

# **Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee**

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**Wednesday 25 January 2017 at 5.00 pm**

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

## **Membership**

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Councillors Steve Wilson (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Penny Baker, Lisa Banes, Neale Gibson, Dianne Hurst, Talib Hussain, Abdul Khayum, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Ben Miskell, Robert Murphy, Andy Nash, Chris Peace, Martin Smith and Paul Wood

## **Substitute Members**

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

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## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING**

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The Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, development and monitoring of service performance and other issues in respect of the area of Council activity relating to planning and economic development, wider environmental issues, culture, leisure, skills and training, and the quality of life in the City.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk). You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked \* on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer on 0114 27 35065 or [email alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)

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## **FACILITIES**

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There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

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**ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELLBEING SCRUTINY AND POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA  
25 JANUARY 2017**

**Order of Business**

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- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**  
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 1 - 4)  
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meetings** (Pages 5 - 14)  
To approve the minutes of the scheduled meeting of the Committee held on 30th November, 2016, and the special meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2016
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**  
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Implications for Sheffield on the Decision to Leave the European Union** (Pages 15 - 36)  
Report of the Director of Policy, Performance and Communications
- 8. Western Road First World War Memorial Trees - Scope of Task and Finish Cross Party Working Group** (Pages 37 - 40)  
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer
- 9. Work Programme 2016/17** (Pages 41 - 50)  
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer
- 10. Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017, at 5.00 pm, in the Town Hall

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## ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

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If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)** relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period\* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

\*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
  - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
  - the landlord is your council or authority; and
  - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
  - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
  - (b) either -
    - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email [gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk).

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Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development  
Committee

Meeting held 30 November 2016

**PRESENT:** Councillors Steve Wilson (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Penny Baker, Lisa Banes, Neale Gibson, Dianne Hurst, Talib Hussain, Abdul Khayum, Robert Murphy, Andy Nash, Chris Peace and Martin Smith

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Mirfin-Boukouris and Paul Wood.

**2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016, were approved as a correct record.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

5.1 Adrian Milward raised the following questions regarding the Flood Protection Programme:-

- (a) Given the technical complexity of the design and lifetime operation of flood defences:-
  - (i) Does the Committee intend to ensure that they receive expert independent advice, for example, following the national model of creating a Specialist Advisory Group?
  - (ii) Given this project is being presented as a 'National Pilot for the National Flood Resilience Review', what independent evaluation is the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) undertaking, and how is this being reported to this Committee?
  - (iii) Given that funding will impact on the chosen solutions, how is the work of the new DEFRA 'Finance from Economic Value' created expert

group being reported to this Committee?

- (iv) How are all local Members of Parliament, some of whom sit on the Government Select Committee, reviewing flooding policy, being informed and involved?
- (b) The proposals describe a wide range of strategic objectives for the scheme. Given the Environment Agency funding, described at the consultation stage, only considers one parameter (reduction in properties flooded or risk category reduced):-
- (i) How are the value of the other Council objectives, such as environmental, habitat, amenity, etc, to be evaluated and quantified in reaching a transparent and auditable evaluation of options so this Committee can be clear on what is being proposed is the best option?
  - (ii) Given this is also a 'national pilot for self-funding', what freedoms have the team asked from DEFRA, for example in terms of 'having to complete the work to fit in with the Environment Agency funding period', that is all works completed by 2021?
  - (iii) How is the work of the new DEFRA, focused on new defences financed from the proceeds of economic value, going to be applied to the Sheffield proposals of using areas of urban parkland, such as Rivelin Valley or Endcliffe Park? Does use of the different funding mechanism alter the type of defences and the timetable for implementation?
- (c) Given the scale, technical complexity, importance of the works, the national profile, the complex partnership working arrangements at local and national level, the new finance arrangements to be trialled, is this Committee satisfied that the Council has yet been able to assemble a team with the right resources and capacity to lead on this project?
- 5.2 Ian Kassell stated that he had already informed Arup and Partners that he owned land at Morland Lane, which currently got flooded several times a year, and questioned whether the Council would consider the land as an alternative to the proposed flood alleviation barrier, in an ancient woodland currently proposed in Totley. He also requested that he, and other land owners affected, could be kept updated in terms of the progress of the scheme.
- 5.3 Trevor Bagshaw requested assurances from the Council that all interested agencies, organisations or individuals be fully engaged in terms of the proposals.
- 5.4 The Chair stated that the above questions would be referred to relevant Council officers, with a request that they provide a written response.

## **6. PROTECTING SHEFFIELD FROM FLOODING**

- 6.1 The Committee received a presentation from James Fletcher, Flood and Water Manager, Sheffield City Council, on a programme of schemes to protect Sheffield from flooding. Mr Fletcher reported that, following the devastating effect of the floods in 2007, both in terms of the impact on property and lives, and the economy and growth, and due to the increased risk of repeat flooding, and the City's topography, action was required to improve the City's flood defences. Mr Fletcher reported that the plans, which were to be funded through an £83 million Government Investment Programme to 2021, involved a catchment-wide approach, with a wide range of options, which would protect the City's communities, help grow the economy and transform its waterways. In terms of progress, Mr Fletcher reported that work had commenced on building defences in the Lower Don Valley, which were scheduled to be completed by Summer 2017 and, following meetings with the Government, at which funding had been identified, and with Sheffield having been chosen to be the pilot Core City for flood protection, plans had now commenced in terms of delivering the larger programme. The programme included options to both keep flood water out of the City, by undertaking measures regarding upland management, natural flood management and holding water in reservoirs, as well as options to store flood water temporarily in the City's open spaces. A number of potential flood water storage areas had been identified, and which included Endcliffe and Millhouses Parks. As part of these options, improvements would be made to the parks, including soft re-landscaping, better drainage and better facilities.
- 6.2 Mr Fletcher referred to other options, which included containing more water in the City's rivers, which would involve building more defences that enhanced the riverside and removing obstructions to help water flow. He referred to resilience measures, which included reducing the impact when flooding occurred and improving emergency planning and response arrangements, as well as warning systems, keeping rivers cleared and well-maintained and ensuring that properties were more resilient to flooding. Mr Fletcher concluded by referring to the next steps, which included deciding on the various options by January 2017, working with interested groups and affected parties to develop the options in early 2017, submitting the case for investment to the Government in Summer 2017, developing detailed proposals and consulting further with the public in 2018, with the aim of construction taking place during 2019 to 2021.
- 6.3 The Committee also heard contributions from other relevant agencies and organisations, in terms of their involvement in the programme, as follows:-
- 6.4 Yorkshire Water
- 6.4.1 Granville Davis, Head of Asset Strategy, reported on Yorkshire Water's role in terms of the management of reservoirs, and provision of drinking water, indicating that whilst reservoirs had other benefits, they were primarily used for the supply of drinking water. In terms of water management, he stated that, as and when required, water was released into water courses downstream. Yorkshire Water was currently planning for the future in terms of looking at how it could deal with a potential deficit in its water supply, in the light of the forecast increase in population. The Company was also involved in a national programme, working

with partners, to look at broader issues regarding reservoirs.

## 6.5 Moors for the Future Partnership

6.5.1 John Scott, Director of Conservation and Planning, Peak District National Park, gave a presentation on Natural Flood Management, an appraisal prepared for the Environment Agency by the Moors for the Future Partnership, of current evidence from the DEFRA-funded multi-objective flood management demonstration projects that had been initiated in 2009, as part of DEFRA's response to the Pit Review of the 2007 floods. The aim of the projects had been to generate evidence to demonstrate how integrated land management change, working with natural processes and partnership working, could contribute to reducing local flood risk, while producing wider benefits for the environment and communities. Mr Scott reported on the three projects – Making Space for Water (Kinder Scout, Derbyshire), Slowing the Flow (Pickering, North Yorkshire) and From Source to Sea (Exmoor, Somerset), which had been running for five years, indicating that the main message from the projects had been that landscape flood management techniques were effective, and should be used together with engineered hard defences.

## 6.6 Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust

6.6.1 Liz Ballard, Chief Executive, Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust, gave a presentation on the work of the Trust in connection with flood risk management. Ms Ballard stated that the Trust was a partner on the Waterways Strategy Group and, in partnership with the City Council and Groundwork, the Trust formed the River Stewardship Company, which involved the local community and businesses in works regarding in-channel river maintenance, which included a number of benefits, mainly to reduce the build-up of rubbish which could block small channels and bridges. The Trust also worked with the Moors for the Future Partnership, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the National Trust, through its Wildscapes Consultancy, to deliver programmes that helped improve the moorlands for water storage. The Trust established and led the Living Don Partnership, which included working with organisations, on land and water across the region. The Trust also had strong local networks in the community and invested and drew down funding, into its nature reserves and projects across Sheffield and Rotherham that helped to reduce flood risk, such as at Centenary Riverside. In terms of the flood protection proposals, Ms Ballard stated that there was a need to consider all the options for flood risk management, including soft engineering and natural flood risk management, alongside the more traditional hard engineering projects. Ms Ballard highlighted the opportunity to access a new Government fund of £15m, specifically allocated for natural flood risk management schemes. She also asked for improved dialogue between all the agencies involved, and all the different communities affected, and expressed concerns regarding the adverse impact of some of the proposals on heritage and ancient woodland sites in the region. Despite her concerns, she stated that the proposals provided an excellent opportunity to improve flood management in the area.

