

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 7TH NOVEMBER, 2012

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (g) and (h);
2. the addition of new paragraphs (g) to (m) as follows:-
 - (g) praises the previous Administration for implementing a £250 pay award for low-paid Council staff, whilst other members of staff were facing a pay freeze;
 - (h) yet recalls with disappointment that the current Administration did not adopt the intention of the previous Administration to proceed with the award as a two-year annual increase;
 - (i) furthermore, recalls the decision of Labour councillors to vote down the main opposition group's 2012/13 budget amendment, thereby protecting the salaries of highly-paid staff, at the expense of low-paid jobs like binmen and care workers;
 - (j) therefore regrets that the current Administration's record on supporting the low-paid has not always lived up to their rhetoric;
 - (k) however, supports this Council's commitment to implement a Living Wage and hopes that this policy will apply to agency staff as well as directly-employed Council staff;
 - (l) furthermore, encourages companies to whom the Council outsources services, to pay their staff a living wage; and
 - (m) equally welcomes reports that the current Administration plan to reduce senior management positions by £1 million but believes they could go further in reducing back office costs; and
3. the relettering of the original paragraph (i) as a new paragraph (n).

2. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of the words “and notes that it was first proposed in a motion to Full Council by the smallest opposition group in 2009” at the end of paragraph (e); and
2. the deletion of paragraphs (h) and (i) and the addition of new paragraphs (h) to (k) as follows:-
 - (h) welcomes reducing genuinely unnecessary management positions but notes that that the approximate £70,000 cost of delivering the Living Wage would be covered several times over by reducing the pay of all employees paid over £50,000 by 10%, a measure which would also reduce the divisive gap between what Council staff at the lowest and highest scales are paid;
 - (i) believes that many companies contracted to the Council currently pay below the current living wage;
 - (j) notes the recent report by One Society “Leading the Way on Fair Pay” that stated “Whilst some local authorities may fear that extending the Living Wage to contractors might have substantial adverse impact on budgets, those who have put this into effect have not found this to be so.”; and
 - (k) directs that a report is brought to Cabinet outlining plans to implement a Living Wage in the Council, explore the options with regard to making Living Wage a mandatory requirement of future Council contracts, and to initiate a campaign to support a Living Wage for Sheffield involving partners across the City in public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

3. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor John Robson**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion between the words “per hour” and “compared to” in paragraph (a) of the words “and this will increase to £7.45 per hour for 2013/14”; and
2. the addition of the words “and from April 2013 this will increase to £7.45 per hour” at the end of paragraph (f)

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BRYAN LODGE

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (a) to (j)
2. the re-lettering of paragraph (k) as a new paragraph (a) and the deletion in that paragraph of all the words after the words “regrets that” and their substitution by the words “cuts are necessary due to the previous Government’s reckless and irresponsible actions”; and
3. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (j) as follows:-
 - (b) highlights the following announcements as big wins for Sheffield and thanks the Coalition Government for its support:
 - (i) millions of pounds for Sheffield’s buses and trams, including the financial backing for a Tram/Train pilot;
 - (ii) £1.2 billion to allow Sheffield’s Streets Ahead project to proceed, alongside hundreds of millions of pounds to improve the M1 near the City;
 - (iii) approval of massive rail infrastructure projects, including the electrification of the Midland Mainline and massive improvements to the Northern Hub rail service;
 - (iv) millions of pounds for Sheffield schools through the Government’s pupil premium, alongside £9.9 million for the construction of a Sheffield University Technical College;
 - (v) millions of pounds to support construction and infrastructure through the New Homes Bonus and the Growing Places Fund; and
 - (vi) financial backing for more apprenticeships, as part of the £1 billion Youth Contract led by the Deputy Prime Minister and, most recently, £27 million to support the Sheffield City Region Deal for Skills;
 - (c) in particular welcomes the £65 million that was recently awarded within Sheffield City Region, as part of the third round of the Government’s Regional Growth Fund, which will boost jobs across the region;
 - (d) furthermore, thanks the Government for the Sheffield City Deal, a

radical agreement, which will see significant funds and powers devolved to the Sheffield City Region and will put the region in the driving seat for economic growth;

