

## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING – 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2015

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

#### **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE, HRA BUDGET AND RENT INCREASE 2015/16**

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Steve Ayris, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker

That, with the exception of recommendation (e) relating to Community Heating charges, the recommendations made by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 14th January 2015, concerning the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan, HRA Budget and Rent Increase 2015/16, be approved with the following amendments:-

- (e)(1) that a community heating reserve of £1.5m be retained to address the impact of any future energy price increases and possible changes in demand resulting from the roll out of heating metering; and
- (2) that £0.2m be allocated to facilitate a reduction in the community heating charge to customers;

#### **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR LEIGH BRAMALL**

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (e) as follows, and the relettering of original paragraphs (b) to (k) as new paragraphs (f) to (o):-

- (b) welcomes the support of the Coalition Government and in particular the Secretary of State for Business, Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, in enabling these developments to take place;
- (c) welcomes the fact that Sheffield is at the heart of a City Region reflective of our economic geography;
- (d) believes that City Regions will represent the future basis of devolved funding from central government;
- (e) notes that as a result of the Sheffield City Region Growth Deal the

target is to establish approximately 30,000 more highly skilled jobs to create a more prosperous economy;

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 10 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR GEORGE LINDARS-HAMMOND**

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

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

- (a) condemns the record of the last Labour Government of spiralling youth unemployment, rising for 16-17 year olds from a low of 18.0% in 2001 to 36.5% by April 2010, and for 18-24 year olds from 9.9% in 2001 to 17.8% by April 2010, with much of this increase happening before the financial crisis, and believes this shows that Labour do not care about young people;
- (b) welcomes the fall in youth unemployment to 32.1% for 16-17 year olds and 15.1% for 18-24 year olds under the Coalition, recognising that there is much more progress still to be made;
- (c) is concerned at what this Council believes is Labour's populist, punitive “youth tax”, which would remove benefits for young people, including “NEET”s, and increase family dependency, potentially coercing many young people into unsuitable training options, with little impact on the benefits bill;
- (d) believes that this turnaround in youth unemployment is due in no small part to the Liberal Democrat priority of boosting skill-rich apprenticeships;
- (e) further believes that Liberal Democrat policies such as increasing the personal tax allowance also have a positive effect on employment rates;
- (f) notes with sadness the extremely high youth unemployment rates in Greece, Spain and Italy, and therefore we should not be seduced by the appeal of excessive borrowing;
- (g) condemns the hypocrisy of Labour's grandstanding against cuts while at the same time promising further cuts if elected;
- (h) welcomes that despite opposition scaremongering, record numbers of young people are going to university, including record numbers from deprived backgrounds; in 2014, 512,400 applicants were placed in Higher Education through UCAS , the first time the service has placed over a half million people and acceptances from the 18-19 year old

age groups increased by 2% despite a falling population in that age group; and particularly welcomes the increase in entry to HE for disadvantaged young people in England, making this group a third more likely to enter university than five years ago;

- (i) notes that Labour's proposal on tuition fees has been condemned by university leaders as implausible, due to the £10bn needed to fund it not being found;
- (j) notes that under that proposal, a cut to the headline fees rate will only benefit higher-earning graduates because lower-earning graduates never repay the full amount, and that Labour's policy therefore only benefits higher earning graduates;
- (k) notes that the previous Labour Government introduced tuition fees and subsequently tripled them;
- (l) welcomes the introduction of the pupil premium, giving extra valuable support to many pupils;
- (m) welcomes free school meals for infant children, saving many hard pressed parents £400 per year; and
- (n) welcomes the Liberal Democrat commitment to protect education spending from cradle to college and ensure that children are taught by a qualified teacher.