6.6.2 Despite the concerns, she stated that the proposals provided an excellent

opportunity to improve flood management in the area. She concluded by indicating that the Trust had been successful in obtaining £4 million, as part of a landscape partnership bid, which would be used for a number of initiatives and projects, including natural flood risk management. She asked the Council to work with the Trust on this project, and to explore establishing a wider “strategic flood protection partnership” in Sheffield that could involve the many knowledgeable people in the City to help better protect the City from future flooding.

6.7 Members of the Committee raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- It had been accepted that there was a need for both soft measures, including the clearing of waste and debris from rivers, riverbanks and around bridges and the provision of flood storage areas, as well as engineered hard defences. It was hoped that, under the programme of works, both types of scheme could be implemented without any detrimental effect to the countryside.
- Natural Flood Management was viewed as an important element of the whole programme, and the overall package of works would include a number of Natural Flood Management schemes.
- The official readings, as recorded by the Environment Agency, indicated that on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016, river levels were around 10 inches off overtopping in respect of the bottom end of the River Sheaf and Porter Brook. Flood warnings had been issued. It had been considered that if the rain had continued at the same rate into the evening, there would have been a high risk of significant flooding to areas of the City Centre, including the railway station. The river levels on 21<sup>st</sup> November were at their highest since the floods in 2007.
- 81% of public responses, as part of the consultation, supported the objective to protect communities. 32% of these disagreed with the nature of the approach the Council was taking. At the consultation events, there was an opportunity for people to highlight those areas where they envisaged there would be particular issues.
- An Expert Panel was being established by the Government to deliver the Sheffield Pilot for Flood Protection. This would be made up of technical, business and funding experts. Consideration would be given to the request now made, that the Panel should include a number of local experts.
- Sheffield was looking to be a ‘trail blazer’ on the grounds that the proposed Natural Flood Management plans would be on a much bigger scale to any similar schemes across the country. Whilst, as part of the projects, the techniques to be used would be very similar to those used in other areas, the project would be on a much bigger scale.
- The Government had ring-fenced £15m towards Natural Flood Management

options in the uplands above the City. It was hoped that this funding would be additional to the £83m Government Investment Programme.

- Discussions had taken place with Yorkshire Water to undertake a controlled release of water, from reservoirs, into water courses prior to forecast storms or periods of heavy rain to provide flood water storage during storms. This would result in there being no adverse effect on water supply as they would naturally refill during such periods. Problems occurred when storms or periods of heavy rain were not forecast as there were limits in terms of how quick controlled releases could be organised, or when forecast storms did not materialise. There was no capacity to transfer water from one reservoir to another.
- Although the public had been consulted on the options, there were no detailed designs in place, and the options highlighted in the publicity material produced, were illustrative. For instance, there were no plans for a large concrete dam in the Rivelin Valley, and consideration would be given to the location of the flood storage area proposed in Gillyfield Wood.
- Whilst dredging rivers would help to some extent, this process would not have much of an effect in terms of extreme flooding. Also, due to the work required, and associated cost, it was not considered that this process was the best way forward. There was also little benefit to dredging reservoirs, with the practicalities and costs far outweighing any benefits. As an alternative, work was being undertaken to look at specific pinch points in watercourses, where there had been a build up of silt which had caused an obstruction.
- There had been a considerable level of partnership working in connection with the proposed plans, with a number of key internal and external stakeholder workshops held, including environmental, expert, community and “friends of” groups, where attendees had gone into considerable detail in terms of some of the options.
- In terms of people’s concerns regarding possible loss of, or damage to, the City’s heritage and/or ancient woodlands, particularly in connection with the location of the temporary flood storage areas, it was considered that there was sufficient expertise, in terms of personnel in the partner agencies and organisations, to ensure any adverse effects of proposals being developed were minimised.
- It was accepted that there was a need for all partner agencies and organisations to be aware of the effects of climate change, particularly in connection with extreme weather conditions, and subsequent flooding.
- Whilst the Council had no specific powers to demand such action was taken, it was working with developers to look to implement sustainable drainage systems as part of their developments. Good examples include close working between the Council and developers on social housing developments in the Manor, Arbourthorne and Parson Cross districts of the City.

- Although there had been consultation on the draft proposals, further consultation would be held on the detailed designs once they had been drafted.
- In terms of the potential adverse effect on temporary flood storage areas, it was the intention to create silt traps to catch silt and debris to stop it running into the storage areas. Officers had visited a flood storage area in Centre Vale Park, Todmorden, Calder Valley, which had required very little in terms of cleaning up afterwards.
- The overall options include long-term protection, up to 2080.

6.8 The Committee received questions from members of the public in attendance, as follows:-

- (a) Katherine Elsdon questioned what the recovery period would be in terms of the temporary flood storage areas in the Porter Brook and Mayfield Valley areas.
- (b) Faye Musselwhite referred to possible enhancements in the Rivelin Valley area, including the suggestion of large dams, and questioned what exactly had been proposed in this area.
- (c) Sue Shaw, Rivelin Valley Conservation Trust, made reference to the information circulated as part of the consultation, which referred to the construction of 11 metre high walls in the Rivelin and Loxley Valleys, and questioned whether this was the case.
- (d) John Gommersall stated that, whilst he welcomed the proposals, as a result of the devastation caused by the floods in 2007, he had concerns regarding the cost, and potential adverse effects on the City's heritage and wildlife. He also made the point that one of the main reasons for the flooding in Hillsborough in 2007 was due to a failure to keep the riverbanks clear of debris and foliage. He stated that the public needed assurances, in the form of cost benefit analysis.

6.9 The Chair stated that written responses would be provided to the questioners.

6.10 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the information contained in the papers now circulated, the information reported as part of the presentations and the responses to the questions raised;
- (b) acknowledges the concerns raised by members of the public and representatives of agencies and organisations, both as part of the consultation and at this meeting, regarding the potential adverse effect of the proposals on the City's heritage and ancient woodlands, particularly in

the light of the comments now made in terms of the illustrations on the plans used as part of the consultation;

- (c) requests:
- (i) that officers work with partners to look at the possibility of establishing a formally constituted Partnership Group, comprising representatives from all relevant agencies and organisations, as well as members of the public, to look at all aspects of flood management, including natural flood management and whole catchment approach;
  - (ii) Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment) to lobby the relevant Secretary of State to give consideration to amending current planning policy, making it mandatory for developers to install sustainable urban drainage systems as part of future developments;
  - (iii) assurance, in going forward, post this consultation stage, that all relevant organisations are fully engaged in the development and decision-making process by the Council, on proposals, and that there is a cost benefit analysis of all the options, including hard engineering works and organic solutions;
  - (iv) that, for clarity, future consultation information materials use all river names, not just upstream names; and
  - (v) that detailed designs of all the proposals under the programme be referred back to this Committee for comment, prior to submission to the Government; and
- (d) thanks those Council officers and representatives from other agencies and organisations, as well as those members of the public, in attendance.

## **7. ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE TASK GROUP DRAFT SCOPE**

7.1 The Policy and Improvement Officer submitted a report on the proposed establishment of a Task and Finish Group on Economic Landscape in Sheffield, the draft outline of which would involve a multi-approach to consider what business needs were in Sheffield, within the economic landscape, and the City's economic role in Sheffield City Region. The report also set out a proposed timeline in terms of the Group's inception meeting, and its report to this Committee in 2017.

7.2 Councillor Lisa Baines expressed an interest in being a member of the Group, and suggested that its membership should include a representative of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). The Chair indicated that he would like to Chair the Task Group, and Councillor Martin Smith expressed an interest in also being a member.

7.3 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-



- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted, together with the expressions of interest in terms of the membership of the Economic Landscape Task Group; and
- (b) requests Members to contact the Policy and Improvement Officer (Alice Nicholson), (i) indicating if they wished to become a member of the Group and (ii) providing (A) comments/feedback on proposed terms of reference, scope and areas for exploration, and on the proposed timeline and (B) suggestions in terms of potential stakeholders to which the Group could call evidence from.

## **8. WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

- 8.1 The Policy and Improvement Officer (Alice Nicholson) submitted a report attaching the Committee's draft Work Programme for 2016/17.
- 8.2 In response to a query by Councillor Robert Murphy, Ms. Nicholson stated that the item on the Green Commission had been temporarily withdrawn from the Programme as she was waiting information on the item, and gave assurances that it would be included in the Committee's Work Programme, under the items to be scheduled.
- 8.3 RESOLVED: That the Committee notes the contents of the report now submitted, together with the comments now made, and approves the draft Work Programme for 2016/17.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 9.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, at 5.00 p.m., in the Town Hall.

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**SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL**

**Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development  
Committee**

**Meeting held 15 December 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Steve Wilson (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Penny Baker, Lisa Banes, Craig Gamble Pugh, Neale Gibson, Adam Hurst, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Anne Murphy, Robert Murphy, Andy Nash, Chris Peace and Martin Smith

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received and substitutes attended the meeting as follows:-

Apology

Councillor Dianne Hurst  
Councillor Talib Hussain  
Councillor Abdul Khayum  
Councillor Ben Miskell  
Councillor Paul Wood

Substitute

Councillor Anne Murphy  
Councillor Adam Hurst  
Councillor Craig Gamble Pugh  
No substitute nominated  
No substitute nominated

**2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

4.1 Petitions

4.1.1 Rebecca Gransbury reported on the petition she had submitted to the Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016, which, in the light of the number of signatures, had triggered a debate at that meeting. Following the debate, the Council noted the receipt of the petition and referred the petition to this Committee, to be considered in conjunction with the call-in of the Cabinet decision on the China Economic and Civic Programme Update.

