

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 2ND OCTOBER, 2013

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BRYAN LODGE

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion of “(a)” after the words “That this Council”; and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (e) as follows:-
 - (b) therefore struggles to understand why the current Administration insists on wasting taxpayers’ money on costly pet projects;
 - (c) notes the comments of the Leader of the Opposition in his Conference speech that “We are going to have to stick to strict spending limits to get the deficit down”;
 - (d) notes research by the Institute of Fiscal Studies that the spending commitments and unfunded tax cuts already set by Labour politicians would add an estimated £201bn to the national debt; and
 - (e) therefore, assumes that a Labour Government would not reverse reductions in funding to Sheffield City Council and criticises the rank hypocrisy of the current Administration.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MARY LEA

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Roger Davison, seconded by Councillor Diana Stimely

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) supports the Government’s decision to protect NHS spending

from the spending reductions that were caused by the previous Government's record national deficit;

- (b) welcomes the £26 million increase in the 2011-12 revenue allocation for Sheffield Primary Care Trust, the additional £27 million increase in 2012-13 and the equivalent £16 million increase in 2013-14;
- (c) praises the Government for announcing £3.8 billion in the latest spending review to improve adult social care and join up with health services;
- (d) recalls comments by the Shadow Health Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham M.P., in June 2010 that it would be "irresponsible" to increase NHS spending and therefore believes that a Labour government would have cut Sheffield's allocation rather than increase it; and
- (e) supports the Government's increases in funding for NHS services in Sheffield, as opposed to its belief that the Shadow Health Secretary would cut funding for the NHS in Sheffield.

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

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

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion in paragraph (c) of the words "believes the closures could be avoided if the Administration did not continue to waste money on costly pet projects and";
- 2. the addition of a new paragraph (d) as follows:-
 - "(d) notes also the smaller opposition group's budget amendment which proposed funding libraries in 2013/14 via a 2.95% increase in council tax, subject to endorsement in a local Council tax referendum, which equates to 48p extra a week for the majority of households";
- 3. the re-lettering of original paragraph (d) as a new paragraph (e); and
- 4. the addition of a new paragraph (f) as follows:-
 - "(f) believes that full financial transparency of the library

service is necessary for community groups to form successful partnerships and that the books should be opened to the public as soon as possible”.

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Karen McGowan

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) opposes in the strongest possible terms the devastating cuts imposed on the Council by the Government which are impacting on libraries and services across the Council and notes figures from the latest Medium Term Financial Strategy confirms that the Council has a £78 million budget gap for the next two years in addition to the £182 million that has been saved over the past three years;
- (b) regrets that due to the Deputy Prime Minister’s complete inability to offer any plausible defence for the decisions this Government is making to impose unprecedented cuts to Sheffield City Council at the same time as wealthier councils receive just a fraction of the cuts, the Deputy Prime Minister and main opposition group have resorted to publically spouting factually inaccurate untruths about Council spending and recalls the letter from the Chief Executive explaining the facts on these issues and is appalled at the irresponsibility of the Deputy Prime Minister and main opposition group;
- (c) regrets that at the same time as the Government have imposed devastating cuts to local government, they have cut the high rate of income tax, wasted billions of pounds on the damaging NHS re-organisation and are now proposing to spend money on a tax break for some married couples which is expected to cost around £600 million;
- (d) notes that by 2015/16, the Council will have had an overall reduction in Government formula funding by 50% and, with the scale of the cuts the Council is facing, all services will face significant reductions meaning that the Council has no option but to do things differently;
- (e) notes that under the proposals, the Council has pledged to keep 11 libraries running with a further five as community-led libraries and the rest may become independent libraries, should enough interest be generated from people;
- (f) welcomes that the present Administration are working with local

communities to do everything to keep libraries open despite the reductions to the libraries budget and praises the spirit of local communities who have come forward with 27 registrations of interest from a wide variety of organisations ranging from individuals to community groups and businesses;

- (g) recalls that whilst the previous Administration were still in control, the Council had commissioned work to find £1.3 million of savings from the libraries budget, and is therefore appalled at the cynical hypocrisy of the main opposition group claiming that they would not have made reductions to libraries; and
- (h) resolves to do everything possible to support local communities to keep libraries open through finding alternative ways of delivering the service.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPHAM

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

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the re-lettering of paragraphs (b) to (f) as new paragraphs (c) to (g) and the addition of a new paragraph (b) as follows:-

- “(b) notes the smaller opposition group’s motion to Full Council in April 2013 which called on the Administration to look into not taking eviction proceedings where arrears are solely due to unaffordability caused by the bedroom tax and is glad that the Administration has now implemented this idea”.