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Sarah Jane Smalley, seconded by Councillor Brian Webster

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the relettering of paragraph (h) as a new paragraph (o) and the addition of new paragraphs (h) to (n) as follows:-

- (h) notes that 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 has been designated by Bite the Ballot as National Voter Registration Day;
- (i) believes that it is essential that all those who are eligible to vote know how to register to vote and are not denied the opportunity to exercise this fundamental democratic right;
- (j) commends the work already undertaken by Council officers and partner institutions including the city's Universities and their Students' Unions, to give young people the information they need to register to vote;
- (k) believes that these efforts are particularly important this year, as the introduction of Individual Voter Registration (IVR) risks disenfranchising millions of people, including young people, across

the country;

- (l) notes reports from the Electoral Commission that "areas with a high concentration of certain demographics – students, private renters and especially young adults" are at particular risk of seeing the number of registered voters fall significantly under IVR;
- (m) therefore calls upon officers to continue working with partner organisations to ensure that information about both the practicalities and the importance of registering to vote are publicised as widely as possible to all segments of Sheffield's population in the run-up to the 7<sup>th</sup> May elections and beyond;
- (n) further, calls upon Members of the Council to exercise their responsibility as community leaders by actively promoting voter registration and participation in the democratic process in the communities they represent;

#### **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR VICKIE PRIESTLEY**

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jayne Dunn, 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 addition of the following words:-

- (a) regrets that Sheffield, like other councils across the country, was forced to find savings after the unprecedented level of cuts imposed on the Council by the Government, of which the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP is Deputy Prime Minister;
- (b) notes reports of the following average reductions in gritting per region over the past 5 years - East Midlands 43.5 per cent, London 37 per cent, the North West 28.3 per cent, East of England 27.4 per cent and Yorkshire and the Humber 27 per cent, and can confirm that in Sheffield the cut is much less than average;
- (c) welcomes that the present Administration reversed cuts to gritting routes in response to the concerns that were raised;
- (d) thanks the people of Sheffield who made a fantastic effort in clearing roads and pavements;
- (e) notes that Sheffield has more grit bins than any other local authority that we are aware of and, despite reducing the number of grit bins by 121, Sheffield still has 1891 grit bins compared to Nottingham which has 180 grit bins, Manchester 180 grit bins and Leeds 1300;

- (f) is appalled at the hypocrisy of the main opposition group and recalls their incompetence in dealing with snow fall, when in 2010 they sold Sheffield's supplies of grit to Rotherham and then complained to the Government that they had run out; and
- (g) notes that issues raised by local people will be taken into consideration as part of the Winter Review, which will help to formulate the plan for next year's winter maintenance, as is the case every year.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 12 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE**

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Steve Ayris

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (i) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (h) as follows:-

- (b) notes however that this report did not take into account that there is less money available to spend in total because of the record public sector deficit in 2010, and that if more were to be spent on welfare, this would have to be found from other spending areas such as local government, health or education;
- (c) notes the Labour Party's risible attempts at cynical positioning on this issue of talking tough on welfare while opposing any specific measures and offering no alternatives;
- (d) notes that under the previous Government, fuel bills spiralled, Council Tax doubled, fuel duty increased on 12 occasions, inequality increased and the 10p tax rate was abolished - doubling income tax on the lowest paid;
- (e) welcomes the income tax cut of £800 for the typical tax payer, and taking 2.7 million of the poorest people out of paying any income tax at all;
- (f) welcomes free school meals for 4 to 7 year olds, saving parents £400 per year per child;
- (g) notes that in 2014, the country has seen the largest annual fall in unemployment on record, with the large majority of new jobs being full time; and
- (h) believes that there is a long way still to go in reducing unemployment and poverty and making the tax system fairer.

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Sarah Jane Smalley, seconded by Councillor Jillian Creasy

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (u) as follows:-

- (j) notes from *The Convenient Truth* by Wilkinson and Pickett, published by the Fabian Society that “ Although economic development is what has transformed the real quality of life during the last couple of centuries.... evidence shows very clearly that in the rich countries economic growth no longer drives measures of wellbeing” and “Greater equality is then a key objective, not only because it reduces social dysfunction and improves health and wellbeing, but also because it makes it possible to overcome some of the main obstacles to sustainability”;
- (k) notes research from The Equality Trust, which states that the wealth of Britain’s richest 100 people now almost equals that of a third of all households put together;
- (l) notes Joseph Rowntree Foundation Research published in January which shows that eight million people are living on family incomes considered inadequate for a “socially acceptable standard of living”, a rise of almost a third since 2009;
- (m) notes the work which has been done to date in Sheffield to reduce inequality;
- (n) welcomes the fact that Sheffield City Council has a pay ratio of 1:10;
- (o) welcomes the launch of the “Our Fair City” campaign;
- (p) notes the Sheffield Fairness Commission recommendation that “substantial progress” be made on paying a Living Wage in the public sector by 2015 (including contractors) and for all employers in the city to be paying the Living Wage by 2023;
- (q) notes with concern that whilst Sheffield City Council has implemented a Living Wage for the staff it directly employs, work remains “on-going” with contractors and no firm overall or time-commitment has been made to ensure all contractors adopt the Living Wage;
- (r) praises Glasgow City Council for now obliging all its contractors to pay the Living Wage;
- (s) notes that Brighton & Hove City Council is accredited as a Living Wage Employer by the Living Wage Foundation, which means that they have a plan for ensuring that all contractors pay the Living Wage as and when contracts come up for renewal, and that new contractors pay the Living Wage;