4.1.2 Ms Gransbury stated that the petition, which was calling on the Council to keep the beautiful, purpose-built Central Library building as a library, reject any plans to re-purpose the building and invest in the upkeep of the building as a full public resource, was continuing to attract online signatures. She made reference to the heritage of the building, stressing that such heritage did not simply relate to the

bricks and mortar element of the building, but also related to its history. Ms Gransbury stated that she had been informed by an officer in the Library Service at Manchester City Council that the Grade II rotunda building was their “jewel in the crown” of their library service, and that the decision to keep the library in the same location was due to the fact that, before the renovation, it attracted 1.25 million visitors. This equated to approximately 50% of Manchester’s population. Sheffield’s Central Library had attracted 546,982 visits during 2015, which equated to approximately 97% of the City’s population, and she stated that these figures provided good grounds for the option of renovation to be considered. Ms Gransbury then went on to question whether the Exclusivity Agreement would prevent the Council from exploring other options, whether, if the hotel development progressed, the Council would commit to create a new library building as attractive and iconic as other buildings in the City Centre and what would the costs of renovation be, in contrast to the cost of a new building.

- 4.1.3 Councillor Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Libraries and Community Services, stated that there were no doubts about the iconic nature of the Central Library building and that, if any funding became available, the Council would give consideration to renovating the building. He added, however, that given the scale of the renovation works required, with a major redevelopment (modernising the layout and uses) expected to cost in excess of £30 million, and the increasing problems for the Council to identify this level of funding, it had been decided to explore the option of the agreement with Guodong, in connection with the development of a 5-star hotel and improving the Art Gallery at the Central Library building on Surrey Street. Councillor Scott also stated that if the proposals progressed to the development of a new 5-star hotel, the Council would receive around £1 million a year in business rates, in respect of the building, which would be used to further boost the City’s economy. He stressed that there were no firm proposals at the present time, and that this was one of a few options being considered by the Council.
- 4.1.4 In response to questions raised by Members of the Committee, in connection with the petition, with reference to the new central library building in Birmingham, it was stated that the new building, which comprised a number of other elements as well as the library service, cost approximately £180 million, financed through a Private Finance Initiative deal. The running costs of the building alone amounted to around £20 million and when compared with the cost of running the entire library service in Sheffield which was around £8 million, this highlighted the problems facing the Council. Although the exact figures in terms of the required repair and refurbishment works in connection with the building had not been finalised, Councillor Scott had given a commitment that he would provide a breakdown of such figures, publicly, when they became available. In addition, as there had only been preliminary discussions with Guodong at this stage, there were no details in terms of the costings involved in connection with the development of a 5-star hotel and a new art gallery within the building.
- 4.1.5 The Committee noted the comments now raised by Ms Gransbury in connection with the petition, and agreed that the issues raised be considered as part of the consideration of the call-in.

4.2 Public Questions

4.2.1 The Committee received the following questions from members of the public:-

(a) Helen Glazier

Why did the Council consider it cheaper to build a brand new building, rather than refurbish the existing building?

(b) Unnamed Member of the Public

Why isn't refurbishment given as much weight as rebuild, particularly due to the important nature of the building?

(c) Nigel Slack

- (i) Can the Cabinet Member or relevant officer clarify the 'leasing' arrangement that this proposed deal would lead to? Who would own the land? Who would own the building? What is the envisaged period of any lease?
- (ii) Can the Cabinet Member or relevant officer clarify the comment by the presenting officer at the Cabinet meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016, which indicated that bedrooms for the 5-star hotel would be "outside the main Surrey Street building, as in an annexe or related to..." Where might such an external annexe be located?
- (iii) Councillor Jack Scott has commented that any new Central Library facility will be within a quarter of a mile of the Surrey Street site. That appears to suggest a perimeter ranging approximately from Cathedral to City Hall to Furnival Square to Sheaf Street, almost to Ponds Forge and to Castle Square. Can this be confirmed now or at the earliest possible opportunity?

(d) Michael McColgan

- (i) Has the Council an Ethical Procurement Policy? If so, how was it put into effect in the negotiations with Guodong Construction?
- (ii) Does the Company welcome Trade Unions among its workforce?
- (iii) Has the Council investigated whether the Trade Unions are truly independent?
- (iv) Why is the Council appearing now to deal with Mr Wong's private company, when initially it was due to negotiate with the PLC?
- (v) On what basis does Councillor Leigh Bramall claim that the Company is "one of the best partners out there", or that it will lead to thousands of jobs?

- (vi) What is the proposed composition and competence of the “decision-making” body?
  - (vii) Precisely how will a 5-star hotel help Sheffield?
  - (viii) Precisely how will a private residential scheme in the West Bar area help Sheffield? Will it be “affordable” housing?
  - (ix) Why has the Council taken so long to determine that the Central Library is not “fit for purpose”? Did nobody ring the alarm bells sooner?
  - (x) What kind of City Centre library is Councillor Jack Scott promising?
  - (xi) Why was no consultation undertaken with the people of Sheffield on such an important matter?
- (e) Jackie Jones
- (i) Please can you breakdown or explain why it will cost £30 million to make repairs/refurbish the library and gallery.
  - (ii) What avenues have been explored, if any, to find alternative funding to maintain the building?
  - (iii) Why were we not told about problems the library building was having? The first I heard about it, it had already been sold to the Chinese.
- (f) Antony May
- If the investment is given the green light, is it paid in the form of monies or is there investment in the form of building and infrastructure?
- (g) Karen Platt
- (i) There appear to have been consultations that have not been made public - at least the 2013 one if not more. Please could these be made public as quickly as possible, certainly long before the 12-month period is up.
  - (ii) In all fairness, no-one can decide what is best for the City until all options are explored. This Committee should seek to explore the options of renovation of the current building. A prime example of a renovated library is Liverpool - at a cost of £50 million. Funding was available for this avenue - one that is supported by over 10,000 people in the City. This would appear to be the cheaper option. What can a new build offer that a renovation cannot?
  - (iii) The Graves building is a public building that would be accessible to all if it were refurbished. It is currently not accessible and that has been a Council choice. To turn it into a hotel is to take away the public access for private enterprise even if the hotel contains the gallery. Who would

access it?

- (iv) Could the Council suggest other sites to Guodong for their valued investment – sites that are more suited to private enterprise?
- (v) Could the Committee consider the heritage of the building, and preserve it for the people of Sheffield as a library that anyone can access.

(h) Nick Fleischmann

- (i) Why were conservative options for the Central Library not considered following the announcement in 2014 after the previous review that the Library was safe, before now granting exclusivity to Guodong? There are trust schemes that should have been examined by the Council during the intervening two years with ample opportunity to engage with the community and other stakeholders.
- (ii) Why did the Council not at least allow an equal and parallel consultation on conservative options eg a trust during the current 12 month period and the possibilities of obtaining alternative funding?
- (iii) Where has the figure of £30 million for refurbishment of the Library come from? Are there supporting costings? Will these costings be made available as soon as possible?
- (iv) Can there be an assurance that the Council will not move towards concluding any further agreement with Guodong until the results of their feasibility study have been made public and independently assessed, and an agreed consultation process is on the table for full consideration of alternative options?
- (v) What is the Council's assessment of the costs of providing equivalent new-build library facilities elsewhere?
- (vi) Has consideration been given to offering Guodong another site in the City Centre and leaving the Library in its current situation, preserving all historic features, including theatre and gallery, reference and local studies, with appropriate and sensitive remodelling to remedy some defects of the existing provision, such as situation of the gallery, disabled access, catering, etc?
- (vii) What planning case is there for another large hotel in the Conservation Area right opposite the existing one?
- (viii) Does the Council believe that a redevelopment proposal to convert a Grade 2 listed building, which will involve almost total gutting of the historic features and insertion of mezzanine floors, can meet the requirements of an Historic England Heritage Statement for the purposes of listed building consent?

- (ix) Does the Council not agree that the historic Central Library is an architectural treasure, both externally and internally, a nationally-significant cultural asset and an irreplaceable centrepiece of Sheffield's cultural heritage and the City Centre Conservation Area, which the Council itself draws attention to on its own website?
- (x) Does the Council agree that all 10,000 signatories to the protest petition should be given a full opportunity to voice their detailed objections to the proposed scheme?
- (xi) How can the Council justify permitting and encouraging a foreign developer to float a speculative commercial venture through the preferential acquisition of one of Sheffield's greatest cultural assets?
- (xii) If there is to be a tender for the Library from Guodong, how could this be described as competitive given that they have basically been given a preferential option to acquire the building without consideration of any other possible bids?
- (xiii) If there were an application to register the Library as an asset of community value, what would the Council's attitude be?
- (xiv) Does the Council consider that it has acted fairly and openly with the community and other stakeholders in moving straight to a preferred commercial bid without any consideration of the feasible alternatives?

(i) *Sheffield Communities Against Library Privatisation*

Can the Council guarantee that any upfront costs from the City that may be associated with the relocation of the Central Library will be recouped should funds from the developer, or those that may be available from Central Government, fail to materialise, perhaps due to austerity, financial difficulty or economic recession? Will there be a guarantor?

(j) *Peter Fagerlind*

Should the Council not be consulting the public on all the various options for the building now rather than pursuing the one option of leasing the building to Guodong UK Ltd for use as a 5-star hotel?

(k) *Stephanie Hulstaert*

- (i) Could the Council carry out a survey of its library users to ask for their views on the possibility of the Central Library becoming a hotel? I believe this is an appropriate way of engaging with those who will be most affected by any change in use of the building.
- (ii) Could Members of the Council look at the good and bad examples of library renovations in the country, such as Birmingham, which built a library in 2013, but then couldn't afford to maintain its opening hours, and Liverpool, whose library was renovated in 2013 as a tourist



attraction, as well as serving the City's citizens, giving everyone something to be proud of for many years to come.

