

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 2ND NOVEMBER 2022

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 6 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “A RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY FOR SHEFFIELD”

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Minesh Parekh, seconded by Councillor Ruth Milsom

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (i) as follows:-

That this Council:-

- (c) believes that the Co-operative Party’s plan for community-owned energy, which sets out how the Government can scale up community-owned energy - including through establishing a new National Community Energy fund and developing a National Community Energy Strategy - would give local people control over renewable production and deliver energy sovereignty for our communities;
- (d) believes that, as part of the on-going development of the Ethical Procurement Policy and Community Wealth Building Charter, the Council must work to remove procurement barriers to producers selling their energy locally, and believes allowing councils to prioritise community-owned projects in procurement and planning would level the playing-field between community-owned energy and privately-owned giants;
- (e) believes that the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority’s Energy Strategy is right to set ambitions to double the number of community energy organisations in South Yorkshire by 2040, and produce 100kW of community energy per year by 2030;
- (f) believes that the Council must continue working alongside Sheffield MPs to put pressure on the Government to deliver the Local Electricity Bill, in order to deliver more clean, local energy that benefits local communities;
- (g) supports the £3.5m of capital investment put forward through the Labour Group’s budget amendment approved in March 2022 - to decarbonise community buildings, install renewable energy infrastructure, and enact energy efficiency measures – and believes this shows the Council’s ambition to deliver Clean Growth and to help Sheffield through the cost-of-living crisis;

- (h) notes that Sheffield generates more renewable energy than other comparable cities, but has relatively low levels of solar, wind and hydroelectricity; and believes, therefore, this investment is key to creating jobs and reducing emissions from the Council's 38,000 homes and 4,000 land and property assets including community buildings;
- (i) notes that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee recently approved £13.24 million to improve insulation on 117 'Airey' properties and £10.42 million to install external wall and roof insulation to 255 Council homes;

2. the re-lettering of original paragraph (c) as a new paragraph (j);

3. the insertion, in the sub-paragraph (i) of new paragraph (j), of the words "ensuring that this is considered as part of the on-going Community Asset Plan" immediately prior to the words "and present it to the Committee within 6 months";

4. the insertion, at the end of the sub-paragraph (iii) of new paragraph (j), of the words "- with each Local Area Committee (LAC) involved and maximising the 'tool kit for engagement' in the development of Local Area Energy Plans";

5. the replacement, at the beginning of the sub-paragraph (ix) of new paragraph (j), of the word "developing" by the words "working alongside the Housing Policy Committee to develop";

6. the replacement, at the beginning of the sub-paragraph (xii) of new paragraph (j), of the word "ensuring" by the words "working alongside the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee to ensure";

7. the replacement of "5%" by "20%", in the sub-paragraph (xiii) of new paragraph (j);

8. the addition of a new sub-paragraph (j)(viii) as follows, and the re-lettering of sub-paragraphs (j)(viii) to (xiii) as new sub-paragraphs (j)(ix) to (xiv):-

(j)(viii) **working with the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee to address procurement barriers** to support community energy installations on Council buildings through the development of Sheffield's Ethical Procurement Policies and Community Wealth Building Charter;

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Barbara Masters

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraph (c) and the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows:-

- (c) to ask the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee to consider creating a Local Area Energy Plan for Sheffield and leading a

local energy planning process to identify the most effective route for Sheffield to meet its net zero target, examining the following proposals:-

- (i) working to reduce energy demand by investing in insulation and alternative heating systems which use non-carbon energy sources, including exploring how to deliver the long delayed insulation works to council stock;
- (ii) encouraging the creation of Local Energy Grids where new renewable energy infrastructure is installed, insulating local businesses and residents from large swings in the wider market, and working with the Parish and Town Councils to achieve this;
- (iii) investigate expanding the district heating system to a greater number of homes and businesses, and examining the use of mine water to provide geothermal heat, capitalising on the recently announced exemption of heat networks from business rates;
- (iv) conducting an audit of the potential for renewable energy installations and energy efficiency measures on all Council land and property, draw up a priority list for installations based on the most potential to save energy and generate clean energy, and presenting it to the Committee within 6 months;
- (v) investigate incorporating sources of renewable energy generation into all Council-owned buildings where technically and financially feasible;
- (vi) maximising external funding to finance installations using Government, South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority, and other funding sources, particularly to address retrofitting insulation and use of carbon-based heating;
- (vii) examine the feasibility through this planning process of introducing a 'Greener Sheffield Fund', managed by Local Area Committees to allow local communities to dictate how they would like to invest in their environment;
- (viii) examining how best to support businesses in the city to shrink their carbon footprint, for example through installing solar panels and decarbonising their supply chain;
- (ix) drawing on the steps made towards net zero of Liberal Democrat-led councils, such as South Somerset's investment in a 25MW battery energy storage facility supporting development of renewable energy, Bedford's installation of a hydropower facility on the River Great Ouse, and Colchester's planning policy mandating EV charging points on all new homes.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 7 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "COMMITTING THE COUNCIL TO TACKLING THE STIGMA OF MENOPAUSE AND PERIOD POVERTY"