- (t) makes a real commitment to reducing inequality in Sheffield by requesting that the Administration puts a plan in place to become accredited as a Living Wage Employer by the Living Wage Foundation; and
- (u) encourages its partners on the Sheffield First Partnership Board, including the Sheffield Universities, to commit to reducing inequality in Sheffield by ensuring that they have pay ratios of 1:10 or less.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 14 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOE OTTEN**

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ben Curran, seconded by Councillor Cate McDonald

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

- (a) regrets that the present Government have made unfair cuts to local government funding, targeting cuts at Sheffield, and is appalled that the Liberal Democrats have allowed the Government to cut parts of the country with the highest levels of deprivation the most;
- (b) notes that this Government have comprehensively failed to eliminate the deficit and regrets that a future Labour Government would have to deal with the position it inherits from this Government;
- (c) regrets that the cuts of this Government have been overwhelmingly targeted at northern cities such as Sheffield at the same time as some of the wealthiest parts of the country have received a fraction of the cuts;
- (d) regrets that the Liberal Democrats have stood up for the Deputy Prime Minister at the expense of standing up for Sheffield and refused to back the Fair Deal for Sheffield Campaign calling for a fairer funding distribution, which has been supported by over 10,000 Sheffield people; and
- (e) welcomes the Labour Party’s announcement that they will scrap the New Homes Bonus, to provide a fairer funding formula and notes that the New Homes Bonus is another Government policy that takes money away from Sheffield to redistribute it to some of the wealthiest areas of the country and believes that this is already a demonstration of intent for how Labour would give Sheffield a fairer deal.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 15 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SARAH JANE SMALLEY**

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ben Curran, seconded by Councillor Mazher Iqbal

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion, after the words “Fabian Society” in paragraph (a), of the words “which is affiliated to the Labour Party”;
2. the deletion of paragraphs (h) to (k) and the addition of new paragraphs (h) to (j) as follows:-
  - (h) welcomes the leadership demonstrated by the present Administration to implement the Living Wage within the Council at a time of unprecedented budget cuts;
  - (i) reaffirms that significant progress has been made in implementing the Living Wage with contractors, noting that the vast majority of the Council’s major contractors are now paying the Living Wage for staff employed as part of that contract;
  - (j) notes that the present Administration is already in dialogue with the Living Wage Foundation about Living Wage accreditation; and
3. the relettering of paragraph (l) as a new paragraph (k).

10. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Richard Shaw

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

- (a) believes that economic growth is vital in extending opportunity and giving everyone a chance to get on in life;
- (b) believes that if Sheffield were more successful in attracting big money investment employing highly paid workers, this would be good for the city's economy and people; and
- (c) is concerned that if economic growth was curtailed as a matter of policy, deficit financing of public spending would be much more difficult, and so a low growth policy would have to be accompanied by immediate swingeing cuts to public spending to prevent a debt crisis, and would forego the proceeds of a growing economy in the future being used to improve public services.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 16 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOHN BOOKER**

11. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Harry Harpham

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

- (a) regrets the number of new homes being built across our country has steadily dwindled to the point where this Government is presiding over the lowest level of house building in peacetime since the 1920s;
- (b) further regrets that just 115,000 homes were completed over the past year, which isn't even half the number of homes the country needs to keep up with demand, and by 2020 there will be a shortage of over 2 million homes across the country;
- (c) believes that this Motion claims that the sewerage system and power supply is under strain due to immigration, and that this is reminiscent of the Leader of the UKIP Party, Nigel Farage's claim that increased traffic on the M4 is due to immigration, and believes that this completely fails to address the real causes of the housing crisis;
- (d) confirms that the Council already has a plan with all brownfield sites available for development as part of the Local Plan and notes that under the National Planning Policy Framework, if the Council did not put a Local Plan in place, permission could be given for developers to build on any land; and
- (e) welcomes the Lyons Housing Report and welcomes that the Labour Party is committed to getting 200,000 homes built a year by 2020 and a long term goal that will see a doubling of the number of first-time buyers within a decade and meet housing need for the first time in fifty years.

12. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, 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 addition of the following words:-

- (a) notes the rise in new house building across the country over the past three years, but accepts there is still more to be done to reach the 250,000 new homes per year which many housing policy groups have been calling for over the past decade;
- (b) welcomes the Government's Affordable Homes Programme which is on track to deliver 170,000 new homes for rent and sale across the

country by May 2015; and

- (c) supports Sheffield's long standing commitment to build the vast majority of new homes on brownfield land and re-affirms its commitment to this in the new Sheffield Local Plan currently being consulted upon.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 17 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BRIAN WEBSTER**

13. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Cate McDonald

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows, and the relettering of original paragraphs (c) to (g) as new paragraphs (d) to (h);
  - (c) welcomes the action taken by the present Administration, prioritising extra action for voter registration, including funding extra investment activity from the money set aside by the Administration to support the recommendations of the Fairness Commission;
2. the addition of a new paragraph (i) as follows:-
  - (i) is therefore appalled by the lack of leadership shown by a senior Green Councillor who admitted that he did not vote in the recent Police and Crime Commissioner Election, and believes this sets an appalling example and is nothing more than cynical political positioning, and calls on any councillor who failed to vote to apologise.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 18 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR PAULINE ANDREWS**

14. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alan Law, seconded by Councillor Peter Price

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

- (a) notes that football is a major participation sport in the city, with over 800 teams, of which over 500 are junior/youth teams;
- (b) regrets that, in common with other core cities, Sheffield's football pitches and changing facilities are under severe pressure from Government budget cuts;

- (c) welcomes that the governing body for football in England, The Football Association, has recognised these pressures on grassroots football and in response has launched a national initiative to invest in grassroots facilities;
- (d) further welcomes the decision of the FA that Sheffield should be the first city in which they deliver their programme;
- (e) further welcomes the investment of £9.6 million to support grassroots football that this partnership will bring to Sheffield, as set out in the report to Cabinet on 12 November 2014;
- (f) recognises the importance of local football clubs across the city, including Chapletown Juniors, in providing sport and is pleased to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who make this possible;
- (g) notes that officers of the Council and local councillors have been working with Chapletown Juniors and the local community around the Steel City Ground to secure the immediate and long term future of the site and building;
- (h) notes that following a positive meeting on Wednesday 28th January 2015, there is a consensus between the different local interests now to work together to secure that future; and
- (i) instructs officers to continue to work with local elected Members, the football clubs who use the site and the community to seek a sustainable solution to the mutual benefit, and with the agreement of, interested parties.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 19 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLAN CREASY**

15. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mary Lea, seconded by Councillor Mike Drabble

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (h) and (i) as follows, and the relettering of original paragraphs (h) and (i) as new paragraphs (j) and (k):-

- (h) believes that this news makes a complete fallacy of the Government's claim that they are not cutting the NHS;
- (i) reiterates its objection, raised at previous meetings, of Government redistribution of NHS funding from areas with higher levels of deprivation and health inequalities to some of the healthiest and wealthiest areas of the country;

16. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Richard Shaw, seconded by Councillor Martin Smith

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) recognises the difficulty some practices are placed in by the withdrawal of MPIG, but recognises that MPIG is not a needs-based payment, but merely a negotiated compensation for practices that lost out when the current needs-based formula was introduced;
2. the deletion of paragraph (d) and the addition of a new paragraph (d) as follows:-
  - (d) believes that a system of needs-based formula plus MPIG is not preferable to a pure needs-based formula, which recognises all the demands of age, deprivation, mental health, homelessness and addiction
3. the deletion of paragraph (h) and the addition of a new paragraph (h) as follows:-
  - (h) therefore resolves to write to David Geddes, head of primary care commissioning at NHS England, to ask him to back reform of the GP funding formula to take better account of the demands on GPs of deprivation, mental health, homelessness and addiction.