- 4.2.2 The Chair stated that written responses would be provided to all the questions raised at the meeting.

## **5. CALL-IN OF THE CABINET DECISION ON CHINA ECONOMIC AND CIVIC PROGRAMME UPDATE**

- 5.1 The Committee considered the decision of the Cabinet made at its meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016, regarding the China Economic and Civic Programme Update. The Committee considered two separate call-ins.

### 5.2 First Call-in

#### 5.2.1 Signatories

The Lead Signatory was Councillor Chris Peace, and the other signatories were Councillors Steve Wilson, Lewis Dagnall, Neale Gibson and Lisa Banes.

#### 5.2.2 Reasons for the Call-in

The signatories had confirmed that they wished to allow further scrutiny of future plans for a City Centre Library should the current building be leased as suggested, and to allow scrutiny and consideration of the future accommodation of Graves Art Gallery and alternative accommodation for users of the Library Theatre should this go ahead.

#### 5.2.3 Attendees

- Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Libraries and Community Services)
- Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business and Economy)
- Paul Billington (Director of Culture and Environment)
- Ed Highfield (Director of Creative Sheffield)
- Dawn Shaw (Head of Libraries and Community Services)

- 5.2.4 Councillor Chris Peace addressed the Committee, as Lead Signatory to the call-in, indicating that, due to the level of questions received from her and her colleagues' constituents, she considered that there was a need for further scrutiny of this decision. Councillor Peace stated that the Council needed to be both ambitious and realistic in terms of the future of the Central Library building, particularly in the light of the present condition of the building, and the costs involved in either refurbishing or redeveloping it. As part of her address, Councillor Peace raised a number of questions, initially asking for a guarantee that Sheffield would still have a Central Library building, questioning whether there had been any consideration given to its location and whether any new library building would be as iconic or inspiring as the current building. She questioned whether the views of current library staff, any relevant friends' groups, the Museums Trust and any amateur dramatic groups who used the Library Theatre, had been sought, whether any

consideration had been given to other possible funding streams, whether there had been any consultation in terms of the Council's interim plans and what part the public could play in any future consultation.

5.2.5 In response, it was stated that Guodong had looked at a number of possible locations in and around the City Centre, but had expressed an interest in the Central Library building, and the initial plans indicated that it would be a very inspiring new building. Councillor Jack Scott referred to the publicity material that had been circulated at the first of a number of public meetings to discuss the proposals, which indicated that the Council had been very open in terms of the information shared with the public to date. He added that he had arranged to meet with the group which had been established to defend the Central Library building, where it was hoped that plans could be drawn up, comprising a number of options, regarding the provision of a library, either contained within the new building, or elsewhere in the City Centre area. Paul Billington stated that he had met with representatives of the Museums Gallery and the Arts Council to discuss future proposals regarding the Art Gallery and the Library Theatre. Whilst there were no firm proposals at this stage, there was a joint ambition between the Council and Guodong in connection with maintaining the Art Gallery in an alternative, more accessible, location within the City Centre. Councillor Leigh Bramall stated that the possible £1 million a year business rates in terms of a new building on this site would prove beneficial for the Council in terms of funding Council Services. The current staff at the Central Library had been briefed on the proposals, and would continue to be updated in terms of any further developments.

#### 5.2.6 Questions from Members of the Committee

Members raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- There were no guarantees that the Central Library would not close at any time in the near future.
- Consideration had been given to transferring the archives currently stored in the Central Library building to the current Sheffield Archives building on Shoreham Street. However, as there was not sufficient storage capacity at Shoreham Street, consideration would have to be given to an alternative location if all the City's archives were to be kept together.
- Whilst it was not yet clear that the deal being considered would be viable from the Council's point of view, the potential benefits of the proposals made the plans worth considering. Whilst there were no guarantees, it was considered that, given the level of investment, as well as the on-going receipt of business rates in respect of the new building, the proposed deal should be given detailed consideration.
- There were no detailed plans at this stage, but in due course, full costings and plans in terms of a permanent location, would be considered by the Cabinet. The Council would only be able to make a final recommendation on the proposals once statutory consultation had been held. There could also be delays due to legal issues.

- Any possible interim library in the City Centre would be recognisable as a library service, although there were no firm details at the present time.
- It was not envisaged that there would be any issues in terms of the receipt of business rates regarding a new building, in the light of any possible issues regarding the Company's future performance, as the business rates referred to the building and not the Company.
- There were serious concerns in connection with the condition of the Central Library building, to the extent that the issue was referred to on the Council's Risk Register. There would be issues in terms of the Council meeting the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act, in terms of disabled access to, and within, the building, and this, and the other problems regarding required repairs and maintenance, was creating serious financial pressure for the Council.
- Whilst the proposed investment deal refers to a 5-star hotel, there was no specific location mentioned. However, Guodong has mentioned the Central Library building as a preferred location for such a hotel.
- Whilst there was always the possibility that an alternative location could be found for a 5-star hotel in the City Centre, this would not help the Council in terms of its requirement with regard to the maintenance of the Central Library building.
- The Council does pay business rates in respect of the Central Library building, but not in respect of the Graves Art Gallery, due to its charitable status.

### 5.3 Second Call-in

#### 5.3.1 Signatories

The Lead Signatory was Councillor Martin Smith, and the other signatories were Councillors Penny Baker, Vickie Priestley, Ian Auckland and Steve Ayriss.

#### 5.3.2 Reasons for the Call-in

The signatories confirmed that they wanted to allow for further scrutiny of the Strategic Investment Partnership Agreement with Guodong and the 12-month Exclusivity Agreement on the potential redevelopment of the Central Library building.

#### 5.3.3 Attendees

- Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Libraries and Community Services)
- Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business and Economy)
- Paul Billington (Director of Culture and Environment)

- Ed Highfield (Director of Creative Sheffield)
- Dawn Shaw (Head of Libraries and Community Services)

5.3.4 Councillor Martin Smith questioned precisely what had been agreed between the Council and Guodong in June 2016, in connection with the agreement, specifically whether there had been any legal or financial commitments on the part of the Council. He also queried the nature of the Exclusivity Agreement, and whether this prevented the Council from engaging with other potential investors. Councillor Smith also queried why copies of both the strategic investment partnership agreement with Guodong and the Exclusivity Agreement in terms of the potential redevelopment of the Central Library building could not be made available to all Members of the Council, even on a strict confidential basis.

5.3.5 Councillor Jack Scott stated that, as set out in the Cabinet report, the Council had agreed to establish a strategic investment partnership with Guodong in June 2016, which established the operating principles and an outline investment blueprint which would see Guodong invest a substantial amount of money into Sheffield over the next five years, through a number of residential and commercial real estate projects. The Heads of Terms, which were agreed in June 2016, now needed to be developed into full legal agreements, and it was anticipated that this work would commence in January 2017, and provide the detailed governance and operational framework for the long-term investment relationship. If, for any reason, the Council was not happy with any of the arrangements, as part of this process, it would be able to veto the agreement. The Exclusivity Agreement was similar to those the Council had with other developers in the City, and which had a number of legal agreements attached to it. It was confirmed that no financial payment had been made to Guodong. It was added that it would not be appropriate for copies of the agreements to be made available to all Members of the Council on the grounds that they contained commercial sensitive information.

#### 5.3.6 Questions from Members of the Committee

Members raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- The commitment was made, on behalf of the Council, to ensure that any future arrangements or negotiations in connection with the Partnership Agreement would be as open and transparent as possible. Assurances were also given in terms of the Council doing whatever it could to make the agreement a success, particularly in the light of the enormous potential of the partnership. If it was decided that this particular scheme should progress, and if it was a success, this could result in further investment in the City.
- The Council had dealt with a number of overseas investors in the past, in connection with developments in the City, which had included Meadowhall, Ikea and residential development provided by investment from China.

5.4 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted, together with the comments now made and the responses to the questions raised;

- (b) supports (i) the transparent and open approach adopted in connection with the proposals, (ii) the inclusion of Graves Art Gallery as part of the plans and (iii) the working up of plans, both temporary and permanent, with regard to replacement facilities for a central library; and
- (c) agrees to take no action in relation to the called-in decision, but requests that a further report providing an update on progress of the China Economic and Civic Programme be submitted to its first meeting in the Municipal Year 2017/18, prior to the final decision being made by the Cabinet in relation to the Central Library building aspect.

## **6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 6.1 It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, at 5.00 pm, in the Town Hall.

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## Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

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**Report of:** James Henderson  
Director of Policy, Performance and Communications

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**Subject:** Implications for Sheffield of the vote to leave the European Union (EU)

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**Author of Report:** **Chris Lowry**  
Policy and Improvement Officer  
[chris.lowry@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:chris.lowry@sheffield.gov.uk)

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### Summary:

Following a debate on 20 July 2016, Full Council passed a motion that requested “officers to examine the implications of the vote for Sheffield to ensure that our city can prosper outside of the European Union”.

