

## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING – 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2012

#### List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

#### ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR LEIGH BRAMALL

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words “That this Council” and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) recalls the light touch banking regulation masterminded by the Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown and Ed Balls, M.P.s, which brought the British economy to the edge of collapse in 2008;
- (b) furthermore, notes the previous Government’s record with public finances, increasing the national deficit year-on-year from 2001 onwards, reaching a total of £43bn prior to the economic crash;
- (c) notes the commitment of the last Government to halve the deficit by 2014, by pledging £82bn worth of cuts, compared to £81bn worth of cuts the Coalition plans to implement by 2015;
- (d) supports the decisive action taken by the Coalition Government, which has seen the deficit cut by a quarter since 2010, allowing the United Kingdom to avoid a loss of confidence experienced in Greece, Ireland and Italy;
- (e) however, recalls the scandal of youth unemployment under the last Government, with youth unemployment rising steadily from 2004 onwards, reaching almost half a million prior to the economic crash;
- (f) therefore, endorses the £1 billion Youth Contract announced by the Deputy Prime Minister, which will provide:
  - (i) 160,000 wage incentives for 18-24 year olds;
  - (ii) 250,000 additional work experience places for 18-24 year olds;
  - (iii) 20,000 incentive payments to encourage smaller businesses to recruit their first apprentices; and
  - (iv) a new programme of intensive support for 16 and 17-year olds who are not in employment, education or training;
- (g) in addition, welcomes the Sheffield City Region Deal, which has the potential to deliver 4,000 new apprenticeships, 2,000 employees with

new training, and 12,000 new jobs at the City's enterprise zone, which has been named the most attractive for businesses in the United Kingdom;

- (h) further, welcomes the hundreds of millions of pounds of investment in the region's infrastructure, including the recent announcement of the electrification of the Midland Main Line, the start of the Streets Ahead project, and the financial backing for a Sheffield University Technical College;
- (i) furthermore commends the Government's commitment to increase the income tax threshold to £10,000, cutting the tax bill of 24 million people and taking 2 million low paid workers out of income tax, compared to the last government, who scrapped the 10p tax rate, doubling the tax bill for some of the lowest paid in the country;
- (j) would like to see the Coalition go further to promoting a more Liberal economy and therefore supports proposals due to be discussed at the Liberal Democrat Conference including:
  - (i) developing a more sustainable banking industry;
  - (ii) rebalancing the economy from the City of London to Northern cities like Sheffield;
  - (iii) increasing the powers of the Green Investment Bank;
  - (iv) increasing the numbers of mutuals, co-operatives and employee owned businesses;
  - (v) ring fencing the Government's science budget; and
  - (vi) measures to ensure the very wealthiest in our society pay their fair share; and
- (k) recognises that without market confidence, long term growth will not return to Britain and to facilitate this, the Government needs to balance the books.

## **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.12 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DAVID BAKER**

### **2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jack Scott, seconded by Councillor Ibrar Hussain**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) regrets that the Council has had to reduce spending by £55 million in the 2012/13 budget and that by 2015/16 the Council will have £170m less to spend than it did in 2011/12 and regrets that the main opposition group continue to fully support the level of cuts imposed on the Council by the Conservative-led Government and recognizes the devastating impact of these cuts on our economy;

- (b) further regrets that to meet this unprecedented financial gap in the budget, it has been necessary for the Council to reduce spending on waste services, noting that moving to Alternate Week Collection saves the Council approximately £2.4 million every year, ceasing funding for the green waste service saves approximately £1.5 million and reducing hours at household waste recycling centres saves approximately £500,000;
- (c) notes that the Council makes every effort to provide the best possible waste service through conducting a cross party waste review, the results of which indicated that there was scope to reduce the number of black bin collections, noting that all other local authorities in South Yorkshire and the majority in England and Wales operate Alternate Week Collections and ensuring sufficient opening hours for 29 days per week at the Household Waste Recycling Centres to offer a sustainable service, working within the severe financial constraints imposed by the Government;
- (d) notes comments by Councillor Anders Hanson on website Lib Dem Voice, *"I think it has now become almost impossible politically to introduce new fortnightly bin collections as both the opposition and the press will mercilessly attack anyone who does it. ... However most people are happy with fortnightly collections when they get used to it."* and therefore deplores the opportunistic "merciless" campaign that the Liberal Democrat Party have conducted to scaremonger against fortnightly collections and believes this is an attempt to deflect the responsibility from the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam and the Liberal Democrats who are imposing unprecedented cuts to council services, which is inevitably impacting on the services that are provided for Sheffield people;
- (e) believes that despite teething issues, the roll out of Alternate Week Collections has been successful to date with over 99% of communication material delivered successfully, but notes a small amount were not and welcomes that Veolia have apologised in writing to those households and the Cabinet Member for Environment, Waste and Streetscene has publicly apologised for any inconvenience caused;
- (f) welcomes measures to help Sheffield people adjust to Alternate Week Collections such as the roll out of flexible choice for blue bins and boxes, allowing the collection of two sacks of side waste for the first two collections, increasing staffing in the Veolia call centre to deal with the increased volume of calls and the work of the liaison team to support Sheffield people to use the full range of facilities they are entitled to such as larger bins;
- (g) welcomes the fact that household collection recycling rates in Sheffield are now at the highest they have ever been and are still rising and