- (e) however, understands the Council faces tough decisions and, therefore, must cut back on any unnecessary spend;
- (f) reminds Members that the previous Government pledged £82bn of cuts and promised to be “ruthless” in cutting public spending if elected again;
- (g) is therefore shocked that the Council’s review of trade union facility time, including the GMB, UNITE and UNISON unions, has still not reported, despite the clear commitment of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources that the review would be completed in July;
- (h) understands that the Council currently spends £476,479 a year on staff that only perform trade union functions, in addition to 61 members of staff who do so on a part time basis, and believes this cost is far too high;
- (i) furthermore, recalls that within the current Administration’s 2012/13 budget, £2.2 million was allocated to the heading “Town Hall Meeting Rooms” in the 2013/14 financial year and believes this spend cannot be justified;
- (j) therefore, recommends that in their 2013/14 budget the current Administration:-
 - (i) significantly reduces the budget for full-time trade union officials; and
 - (ii) confirms that funds currently earmarked for Town Hall meeting rooms will be re-allocated.

5. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of four new paragraphs as follows:-

- () believes the Council’s ability to manage changes to its budget has been severely restricted by the number of large, long-term contracts entered into with private companies for the provision of public services;
- () believes that the estimated £9m profit made last year by the largest contractors would have been better spent on protecting the most vulnerable from central government cuts;

- () also believes that the loss of £9m from the local economy has a significant effect on local businesses and jobs; and
- () requests the Cabinet to take the necessary action to bring services supplied in the Council's buildings repair and maintenance contract back 'in house' in 2014.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 10 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DAVID BAKER

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jack Scott, seconded by Councillor Leigh Bramall

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) wholeheartedly supports the decision of the previous Government to invest in the repair of Sheffield's highways and welcomes the progress of the 'Streets Ahead' project under the present Administration, after delays under the previous Administration and this Government;
- (b) acknowledges that the project will cause unavoidable inconvenience for some people and supports efforts to communicate this as much as possible;
- (c) notes a Sheffield Liberal Democrat Group press release dated 18th October 2012 which states "Liberal Democrat councillors, who helped secure the project, are raising concerns about the effect on on-street parking. With each of the planned 108 'work zones' taking between 15-20 weeks to complete" and "Liberal Democrat councillors want the Council to work in conjunction with Amey, the organisation contracted to carry out the work, to temporarily provide free, alternative parking arrangements for residents. Proposals include unused land or existing parking bays from local retailers, pubs, or supermarkets, offering residents flexibility during the vital works.";
- (d) further notes with great concern comments by the Federation of Small Business regarding the idea that local businesses' parking spaces should be used to accommodate local residents affected by the Streets Ahead project - "We perceive this to be a policy which will cause devastating loss of trade to local retailers and will potentially bring about unnecessary business closures, with the attending loss of livelihoods and jobs" and is concerned that adopting this policy would be anti-business and contradict the present Administration's desire to be a business friendly Council;
- (e) believes it is completely impractical to offer parking for everyone affected by the works, noting feedback from officers that there are not

the facilities available in the whole City to provide alternate parking arrangements and realistically to make any attempt to do this it would involve the Council having to secure free parking;

- (f) further believes that the only way to achieve this would be to pay a private contractor for parking and, based on a cost of £4 per day per car, assuming one car per household in the City, forecasts this could cost up to £132 million in the first 5 years;
- (g) notes that people are being supported to make their own arrangements whilst the work is taking place and are being given a lot of advance warning to put these arrangements in place;
- (h) appreciates that with this amount of investment and improvement, a level of disruption is unavoidable for some residents and notes that the Council wouldn't be asking people to do this if it wasn't to make such important improvements to transform the roads network, which we all know that people really want to see; and
- (i) notes that in the first three zones where work has started (Shiregreen, Carbrook and Ewden) the Administration's approach is working well, without wasting significant amounts of resources on providing alternative parking and therefore condemns the main opposition group for seeking to scaremonger and undermine the Streets Ahead project, which is vital for Sheffield's future.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JAYNE DUNN

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Diana Stimely, seconded by Councillor Denise Reaney

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 previous Government's inability to handle public finances, increasing the national deficit year-on-year from 2001 onwards, reaching a total of £43bn prior to the economic crash;
- (b) believes that, with the cost of welfare representing roughly a third of Government expenditure, refusing to make changes to the benefits system would only ensure cuts to other areas of Government spending – such as the NHS or education;
- (c) welcomes statements from the Shadow Work & Pensions Secretary that reform of welfare is needed but questions his rhetoric, which was criticised in the national media, as "playing to the Right-whinge gallery";