This report focuses on:

- Brexit recap
  - The national picture
  - Local electoral results
  - Initial analysis of some of the reasons to vote to leave
  - Government’s policy response to date
  - Potential implications for Sheffield
  - Government timescales and next steps: 4 principles and 12 point plan
- 

### Type of item:

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	X
Other	

### **The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Note the report and the recent national policy developments with regards to Government's plans for negotiating the UK's departure from the EU
  - Consider the report and provide views on the on the impact and implications of Brexit on Sheffield and its citizens
  - Consider how the Committee can keep a regular overview of the impact of Brexit on Sheffield's economy.
- 

### **Background Papers:**

Resolution Foundation (2016) *The importance of place: explaining the characteristics underpinning the Brexit vote across different parts of the UK*  
<http://www.slideshare.net/ResolutionFoundation/the-importance-of-place-64063692>

**Category of Report:** OPEN



# EEW Scrutiny Committee:

implications for Sheffield of the decision to leave the EU

25<sup>th</sup> January 2016



1

**Brexit: referendum recap and analysis**

2

**Impact on national policy agenda**

3

**(Potential) implications for Sheffield**

4

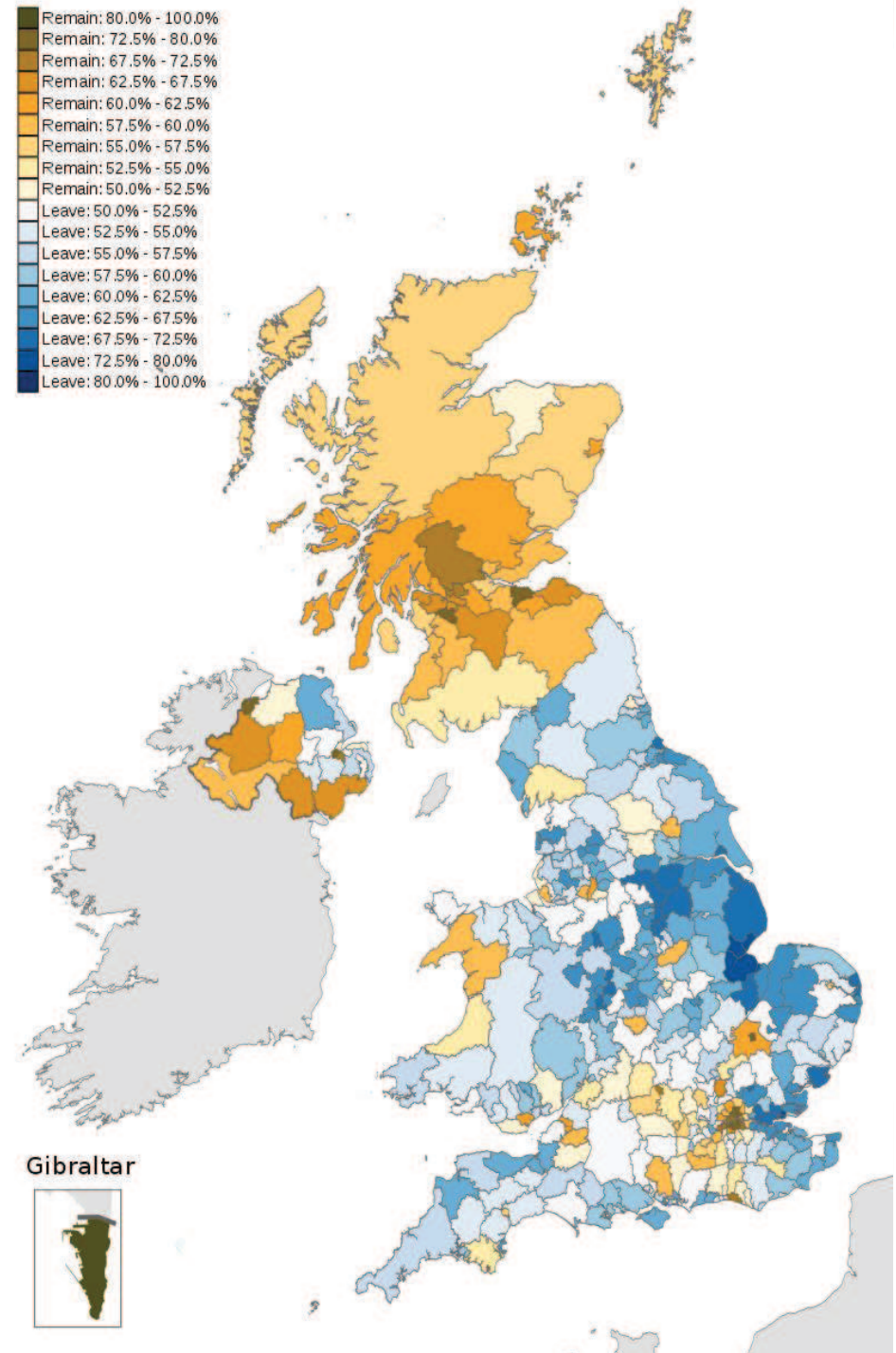
**Government's next steps**

# EU referendum: recap and analysis



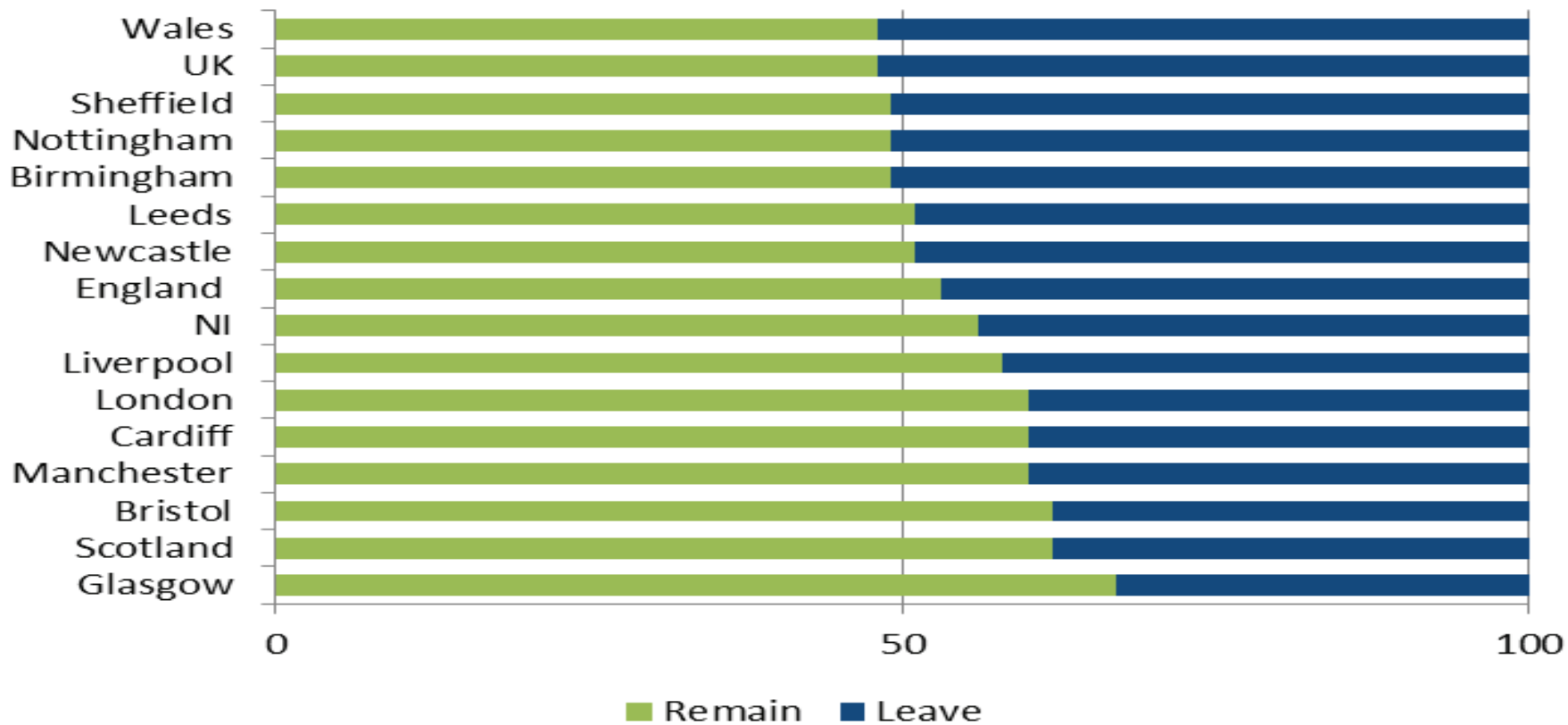
# The EU referendum: results

- Referendum held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016
- Overall turnout in the UK was 72.21%
- Results:
  - **LEAVE** – 51.89%  
(17,410,742)
  - **REMAIN** – 48.11%  
(16,141,241)
- Significant political, social, economic impact on present and future of UK