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Brian Holmshaw, seconded by Councillor Marieanne Elliot

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (q) to (u) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (q) as a new paragraph (v):-
 - (q) notes that period poverty is a particular problem in the asylum system, for those who receive under £40 a week in state support (Bloody Good Period/Women for Refugee Women, 2019);
 - (r) notes that under the Period Products (Free Provision) Scotland Bill, the Scottish Government has set up a Scotland-wide scheme to allow anyone who needs period products to get them free of charge, and gives the Scottish Government the power to make public bodies including schools, colleges and universities, provide period products for free (Scottish Parliament, 2021);
 - (s) notes that as part of the Welsh Government's Period Dignity Strategic Action Plan, funding has been provided to local authorities and Further Education institutions to ensure that period products can be accessed free of charge by learners in schools, Further Education institutions and to those in need in communities (Welsh Government, 2021);
 - (t) believes that everyone who requires period products should be able to access them for free;
 - (u) believes that a person's period should not prevent them from succeeding in life;
2. the addition of a new paragraph (w) as follows:-
 - (w) also calls on the Chief Executive to report to the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee, within the next three months, to:-
 - (i) examine the feasibility of providing free period products in public toilets and other public buildings, including the Town Hall and community centres, including exploring whether any free disposable or reusable period products provided by the Council can be sustainably sourced;

- (ii) publicise the provision of free period products and reusable period products, such as moon cups, through Council communication channels; and
- (iii) write to the Minister for Women and Equalities, calling on the UK government to make period products free and available to all who need them across England, as has been done in Scotland and Wales.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “BEST VALUE SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE OF SHEFFIELD”

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Fran Belbin, seconded by Councillor Abtisam Mohamed

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (d) to (f);
2. the addition of new paragraphs (d) and (e) as follows:-
 - (d) notes that to achieve best value, in common with many other local authorities, Sheffield City Council (SCC) has considered in-sourcing services where external providers were not delivering effectively in recent years and has in-sourced housing repairs and youth services;
 - (e) believes that while in-sourcing requires a process of continuous improvement and is not an end in itself, the Council is better able to manage and monitor performance and deliver improvement in the services that have been in-sourced, and, by way of example:-
 - (i) notes the housing repairs service, while affected by difficulties including Covid-19, rising costs and skill shortages, is making headway in reducing the repairs backlog and the management of vacant properties, and new in-house, online reporting systems will accelerate this improvement;
 - (ii) further integration of the housing repairs service with SCC’s Housing function should result in an improved customer experience for Council tenants;
 - (iii) in-sourced Youth Services are reducing management costs and redesigning the service to focus on frontline delivery of universal youth and play services in communities across the city, involving the training and development of new youth and play workers, professions

that have been devastated by years of austerity that began in 2010 with the coalition government;

- (iv) notes that since the youth services contract was not renewed in October 2020, and the service came back to the Council, there have been significant improvements to youth services; however, this must be put in the context that the service was brought back in the middle of the Covid Pandemic and, therefore, was unable to spend all of the £2 million on youth service provision (noting that the National Youth Agency only gave Green COVID guidance in July 2021, meaning activities could only return to normal following over a year of closure), and notes that the money was therefore spent on laptops for school children who required them to access education, and believes this was essential for those most at risk of safeguarding concerns / isolation;
 - (v) notes the expanded youth service sessions, ensuring that at least one session of youth work, either in a club or detached, is being delivered in every ward - achieved against a backdrop of Sheffield not having an active Youth Workforce due to a decade of financial cuts nationally to youth services;
 - (vi) notes that the Council is now ready to give grants to VCF partners across the city to deliver in partnership with the Council, ensuring that by the end of the financial year there will be a minimum of 3 sessions in every ward across the city;
 - (vii) notes that capturing what young people and local communities are telling us they want and need is at the heart of the changes; and
 - (viii) notes that staff brought in-house to the Council enjoy favourable terms and conditions, employee support schemes, and with investment in resources, training and youth buildings, staff will have an improved working environment from which to deliver modern, contemporary youth services that are inclusive and meet the needs and aspirations of young people;
3. the re-lettering of original paragraphs (g) and (h) as new paragraphs (f) and (g).

