

One youth councillor mentioned: "It was a **proud moment** when I saw my poem on one of the flags describing **how Oldham makes me feel**."

[Watch here](#)



Youth Councillors, Youth Workers and residents of Oldham in a group picture in their costumes, worn at the pageant.

Residential

August 2022

As a reward for the work attained in the first half term of office, youth councillors are awarded with their annual trip of a “Residential”. This year it was held in Mount Cook, Middleton (Derby).

Youth councillors worked alongside the members of Barrier Breakers and Children in care council to **develop team building skills** in the forms of physical activities such as den & fire building, climbing trials, leap-of-faith, and personal abilities, such as this trip focused specifically on the skill of **confidence** and how it can be **developed in public speaking**.

More on the work they did during this in the “X” section of this slideshow.

Start of the New Term

January 2022

Following our December 2021 elections, we recruited **42 new members** to Oldham Youth Council, in order to bring in fresh ideas, and make sure that we are as democratic as possible.

Our new members settled in quickly, and began making decisions, speaking to decision makers and attending key events.

Here is a list of members who begun in 2022:

<https://oldhamyc.com/blog/2021/12/21/oldham-youth-council-election-results-2022/>.

Theatre Workshop

June 2022



Young people running and participating within the theatre workshop.

Our theatre workshop programme, **You Stand Accused**, was a campaign with Oldham Theatre Workshop, where students from some Oldham secondary schools came to watch performances on bullying.

These students were then made to make a pledge on how to become an anti-bullying warrior, and what they will do back in school, alongside interacting by selecting out what the most significant ways are to stand up against hate crime.

Youth Councillors helped organise and participated in order to ensure it ran smoothly.

Undertaking Job Panels

Various Occurrences

Youth panels were used various times in helping officials decide various jobs in the social health care network. Young people interviewed applicants in different stems of social care, more specifically in the social work for youths, to decide who was most appropriate for working with young people.

Evaluating the interviewees on their personal interaction with young people during the interview helped give the employers a holistic view of their applicants when facing a group of young people in a more professional setting.

Oldham Practice Hub													
OLDHAM COUNCIL - INTERVIEW													
POST:	Independent Reviewing Officer - Team Manager												
DATE:													
CANDIDATES NAME:													
INTERVIEW PANEL MEMBER'S NAME:													
Introduction	SCORING SYSTEM												
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome and introduction• Post and salary• Details about the job role / expectations• Reminder - answer questions as fully as possible / do not assume we know your knowledge, skills or previous experience• Reason for taking notes• Opportunity to ask questions at the end	<table border="1"><tr><td>0</td><td>-</td><td>Does not meet the requirements</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>Partly meets the requirements</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>Fully meets the requirements</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>Exceeds the requirements</td></tr></table>	0	-	Does not meet the requirements	1	-	Partly meets the requirements	2	-	Fully meets the requirements	3	-	Exceeds the requirements
0	-	Does not meet the requirements											
1	-	Partly meets the requirements											
2	-	Fully meets the requirements											
3	-	Exceeds the requirements											

A cover sheet labelled "Oldham Practice Hub, Oldham Council Interview" which was used by the youth councillors participating as the interviewers.

Visiting TOG Mind

April 2022



(L-R) Olivia Everitt, Liam Harris & Charlotte Clasby listening to what a TOG Mind employee is saying, with Olivia holding a weighted teddy bear, an item which helps people with anxiety.

In April 2022, Youth Councillors went to TOG Mind's Oldham branch on Union Street, where we learned about facilities offered which help young people's mental health, including [free counselling services](https://www.togmind.org/contact).

Here is their contact page, if you would like to visit them or talk about anything including how to use their services: <https://www.togmind.org/contact>

WeStandTogether

May 2022

In Early May 2022, a representative from the [#WeStandTogether](#) campaign talked about their mission in our meeting, and discussed how they are a Greater Manchester charity aiming to [celebrate the UK's diverse communities](#), and coming up with anti-discriminatory initiatives, for instance hate crime awareness.

You can read more about [#WeStandTogether](#) on their website: <https://www.westandtogether.org.uk/>



Youth Councillors and representative Jonny Wineberg standing behind a banner saying "#WeStandTogether" in the Oldham Council chambers.

Xenophobia & Racism

Since February 2022, Our Campaign

Being a local issue in the 2022 **Make Your Mark**, youth councillors were ensured the topics were a significant issue to be worked on within Oldham.

We developed initial ideas as a council but then created a **joint campaigned effort** with the **Children in Need Council** and **Barrier Breakers** in the August “Super Resi”; planning a didactic story on xenophobia and racism in the form of a **children’s book** to be read to primary school children, teaching them at a young age that racial and xenophobia discrimination is wrong.

Though this campaign isn’t statute yet, it is heavily planned and will be in motion in the upcoming term.

Y Your Voice

All Time

The fundamental ideas of the Oldham Youth Council is to ensure we are representing the **voices of young people** all the time.

Evidently by creating these PowerPoints; ensuring all young people are aware of what we do as a council and how we are consistently improving the youth voice. And you will be able to be further involved in the **Make Your Mark** issues in the future (further discussed on the 'get involved' slide).

Zooper Jobs

All Time



Large screen saying "Welcome to GCHQ Manchester" with a collated image, containing images of Manchester landmarks, significant people and stuff associated with GCHQ, e.g. computer screens.

We learned about and talked about super ("zooper") jobs.

(Yes I ran out of ideas for the letter Z).

This included:

- Youth councillors **interviewing** potential youth workers (more on slide "U").
- Visiting the Government Communications Headquarters, **GCHQ**, and learned about their **opportunities**, including how they help train people to **new careers**, regardless of their degree.

Get Involved!

Make Your Mark

You will be given the opportunity to **vote** on the local issues (Oldham-wide) and regional issues (North West) which affect you, in **February**.

You will be given the opportunity to vote from multiple topics which may range from the environment to public transport.

Make sure to vote when your school sends out voting forms, and ensure **your** voice is heard by the key decision makers.



Photo by [Marco Verch](#), under [Creative Commons 2.0](#)

Improve This

These monthly slideshows are a **relatively new** concept.

Please don't hesitate to talk to a Youth Councillor at your school / college, if you want **more information**, any **additional resources**, or want to **get involved**.

Thank You.

Follow Us!

We are on Instagram and
Twitter [@OldhamYC](#)
& online at [oldhamyc.com](#)



Thank You!
& Happy New Year