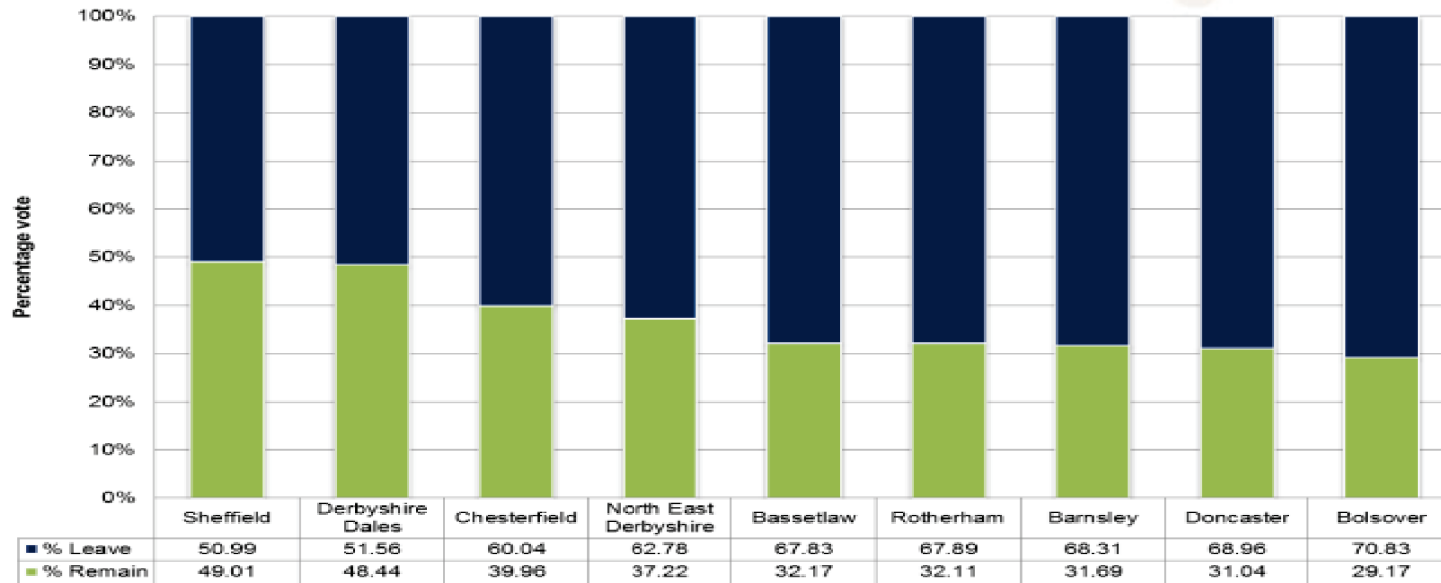


# National picture: results from UK's countries and Core Cities

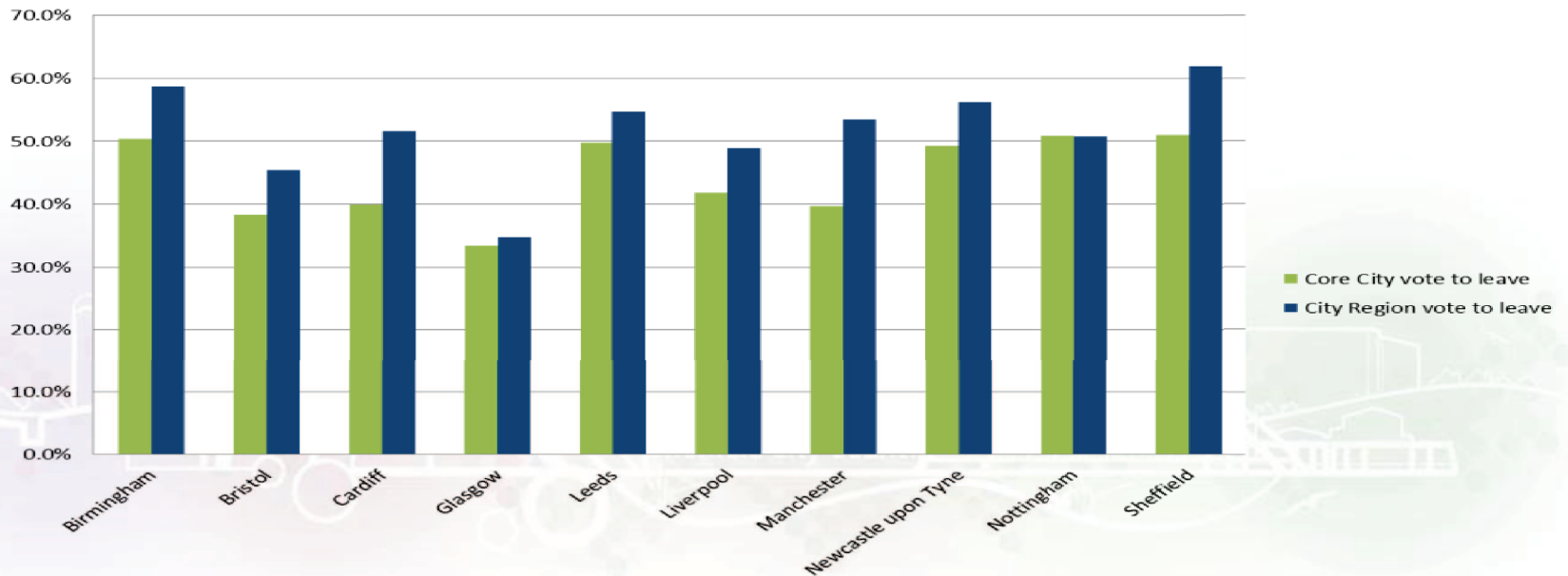
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# Brexit: referendum result in SCR and city regions



Vote to leave in the EU referendum - city / city region comparison



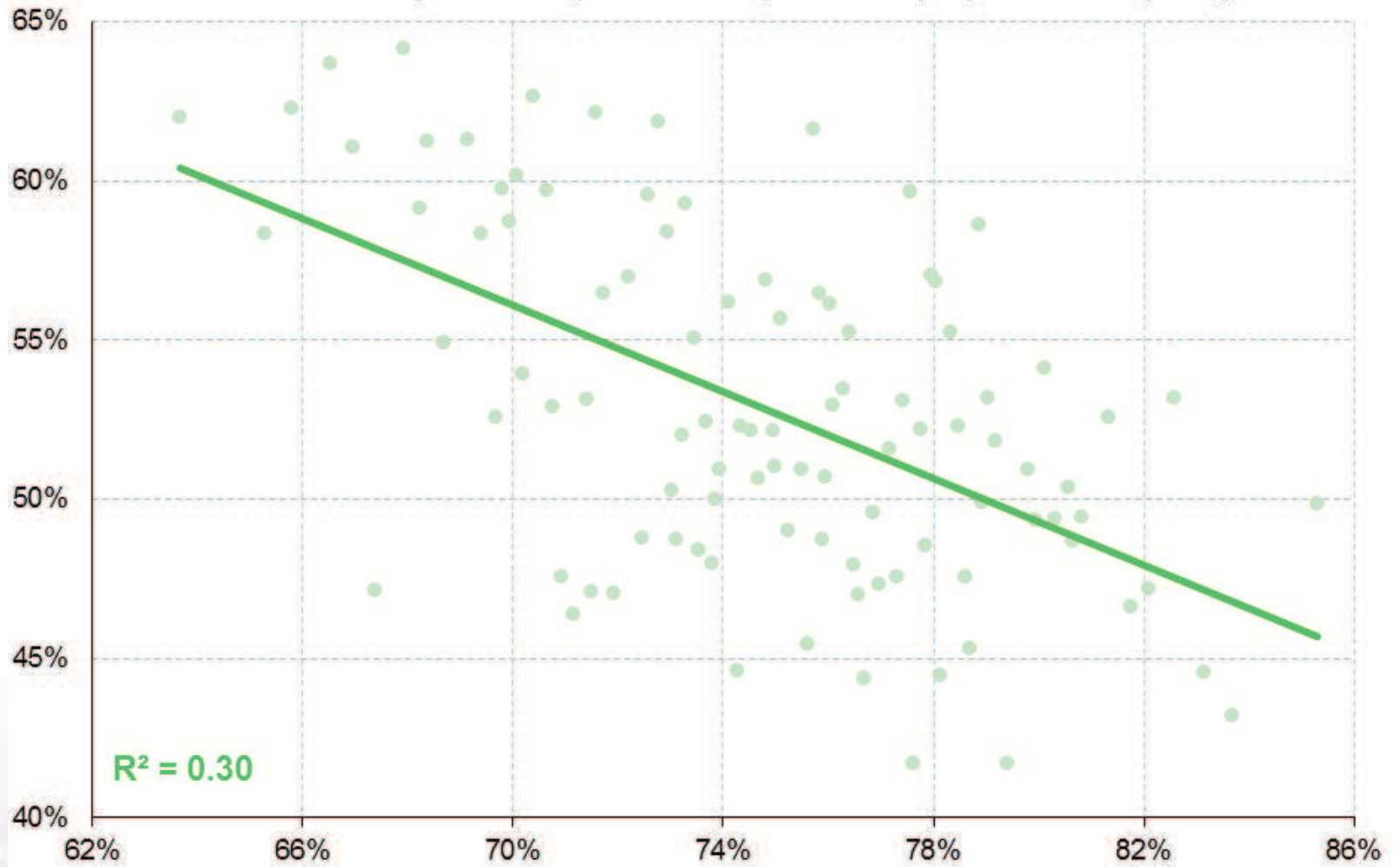


# Why did the UK vote to leave?

- Difficult to provide an authoritative analysis
  - can be analysed and counter-analysed in many ways
- Resolution Foundation ([available here](#)) have undertaken detailed analysis of the result and found that a number of key socioeconomic factors are including:
  - **Living standards** – particularly employment rate
  - **Education** – found to be predictor of how an area voted
  - **Local demographics** – number of students and over 50s
  - **Cohesion** – how much people feel that people from different backgrounds get on together locally
  - **Migration** – the level doesn't seem to matter but the pace and change over the last decade does
  - **Local geographical/political factors** – eg. Scotland

# Employment rates strongly correlated with Remain votes

Leave vote in local authority cluster, by student-adjusted employment rate (2015)



