

Rochdale Borough Draft Local Plan November 2025

3. The Spatial Vision

3.1 The below section sets a vision for the borough for 2039, that the plan's objectives and thematic policies will seek to contribute to.

People, Place, Planet - Planning for Resilient Growth

The Local Plan will support the Council's priorities by tackling health, poverty and environmental inequalities, minimising the impacts of climate change, and creating opportunities that will improve the lives and prospects of everyone. It is a spatial portrait of how we will manage the use of land and natural resources to deliver resilient growth for all. By 2039, our Local Plan for Resilient Growth will have enabled investment in our people, places, and planet, and helped us respond to the significant challenges and opportunities we face in a rapidly changing world.

Rochdale will be a more vibrant and attractive place to live and work, with a strong economic core around the transformative investment at Atom Valley, which will provide space for high value business development and innovation, as a driver for economic growth in the city-region. Residents will be able to access high quality jobs due to significant investments in transport infrastructure, linking new and existing residential areas. New job opportunities will help to deliver a more prosperous borough with improved living standards, higher wages and a more skilled workforce.

Our town centres will be revitalised, as attractive places to live, work, and spend leisure time in, linked by high quality public realm and spaces for walking and cycling. Delivering new homes in sustainable locations in town centres and near railway stations, as well as through strategic sites, will significantly broaden the housing offer in the borough. New development will be designed to a high quality to support active lifestyles and sustainable travel, which will improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

The energy demands of homes, buildings, transport and infrastructure will be reduced and more renewable energy will be produced and used locally. Investment in our green infrastructure will help us to make space for nature, reduce the local impacts of climate change, air pollution and flood risk, and create a more attractive place for people to live, work and visit. A more resilient natural environment will be central to economic growth and people's quality of life.

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