- (d) however, notes that Her Majesty's Opposition are still yet to bring forward any concrete and costed proposals for reforming the current welfare system;
- (e) broadly supports the Government's plans to reduce the welfare bill but still holds significant concerns over specific measures, in particular, the proposed bedroom tax and reduction in Council tax benefit;
- (f) welcomes reports that Liberal Democrats in Government will block plans to restrict child and work related benefits to the first two children within a family, and reminds Members that the £10bn of further cuts in the welfare budget is Conservative Party not Coalition Government policy;
- (g) believes at a local level the Council should seek to mitigate the impact of benefit cuts and welcomes new powers to tax empty and second homes introduced by the Coalition Government; and
- (h) therefore, calls upon on the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources to bring forward a report to Cabinet on the introduction of new taxes on second and empty homes, following the example of councils in Barnsley and Rotherham.

8. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:

1. the deletion of original paragraph (g);
2. the addition of new paragraphs (g) and (h) as follows:-
 - (g) therefore requests the Cabinet to urgently make an accurate assessment of how many households will be affected and the capacity for downsizing within the City's affordable rented sector, in order to plan a response and provide data to support a campaign on this issue;
 - (h) opposes the Government's cuts to Council tax benefit, which are being made at the same time as it is giving tax cuts to millionaires, but requests the Cabinet to pass on the cut in the fairest possible way by ensuring that the City as a whole shares the burden, not just the poorest 60,000 households currently in receipt of Council tax benefit;
3. the relettering of original paragraphs (h) and (i) as new paragraphs (i) and (j).

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 12 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI SHARPE

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Rob Frost

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of all the words after the words “today” in paragraph (a);
2. the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (d) and (g) to (k) and the relettering of paragraphs (e) and (f) as new paragraphs (b) and (c); and
3. the addition of new paragraphs (d) to (g) as follows:-
 - (d) regrets the gap between the richest and the poorest rose during the thirteen years of the previous Government and that the previous Government failed to meet its target by hundreds of thousands of children;
 - (e) therefore welcomes the commitment within the Coalition Agreement to maintaining the goal of eradicating child poverty by 2020;
 - (f) notes that last year, according to current indicators, the number of children living in poverty in the UK actually fell by 300,000; and
 - (g) applauds the work of Liberal Democrats in Government to support children living in poverty, including:
 - (i) funding to provide 15 hours of free childcare per week to disadvantaged 2 year olds;
 - (ii) the pupil premium, which has seen £11.4 million invested into Sheffield schools this academic year, a figure which will continue to grow year-on-year;
 - (iii) the successful Summer Schools, and a further £100m to repeat the programme in 2013 and 2014; and
 - (iv) an additional £50 million a year to provide extra tuition to 11-year-olds who are struggling with poor maths and reading skills.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 13 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOE OTTEN

10. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Isobel Bowler, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (b) and the addition of a new paragraph (b) as follows:-
 - (b) praises the work of previous Administrations of both parties in increasing the number of parks with Green Flag awards, securing more of the awards than any other authority in Yorkshire, and welcomes the £150,000 additional investment in parks in the present Administration's 2012/13 budget amendment demonstrating their commitment to parks and green spaces despite the unprecedented level of cuts from this Government.
2. the deletion of paragraph (e) and the addition of a new paragraph (e) as follows:-
 - (e) notes that the Council is already working with external partners, finding new income streams, looking at new maintenance models and collaborating with Friends groups and other volunteers to maintain our green space despite the challenges of the cuts to the Council budget.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 14 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MAZHER IQBAL

11. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Alison Brelsford**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of all the words after the words "years" in paragraph (a);
2. the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (k) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (g) as follows:-
 - (b) therefore supports the action the Coalition Government is taking to tackle fuel poverty, including:
 - (i) reversing the previous Government's planned cut to Cold Weather Payments, which are targeted at the most vulnerable;