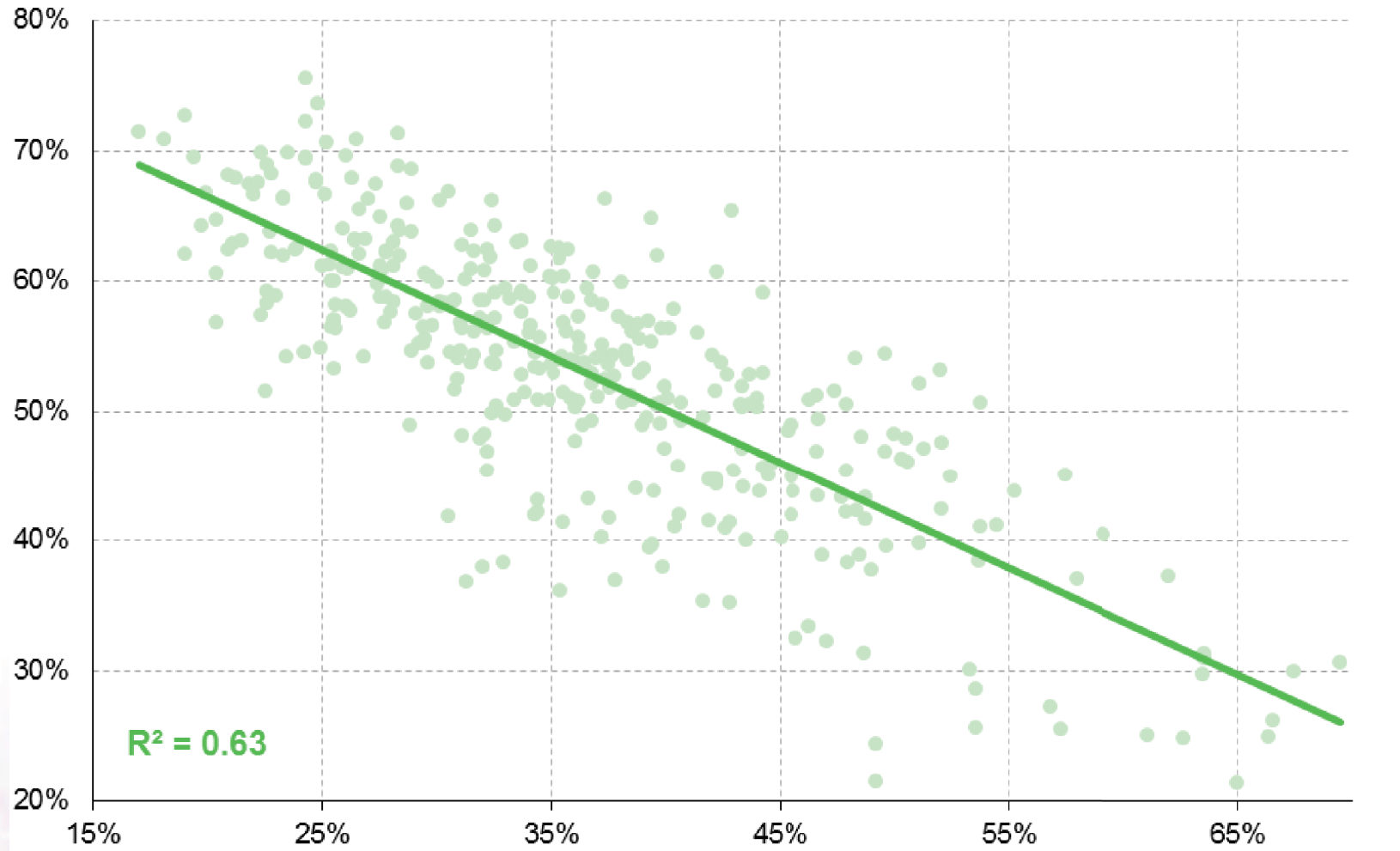
Source: RF analysis of ONS, Nomis

Courtesy of the Resolution Foundation - <http://www.slideshare.net/ResolutionFoundation/the-importance-of-place-64063692>



# Education level central – bringing together economic and cultural factors

Leave vote in the local authority, by % of 16-64 year olds with NVQ4+ (2015)



Source: RF analysis of ONS, Nomis

Courtesy of the Resolution Foundation - <http://www.slideshare.net/ResolutionFoundation/the-importance-of-place-64063692>

# Impact on national policy agenda



# Brexit: significant impact on UK political arena

## The aftermath of the referendum has brought:

- A change of Prime Minister
- Significant change in Cabinet and Ministerial posts
- Financial market implications
- Some difference in Government's *tone* (not direction):
  - Dominance of 'Brexit' in the national political agenda
  - *Some* greater recognition of the role of the state and public services
  - No real change in the resourcing of services and places
- Significant demands of the Brexit agenda on Whitehall (new departments etc)
- Financial cost - £58bn by 2020/21 (OBR, 2016)

## Brexit: policy analysis and response

- Many knowns and unknowns = some uncertainty
- Narrative focus on people/places that are *'just about managing'* or have been *'left behind'*.
- *'Twin pillars'* – PM's key areas of focus:
  - Socioeconomic change (eg. *'Shared Society'*)
  - Delivering Brexit
- Industrial Strategy likely to focus on:
  - Productivity
  - Place
  - People (jobs, skills etc)

# Brexit:

(potential) implications for Sheffield



# Short term: possible implications for Sheffield

Significant uncertainty about implications but:

## **EU Funding**

- SCR allocated £164m (2014-20)
- Likely issues beyond this funding round

## **Freedom of movement/labour**

- Access to skilled labour
- Some sectors more exposed

## **University research funding**

- Access to EU research funding for Sheffield's universities

## **Related key policy areas**

- Devolution
- Northern Powerhouse
- Industrial Strategy

# Long term: possible implications for Sheffield

- **Finance**
  - impact on public finances and funding for public services?
- **Economic**
  - Access to skilled labour
  - Trade and investment
- **Research funding and global industrial collaboration**
  - Single Market access??
  - More city-to-city bilateral trade and investment??
- **Devolution and the inclusive growth agenda**
  - Greater focus on the role of local economies
  - Industrial Strategy – need to maximise local growth potential
  - How to connect people to economic growth
- **Legal implications**
  - The Great Repeal Act



# Brexit:

## Government's next steps





## Government's next steps

- Article 50 to be triggered by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017
- UK expected to formally leave the EU by spring/summer 2019
- The Great Repeal Bill (May 2017) will repeal the European Communities Act 1972
- Parliament will vote on the final deal negotiated between the UK and the EU.
- Supreme Court ruling on Article 50 due in coming months.

# PM's goal: "a new, positive and constructive partnership between Britain and the European Union"

Principle	12 priorities
<b>Certainty and Clarity</b>	Provide certainty during negotiations
<b>A stronger Britain</b>	Control of our own borders
	Strengthen the Union
	Maintain the common travel area for Ireland
<b>A Fairer Britain</b>	Control of immigration
	Rights for EU nationals in Britain and British nationals in the EU
	Protect workers rights
<b>Truly Global Britain</b>	Free trade with European markets
	New trade agreements with other countries
	The best place to be for science and innovation
	Cooperation in the fight against crime and terrorism
<b>A Phased Approach</b>	A smooth, orderly Brexit

## What the PM has confirmed

- UK will leave the single market
  - “no half in, half out” approach
  - may make small contributions to access certain programmes
- Looking for a bespoke deal for the UK
  - not replication of a model currently in place e.g. Norway model, EEA
- Will seek a Customs Union deal
- Phased transitional deal
  - “implementation of different aspects of Brexit”
  - Different elements will have different timescales
- Will limit the number of EU nationals entering the UK, although how remains to be seen.

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## Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee 25th January 2017

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**Report of:** Policy & Improvement Officer

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**Subject:** Western Road War Memorial - Cross Party Task and Finish  
Working Group 2017

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**Author of Report:** Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer  
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At its meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 Full Council RESOLVED: That this Council notes the petition calling on the Council to “*save Western Road First World War Memorial Trees from destruction*”, acknowledges the work already initiated by the Council, as reported at this meeting, following the Notice of Motion containing reference to this matter which was considered at the last meeting of the Council, and refers the petition to the Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee to enable a cross party working group, working with relevant interested parties, to consider the issue and develop recommendations for the Committee to consider.

This report provides members of Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee with a draft scope to progress this as soon as practicable.

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Agree a Western Road First World War Memorial Cross Party Task and Finish Working Group in response to a petition
- Confirm scope of a committee cross party task and finish working group, including membership, scope of group, project plan

**Category of Report:** OPEN



# Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee - **Western Road First World War Memorial Cross Party Task and Finish Working Group – Draft Scope**

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FULL COUNCIL 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY - RESOLVED: That this Council notes the petition calling on the Council to “*save Western Road First World War Memorial Trees from destruction*”, acknowledges the work already initiated by the Council, as reported at this meeting, following the Notice of Motion containing reference to this matter which was considered at the last meeting of the Council, and refers the petition to the Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee to enable a cross party working group, working with relevant interested parties, to consider the issue and develop recommendations for the Committee to consider.

## **Membership of cross party task and finish working group - committee group**

1. Seven members of Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

## **Visibility**

- 1) Setting up the scrutiny committee group in response to petition to Council on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017
- 2) Membership, scope of group, timeline agreed at Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 - meeting in public
- 3) Scrutiny committee group will report back to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee – meeting in public
  - a) Scrutiny committee group recommendations will respond to Council resolution of 4<sup>th</sup> January, information gathered, and petition as submitted.