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Douglas Johnson, seconded by Councillor Alexi Dimond

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) believes the people of Sheffield want to see services delivered efficiently, effectively, responsibly, equitably and ethically;
2. the addition of the following words at the end of paragraph (c) -

“; further notes that the world has moved on since 1999, and whilst it is still important to have “regard to a combination of factors, including economy, efficiency and effectiveness”, believes that equity, the environment and social implications must also be factored into every local government decision”
3. the addition of a new sub-paragraph (d)(iii) as follows, and the re-lettering of original sub-paragraph (d)(iii) as a new sub-paragraph (d)(iv):-
 - (d)(iii) Council transport policy, which is believed has consistently prioritised the perceived needs of motorists, to the detriment of the Council’s budget pressures, road safety, air pollution, transport investment, equality and the climate emergency;
4. the addition of a new new sub-paragraph (h)(v) as follows:-
 - (h)(v) examine where other councils have improved outcomes in terms of reliability and affordability of public transport, reduced emissions, improved road safety and increased participation in active travel through better enforcement of motor vehicle offences, increased coverage and fees for permit parking, Workplace Parking Levies and Clean Air/Ultra Low Emission Zones.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “COST OF LIVING CRISIS - NATIONAL FAILINGS AND OUR LOCAL RESPONSE”

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (j) and (k) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (j) to (l) as new paragraphs (l) to (n):-

- (j) regrets the inclusion of £12m worth of Budget Implementation Plans that are now predicted to be undeliverable by 2023/24 within the current budget, and believes that it is of the utmost importance to improve this Council's financial situation in order to safeguard the public services that Sheffield residents rely upon;
 - (k) notes with concern the delays to this Council's insulation work programme on its own housing stock, which may cause our own tenants to suffer increased energy bills this year, and requests that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee work to ensure this crucial insulation work is completed as quickly as possible;
2. the deletion of original paragraph (m) and the addition of new paragraphs (o) and (p), as follows:-
- (o) calls on central government to tackle the cost of living crisis, which this Council believes is of their making, through:-
 - (i) cutting the standard rate of VAT to 17.5%;
 - (ii) restoring the Universal Credit supplement of £20;
 - (iii) introducing Free School Meals for all families receiving Universal Credit, and providing food vouchers for these families over every school holiday, providing stability to stretched household budgets;
 - (iv) introducing a home insulation fund to decrease heating bills and carbon emissions; and
 - (v) funding these measures through a windfall tax on energy companies making record profits;
 - (p) requests that the Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to express this Council's demands to restore the Universal Credit supplement of £20; and to the Chancellor to express this Council's demands to cut the standard rate of VAT to 17.5%;
3. the re-lettering of original paragraphs (n) and (o) as new paragraphs (q) and (r).

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Paul Turpin, seconded by Councillor Martin Phipps

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (e) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (e) to (g) as new paragraphs (f) to (h):-
 - (e) rejects any return to discredited austerity policies by the Government under the guise of “tough choices”, believing that it is a self-defeating policy which does nothing to help the UK’s finances and serves only to redistribute wealth from the poor to the rich;
2. the addition of a new paragraph (i) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraph (h) as a new paragraph (j):-
 - (i) notes the failure of successive governments over the last 30 years to tackle the climate emergency and believes that the society we would have built; with warmer, better insulated low energy homes, locally generated clean, green energy and more food produced in the UK, would have had a significant impact on reducing the cost of living crisis;
3. the addition of a new paragraph (k) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (i) to (m) as new paragraphs (l) to (p):-
 - (k) notes that the "exponential growth" model of what makes a successful economy ignores its impact on climate change and nature and will make social and economic problems more severe, both now and into the future, therefore believes we need to make the necessary changes now and strongly, to promote Sheffield as a resilient city.
4. the insertion, in the new paragraph (o) [the original paragraph (l)], of the words “as successfully proposed in the Green Group motion on 1st June 2022,” after the words “steering group”;
5. the addition of a new paragraph (q) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (n) and (o) as new paragraphs (r) and (s):-
 - (q) supports policies that:-
 - (i) increase minimum wage to £15/hour, ensure public sector wages keep pace with inflation and start restoring real wage losses from years of austerity;
 - (ii) restore the £20 uplift to Universal Credit and double it to £40 per week;
 - (iii) increase tax on the wealthiest 1% to tackle rising inequality and support those on lowest incomes;
 - (iv) restore the cap on bankers’ bonuses;

- (v) restore the Energy Price Cap to the October 2021 level, saving many households more than £2,000/year, financed by a windfall tax on energy producers;
- (vi) back an Employers Workplace Parking Levy to fund sustainable transport improvements, ensuring more council funding can be allocated to stretched services; and
- (vii) re-nationalise the UK's energy providers.