- (ii) reducing fuel bills for 2 million families by up to £130 through the Warm Home Discount; and
 - (iii) rolling out a 'smart meter' programme, which helps people save money and ensures energy companies meet demand more efficiently;
- (c) furthermore, understands that 13,000 homes in Sheffield are already benefiting from warmer homes and cheaper energy bills, thanks to the previous Administration's Free Insulation Scheme;
 - (d) keenly anticipates the Coalition's Government's Green Deal, secured by Liberal Democrats in Government and potentially the most ambitious insulation scheme in modern history;
 - (e) notes that part of the Green Deal will be specifically designed to provide 'Affordable Warmth' to low income vulnerable households;
 - (f) welcomes the decision to already grant Sheffield City Council £570,000 as part of the Green Deal scheme; and
 - (g) calls upon the Cabinet Member for Environment, Waste & Streetscene to bring a report to the Council's Cabinet detailing the Council's planned actions to support the Green Deal.

12. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (a) as follows:-
 - (a) believes any long term solution to the related problems of energy security, rising prices and carbon reduction must prioritise investment in energy efficiency measures and renewable energy generation;
2. the relettering of original paragraphs (a) to (k) as new paragraphs (b) to (l);
3. the addition of a new paragraph (m) as follows:-
 - (m) requests the Cabinet to ring fence 50% of any financial benefit to the Council of such a scheme, to invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy generation.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 16 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR COLIN ROSS

13. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion between the words “Prime Minister” and “of a” in paragraph (a) of the words “and Deputy Prime Minister”;
2. the addition of the words “but the double dip recession caused by this Government’s disastrous economic policies” after the words at the end of paragraph (b);
3. the insertion between the words “Prime Minister” and “to withdraw” in paragraph (e) of the words “and Deputy Prime Minister”;
4. the addition of the words “Deputy Prime Minister” at the end of paragraph (f).

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 17 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MOHAMMAD MAROOF

14. **Amendment to be moved by Councillor Denise Reaney, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker**

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 view of the current Leader of Her Majesty’s Opposition that the previous Government ‘got it wrong’ with regards to immigration policies;
- (b) notes that the current Leader of Her Majesty’s Opposition reiterated this point in his Party Conference speech by claiming that the failure to take public concern over the issue seriously was one of the reasons the previous Government lost the 2010 general election;
- (c) deplores the previous Government’s record on immigration, in that it took no action against the incarceration of thousands of children in immigration removal centres such as the infamous Yarl’s Wood facility;
- (d) praises the successful efforts of Liberal Democrats in Government to end this barbaric and inhumane practice;
- (e) notes with concern proposals to remove the right of appeal against family visitor visa decisions and recalls Liberal Democrat support for the

re-introduction of this right in 2000;

- (f) however, understands that it is much quicker and cheaper for applicants to re-submit a fresh application than launch an appeal, with the UK Border Agency processing 95% of visit visa applications within 15 working days; and
- (g) therefore, calls upon the Government to consider carefully the potential implications of this proposal during the passage of the Crime and Courts Bill.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 19 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SHAFFAQ MOHAMMED

15. **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) is committed to supporting Sheffielders to recycle and therefore deplores the record of the previous Administration who increased recycling by less than 2.5% between 2008 and 2011 and believes this is just another example of their three wasted years;
- (b) notes that these poor recycling levels under the previous Administration are despite spending an additional £2 million on recycling services which was made possible due to the investment in local public services by the previous Government;
- (c) believes that the incompetence of the previous Administration contributed to this failure to significantly improve recycling rates, which is demonstrated by ill-thought through initiatives which clearly made it harder for Sheffielders to recycle, such as the blue boxes for paper and card, a decision made when the present Leader of the Main Opposition Group was the Cabinet Member for waste management between 2008-2010;
- (d) welcomes the present Administration’s campaign to improve recycling in Sheffield whilst moving to Alternate Week Collections with measures such as the roll out of flexible choice for blue bins and boxes, increasing staffing in the Veolia call centre and the work of the liaison team to support Sheffield people to use the full range of facilities available;
- (e) welcomes recent reductions in the amount of waste sent to landfill and acknowledges that this is now at a record low under the present Administration; and

- (f) will therefore continue to take real action to support Sheffielders to recycle instead of taking the approach of the previous Administration and main opposition group pledging to transform recycling rates but failing to do so and believes that the Liberal Democrat Party both locally and nationally has an ever increasing reputation for breaking pledges across a range of policy areas.

This page is intentionally left blank