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Ian Auckland

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) reiterates its opposition to the so-called ‘bedroom tax’;
- (b) reaffirms that the root cause of this problem is the nation’s housing crisis and endorses the current Government’s action to build more affordable housing;
- (c) contrasts this action with the lamentable record of the previous Government who during their thirteen years in power:

- (i) saw the building of social housing decline to its lowest figure since the Second World War;
 - (ii) built seven times more prison cells than council homes;
 - (iii) oversaw the Housing Market Renewal Scheme, in which 4,590 houses in South Yorkshire were demolished, while just 2,415 were built, at a cost of £265 million; and
 - (iv) left a legacy of 2 million households in England on housing waiting lists, 250,000 families living in over-crowded accommodation and 1 million bedrooms standing empty;
- (d) reminds Members that the under-occupancy principle was first agreed by the previous Government in the private sector, in which no concessions were made for foster children, overnight carers, or service personnel;
- (e) welcomes the motion agreed at the Liberal Democrat Conference this month, which expressed concerns about the policy and set out practical steps to support those affected by the reform;
- (f) supports concessions which have already been secured as a result of Liberal Democrat influence in Government including:
- (i) exemptions for members of the armed forces and foster families;
 - (ii) trebling the Discretionary Housing Payment budget; and
 - (iii) providing councils with discretionary funding to help families in difficult circumstances;
- (g) encourages the Government to go further, following the measures set out by the policy motion agreed by the Liberal Democrat Conference;
- (h) highlights the work of Liberal Democrat run Stockport Council in supporting residents affected by the reform, specifically pledging not to evict anyone for arrears if those arrears are exclusively caused by this reform, up until the point that they have rejected two 'reasonable offers' of a smaller property;
- (i) draws attention to the complete lack of action from the present Administration in supporting affected residents and in particular notes the following decisions:
- (i) imposing a 23% cut in Council Tax Benefit, refusing an

offer of £1.1 million from the Government to reduce the cut;

- (ii) consistent dithering over £10 million of New Homes Bonus funding, which should have been used earlier to help provide affordable housing in Sheffield; and
 - (iii) rejecting proposals from opposition councillors for a cross-party working group to support local residents affected by the 'bedroom tax'; and
- (j) implores the Administration to offer local residents more than crocodile tears and investigate what action the Council can take to support those who are affected.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 12 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BRYAN LODGE

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (f); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (f) to (h) as follows:-
 - (f) is pleased to see work to build upon the previous Administration's successes, including the Food Festival, Tramlines, the Peace Gardens ice-rink and the Sheffield Wheel;
 - (g) yet regrets that the current Administration's thoughtless 'anti-business' policies, such as the absurd changes to city-centre parking charges, are doing more harm to local businesses than good; and
 - (h) urges the Administration to drop their anti-business rhetoric and produce a report on the steps the Council can take to support city-centre businesses.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 13 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR IAN AUCKLAND

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Neale Gibson

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of

paragraphs (b) to (f) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (f) as follows:-

- (b) therefore wholeheartedly welcomes the new partnership agreement with BE Group for the next three years which will take the MADE festival to the next level and is excited about the future and the pivotal role MADE can play in developing the next generation of entrepreneurs;
- (c) notes that in November a series of high profile MADE events will take place during Global Entrepreneurship Week 2013, with successful entrepreneurs sharing their experience and knowledge with the business leaders of the future and a major Festival programme is already being lined up for autumn 2014;
- (d) is committed to doing everything possible to support small businesses who are central to Sheffield's economy and therefore welcomes the following programmes of the present Administration to support local businesses:-
 - (i) breaking down the barriers for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to access the Regional Growth Fund;
 - (ii) the RISE Graduate Scheme which supports local SMEs employ graduates;
 - (iii) the export project supporting local SMEs in the export market;
 - (iv) the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme;
 - (v) Skills Made Easy designed by Sheffield City Council, in partnership with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), to put the purchasing power for training for the first time, in the hands of businesses in the Sheffield City Region (SCR);
 - (vi) Business Summits;
 - (vii) the small business loan fund;
 - (viii) up to 50% reductions in off street parking charges;
 - (ix) the Chapel Walk scheme;
 - (x) the Digital Direction Programme; and
 - (xi) securing a Start Up Loans for Young People, the only Council to have done so;

- (e) supports the recent policy proposal by the Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP to cut business rates which will provide much needed support to businesses across Sheffield and contrasts this with the Government's damaging decision to delay the review of business rates which will hit many small businesses; and
- (f) regrets that the only anti-business rhetoric in the City comes from the main opposition group who continue to talk Sheffield down.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 14 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Mohammad Maroof

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion in paragraph (c) of the word "welcomes" and its substitution by the word "notes", and the addition of the following words at the end of that paragraph:-

"but would also impact retailers including Debenhams, WH Smiths, Primark, John Lewis and Marks & Spencer and is concerned that to introduce such a levy would undermine important efforts to increase the vitality of the city centre and progress a new retail quarter"

- 2. the deletion of paragraphs (d) to (i); and
- 3. the addition of new paragraphs (d) to (f) as follows:-
 - (d) believes that a strong city centre retail offer benefits local residents and boosts the local economy and is concerned that the introduction of such a levy could damage the prospects of securing a retail offer for the city centre which is a key component of the City Centre Masterplan;
 - (e) is concerned that this policy would place at risk the prospects of bringing a high quality retail development to Sheffield and could also see the loss of business rate income; and
 - (f) therefore will not seek powers from the Government for a levy on large retail outlets and resolves to continue to assist small business development in the City through alternative means and to progress alternative ways of securing funding to support city centre vibrancy such as a Business Improvement District.

10. Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Diana Stimely

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (i); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (c) and (d) as follows:-
 - (c) therefore, regrets that in the past twelve months no progress has been made in delivering new submissions through the Act; and
 - (d) believes than any new submissions should be based upon the ideas of Sheffields, as was the case the last time the Act was used, when Sheffield was highlighted as an example of best practice.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 15 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR ALISON BRELSFORD

11. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Cliff Woodcraft

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (f) to (g); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (f) to (j) as follows:-
 - (f) notes the online comments of Lewis Samuel:

“@SaveDonValley offered to run the Stadium at no cost to the council tax payer. So what's the real agenda behind the closure?”;
 - (g) further notes the comments of Rob Creasey in The Sheffield Star newspaper:

“We went to the Town Hall for a meeting and were told to go away ... It was a cynical, political decision from a Council who have mismanaged the Stadium to the point where they want it destroyed”;
 - (h) believes that additional time secured by 4SLC was crucial in the preparation of a community bid and the successful transfer of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre;

- (i) believes the Administration's approach to Don Valley Stadium has been an insult to campaigners and that this may now leave the Council open to another judicial review; and
- (j) requests that the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure immediately re-considers her decision and presents an urgent plan to enable the demolition of Don Valley Stadium to be delayed.

12. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Isobel Bowler, seconded by Councillor Mary Lea

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) opposes in the strongest possible terms the devastating cuts imposed on the Council by the Government which are impacting on services across the Council and notes figures from the latest Medium Term Financial Strategy which confirm that the Council has a £78 million budget gap for the next two years in addition to the £182 million that has been saved over the past three years;
- (b) notes that by 2015/16, the Council will have had an overall reduction in Government formula funding by 50% and, with the scale of the cuts the council is facing, all services will face significant reductions meaning that the Council has no option but to do things differently;
- (c) regrets that one of the consequences of these unfair cuts to Sheffield is the closure of Don Valley Stadium, however, acknowledges that Woodbourn Road Athletics Stadium will be open from 6th October, meaning that Sheffield will continue to have a purpose built track and field facility;
- (d) welcomes the partnership working between local athletics clubs, Sheffield Hallam University and the Council in developing the Woodbourn Road facility;
- (e) therefore notes The Friends of Don Valley Stadium group's application was assessed against the legislation as set out by the Government, and did not meet the criteria to warrant Don Valley Stadium being registered as an asset of community value; and
- (f) notes the comments by the Director of Culture and Leisure:

“But what we would like to say is this does not mean we are not wanting to look at other ways we can work with this group and other interested parties and we have offered to meet the group again to talk about what is next for the Stadium We really appreciate what the Friends were trying to achieve If anyone can show they can take on the Stadium and have the cash to do it, clearly we will work with them The Council now has no budget to keep it open, no money to mothball it and no offer of money from anyone else.”

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 16 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR PENNY BAKER

13. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Pat Midgley

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 for the past eight years the main opposition group have consistently denigrated the Park Hill Development, even though in over eight years of criticising Park Hill, they have never proposed a workable alternative to the redevelopment project;
- (b) furthermore regrets that the main opposition group are continuing to imply that the Council has allocated £2.4m of Council resources for the Park Hill redevelopment when in fact this is not the case;
- (c) notes that not a penny of the £2.4m is to be spent on the refurbishment of the Park Hill flats;
- (d) for the avoidance of doubt, re-iterates that:
 - (i) there are additional costs relating to the Park Hill site which until this Government came to power were paid for by a Government grant;
 - (ii) these costs include looking after the empty flat blocks, providing security where the blocks are still lived in, funding Police Community Support Officer patrols and rehousing local residents; and
 - (iii) the Coalition Government has now completely ended the Housing Market Renewal Grant that previously paid for these costs and the Council has been left to pick up the

£2.4m bill;

- (e) further believes that there is no question about whether or not these costs should be funded and firmly believes that it is the right thing to do to ensure that the local residents are safe;
- (f) also notes that it is the Council's statutory duty to provide home loss payments to residents who are moving home;
- (g) believes that the main opposition group know that it would not be reasonable to ask Urban Splash to foot the bill for this, as ultimately this is the Council's responsibility, and at no point during the life of the project has it ever been expected that Urban Splash should pay for these costs;
- (h) regrets that the Coalition Government has ended the Housing Market Renewal Grant, leaving local taxpayers to pick up the bill for costs that were previously funded by the Government; and
- (i) believes that instead of 'playing politics', the main opposition group should be standing up for Sheffield and condemning the Government for ending Housing Market Renewal funding.