## **Scope of group**

**In relation to the Western Road First World War Memorial, gather information, evidence, working with, hearing from range of stakeholders and interested parties; develop recommendations for the Committee to consider in regard the future of the memorial.**

## **Project Plan**

1. Chair of committee group to be confirmed
2. Stakeholders to hear from:

- a. Relevant SCC stakeholders
    - i. Cabinet Member
    - ii. Senior Officer
    - iii. Technical information officer group
  - b. *Independent Tree Panel –include in above technical information*
  - c. *War Memorials Trust – include in above technical information*
  - d. Local community
    - i. Crookes & Crosspool Forum
    - ii. Ward Members
    - iii. Local tree action groups
  - e. Lead Petitioner
  - f. Others to be suggested
3. Site Visit to Western Road First World War Memorial
4. Output(s)
- a. Committee Group report of recommendations to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee:
    - i. Option(s) following technical evidence from officers; Independent Tree Panel; war memorial trust
    - ii. Recommendations for Public Engagement
    - iii. Other appropriate recommendations
  - b. Report to Cabinet
5. Timeline for scrutiny
- a. Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee set group up - **25/01/2017**
  - b. Committee group meetings with stakeholders – **February 2017**
  - c. Committee group reporting recommendations to EEWB – **March/April 2017**
    - i. Output of project group
    - ii. Consideration at Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee
    - iii. Reporting to Cabinet as decision maker
6. Key considerations
- a. Technical information, including:
    - i. Independent Tree Panel Report
    - ii. War Memorials Trust comment
  - b. Community view (local and interested)
  - c. Avoiding duplication of activity – technical information to committee group supplied by officers, including Independent Tree Panel report and War Memorials Trust

17<sup>th</sup> January 2017





## Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee 25th January 2017

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**Report of:** Policy & Improvement Officer

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**Subject:** Work Programme 2016/17

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**Author of Report:** Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer  
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The updated work programme for 2016/17 is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion.

The work programme has been updated to accommodate agenda items and the meetings remaining for 2016/17. To prioritise or update further the work programme the Committee may wish to reflect on the prioritisation principles attached at Appendix 3 to ensure that scrutiny activity is focussed where it can add most value. Appendix 2 provides a log of the issues looked at in 2014/16 & 2015/16

Where an issue is not appropriate for inclusion on a meeting agenda, but there is significant interest from members, the Committee can choose to request a written briefing.

The work programme remains a live document and will be shared / discussed at each committee meeting.

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Consider and discuss the committee's remaining work programme for 2016/17
- Provide comment / feedback/agree the updated work programme
- Note any future implications for meetings schedule in regard a timeline for a task and finish cross party working group

**Category of Report:** OPEN



**Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee**  
**Work Programme 2016/17**

**Last updated:** 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Please note:** the work programme is a live document and so is subject to change.

Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Key contacts	Proposed scrutiny style
<b>Wednesday 27th July 5-8pm</b>			
Sheffield Bus Partnership (SBP) review	This is the SBP scheduled review report to the SCR Combined Authority Transport Committee that this Committee asked to see following the buses agenda item March 2016	Representatives of Sheffield Bus Partnership	One-off agenda item
Draft Work Programme	Committee to agree work programme 2016/17 – within framework of selecting scrutiny topics & remit	Policy & Improvement Officer	ongoing agenda item
Bus Services Bill – briefing	An early look at the headlines of the Bus Services Bill introduced into the House of Lords on 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2016 – legislation and regulations that are integral to devolution deals and powers for Combined Authority Mayors expected to be elected May 2017	For information – no attendees	Initial Briefing - to be followed up in depth once on the statute books and how Combined Authority can make best use of the powers

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Wednesday 26th October 5-8pm	agenda - economic focus		
Business Rates	A look at government policy agenda; implications and shape in Sheffield of Business Rates; revaluation applicable from April 2017; next steps in Sheffield	Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy & Improvement; Mike Thomas, Strategic Finance;	One off agenda item
Inclusive Growth	An update on RSA Inclusive Growth Commission emerging findings - pre information item to a deeper look at Inclusive Growth in Sheffield at a later date	Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy & Improvement	update/briefing item - to be followed at a later date buy in depth consideration
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item
Wednesday 30th November 5-8pm			
Protecting Sheffield from flooding	To receive a presentation by Jim Fletcher, Flood and Water Management. Also attending Cllr Bryan Lodge, Cabinet Member, and Environment. To hear from the following organisations in connection with protecting Sheffield from Flooding: A) Yorkshire Water - Head of Asset Strategy; B) Moors for the Future Partnership - represented by John Scot Director of Conservation and Planning, Peak District National Park; C) Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust - Liz Ballard, Chief Executive and Nicky Rivers.	Presentation - Jim Fletcher, Flood and Water Management, Place; Yorkshire Water - statement; Moors for the Future - Natural Flood Management - an appraisal of current evidence and summary slidepack; Wildlife Trust - Briefing Note	single agenda item

Economic Landscape Task Group draft scope	To consider and agree scope for the task group topic	Report of Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Agenda Item
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Report of Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item
<b>Thursday 15th December 2:30 - 4:30 pm</b>			
<b>Special (Call In)</b>			
Call In of Cabinet Decision: China Economic and Civic Programme Update	To consider two Call In notices in respect of this Decision of Cabinet 30th November 2016; and a petition requesting the Council to save Central Library	Cllr Jack Scott; Cllr Leigh Bramall; Dawn Shaw; Edward Highfield. (unable to attend - Jackie Drayton; apologies - Cllr Mary Lea)	Special agenda
<b>Wednesday 25th January 5-8pm</b>			
Implications for Sheffield of the vote to leave the European Union (commonly referred to as Brexit)	To receive a policy brief presentation from Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy and Improvement, Sheffield City Council  With further contributions from Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Lead Cabinet Member - Leigh Bramall, Lead Officer - Laurie Brennan	agenda item
Western Road First World War Memorial task and finish cross party working group (committee group)	In response to Council on 4th January referring a petition to a cross party working group of Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee	Report of Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	agenda item
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider an update on the Committee's work programme 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item

<b>Wednesday 22nd February 5-8pm</b>			
Economic Landscape - evidence session - business needs	A parliamentary select committee style evidence gathering session on business needs	Development businesses in the Sheffield area	Agenda Item
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item
<b>Wednesday 26th April 5-8pm</b>			
Bus Services Bill – part 2	An in depth follow up once on the statute books and how Combined Authority can make best use of the powers	SYPTe, SCR CA, Sheffield Bus Partnership	in depth agenda item
Sheffield Retail Quarter – key decisions and announcements – update Jan/Feb	Update on key decisions and announcements - defer to <b>April 2017</b>	Lead Cabinet member - Leigh Bramall, Lead officer - Nalin Seneviratne	Agenda item
Economic Landscape Task Group draft report	To consider draft task group report	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Agenda Item
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item

Task Group			
Western Road First World War Memorial task and finish cross party working group (committee group)	In response to Council on 4th January referring a petition to a cross party working group of Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee – Scope and committee group membership confirmed January; meetings with stakeholders <b>(Feb)</b> wrap up/recommendations meet x1 <b>(Mar)</b> report to full Committee <b>(April or a revised date in March)</b>	Report of Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	agenda item
Economic Landscape	A task group topic item 2016/17 - Multi approach of business needs, city's economic role in SCR: Scope and sub-group membership agreed November; Inception meet x1 <b>(Feb)</b> and topic briefing; calls for evidence sessions x2 <b>(Feb/Mar)</b> wrap up/recommendations meet x1 <b>(Mar/Apr)</b> report to full Committee <b>(Apr)</b> - timetable updated	TBC - Sheffield City Region, Creative Sheffield, Executive Director, Place and external calls for evidence, potential development companies - Finnegan, Henry Boot, Dransfield	<i>Part year Task Group &amp; call for evidence: <b>Feb-17</b></i>
<b>Future items to be scheduled - scope and when to be determined</b>			
Green Commission Report	To consider how the Green Commission report is/will be progressed - <b>report to Cabinet due 15th March 2017</b>	Lead Cabinet members - Bryan Lodge and Mazhar Iqbal;	One-off agenda item
Chinese Investment Deal	Scope of item to be determined and date TBC	Lead Cabinet Member - Leigh Bramall; Lead Officer - Edward Highfield	Agenda item

Update on Business Rates	April or May 2017: Technical consultation out - December	Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy & Improvement; Mike Thomas, Strategic Finance; Cabinet Member - Ben Curran	for information
DEFFERED - Sheffield Trees and Woodland Strategy – Consultation close put back to 16th December – new date TBC	overview of responses to consultation (closes 01.12.2016); overview of strategy and how that might change following consultation	Lead officer - Chris Heeley, Head of Countryside and Environment; Cabinet Member	
Waste Management	On the horizon item - <b>Waste Services Review and Waste Management Policies to Cabinet 18/01/2017</b>		





## Sheffield Council Scrutiny Selecting Scrutiny topics

This tool is designed to assist the Scrutiny Committees focus on the topics most appropriate for their scrutiny.

- **P**ublic Interest  
The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;
- **A**bility to Change / Impact  
Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically have an impact on, and that will influence decision makers;
- **P**erformance  
Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other organisations (public or private) are not performing well;
- **E**xtent  
Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the city (geographical or communities of interest);
- **R**eplication / other approaches  
Work programmes must take account of what else is happening (or has happened) in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort. Alternatively, could another body, agency, or approach (e.g. briefing paper) more appropriately deal with the topic

### Other influencing factors

- **Cross-party** - There is the potential to reach cross-party agreement on a report and recommendations.
- **Resources**. Members with the Policy & Improvement Officer can complete the work needed in a reasonable time to achieve the required outcome