believes this demonstrates that Sheffield people are adjusting to the roll out of Alternate Week Collections;

- (h) recognises that the present Administration have made several improvements to original proposals to manage the reductions in opening hours and under the revised opening hours, Sheffield's five Household Waste Recycling Centres will be open a total of 29 days every week, with all sites open on the peak days of Friday to Monday, sites open every day of the week and summer opening times until 6pm which better suits the needs of users;
- (i) recalls that the previous Administration made the majority of the cuts to these Centres in the 2011/12 budget, and notes that in their 2012/13 budget amendments, neither opposition group proposed to reverse any savings to Household Waste Recycling Centres which would be required to re-consider reductions in opening hours and believes that the late involvement of the main opposition group after the revised opening hours have already been implemented is nothing more than blatant political opportunism;
- (j) further remembers that the Leader of the main opposition group was previously the Cabinet Member who oversaw the most shambolic mismanagement of the waste service the City has known through the introduction of blue boxes to recycle paper which angered many local people and welcomes that the present Administration are now resolving this issue across the City; and
- (k) reiterates its regret for all cuts to waste services, however, recognises that they are ultimately a consequence of the Liberal Democrat Party's, led by the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam, decision to support a Conservative-led Government which is heavily cutting Sheffield's budget at the same time as some of the wealthiest councils in the Conservative heartlands receive almost no cuts at all and regrets that the Liberal Democrat Party both locally and nationally continue to refuse to stand up for Sheffield and attempt to score cheap points.

### **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 18 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR IAN AUCKLAND**

3. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) welcomes the City Deal for Sheffield City Region which delivers innovative proposals on skills, investment, transport and innovation developed by the present Administration and partners across the

Sheffield City Region, however, notes that despite the welcome proposals in the City Deal, the vast majority of the money is not extra funding, it is existing Government money that will now come under local control rather than a significant rebalancing of government finance from London to the north;

- (b) notes that as part of the City Deal negotiations, Core Cities were asked to come forward with their 'asks' of Government and believes that asking for control of skills funding to shape how this is invested and to meet the needs of the local economy demonstrates that the City Region is leading on the skills agenda which is key to bringing jobs, developing growth industries and securing investment in the Region and demonstrates that the present Administration is standing up for Sheffield;
- (c) welcomes the successful collaboration and joint working between public and private sector partners across the Sheffield City Region to secure the City Deal, noting that the private sector have been heavily involved in the Deal, ensuring that it is responsive to the needs of local business and supports the business friendly approach of the present Administration;
- (d) welcomes the creation of the Sheffield City Region Apprenticeship hub which will deliver 4,000 new apprenticeships by 2016 and comes on the back of the innovative Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme developed by the present Administration and thanks everyone involved in developing and participating in this successful scheme including the apprentices, young people and council officers;
- (e) welcomes the numerous other proposals in the City Deal including Tax Increment Financing (TIF) 2, infrastructure investment, the 'sourcing roadmap' to support the City Region's advanced manufacturing industry and transport funding;
- (f) however, notes that despite the welcome proposals in the City Deal, the majority of this funding is not new investment and not a substitute for a credible economic plan to take the country out of recession; and
- (g) resolves to send a copy of this motion to the Chancellor of the Exchequer calling on the Government to take responsibility for the situation they have created and to develop an alternative based on the Shadow Chancellor's Plan for Jobs and Growth.

