

Better education facilities for future business success

Oldham is investing in education for its young people as the borough continues to build a highly educated workforce for the future.

Situated on the edge of the Pennines and partially inside the Peak District National Park Oldham offers a high quality of life. Oldham is well connected to the Northwest's motorway network – Manchester's orbital motorway, the M60, runs through the borough as does the M62, providing easy access to the Port of Liverpool to the west, and east over the Pennines to Leeds and Hull.

Although the textile and engineering industries that made Oldham the 'engine of the world' during the Industrial Revolution have since declined, the values of hard work and industry that prevailed in the 19th century have been inherited by future generations who have harnessed the borough's assets to meet the challenges of the modern business world.

Many new, hi-tech industries have moved here to take advantage of excellent communication links and a highly skilled, well-educated workforce. Electronics and electro-mechanical companies, food processing, clothing

manufacture, food distribution and mail order services are among the many businesses that succeed in Oldham. Household names including Ferranti, Mirror Group Newspapers, SSL International, Littlewoods, L'Oreal, Northern Foods and Zetex plc all have major operations in the borough.

Land available for development in Oldham town centre alone is equivalent to the size of 33 football pitches. The M60 Manchester outer ring road has opened up new opportunities for Oldham. Northern Counties Housing Association, for example, has already taken advantage of the prime strategic location by opening its new headquarters next to the motorway at Hollinwood. Hollinwood Business Centre is expanding to meet demand.

Education

Education is the priority for the borough. Three new academies, part of Oldham's £200m 'Building Schools