

Rochdale Borough Council is grateful for the insight of residents and will use these to inform the future development of the Borough. Rochdale has significant challenges including levels of poverty, deprivation and inequalities but has also made great progress recently, as showcased in July 2025 in the new Greater Manchester Strategy.

Social mobility has been positively influenced through the progress made in regenerating our town centres, jobs being created, the quality of our schools and colleges, transport, and the quality of our public services. Further investment and devolution of powers from Government to Greater Manchester and Rochdale is critical to delivering the ambitions of the next ten years.

Rochdale town centre has been significantly regenerated in recent years. This includes the creation of a new bus station and town centre tram stop, major refurbishment of our world-famous Grade 1-listed Town Hall, a new central library and leisure centre, the award-winning development to re-open a section of the River Roach, and hundreds of new homes that have replaced outdated Victorian housing.

Rochdale has many major private and public sector employers that provide good jobs for residents. The Atom Valley development zone will create up to 20,000 new jobs and 7,000 new homes. This includes the Sustainable Materials and Manufacturing Centre (SMMC) with the University of Manchester to support businesses to innovate.

On education, Rochdale has one of the very best Sixth Form Colleges in the country, in the top 1% nationally for its results, alongside the excellent Hopwood Hall College - these assets are incredible drivers of social mobility.

Integrated health and care arrangements in Rochdale are nationally leading as highlighted recently by the Chair of the NHS Confederation, Lord Victor Adebawale who stated 'the future is Rochdale' at a major national conference.

Many visitors are attracted to Rochdale by its cultural offer including being named the GM Town of Culture for 2025-26, such as recently hosting 'The Herds' in Heywood.

On transport, Rochdale has 6 trains an hour direct to Manchester that take as little as 12 minutes, as well as direct trains to Leeds, the direct Metrolink tram from Rochdale town centre to Manchester city centre, and brilliant road connections including direct access to the M60, M62 and M66 motorways.