

Agenda Item 3

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of the City of Sheffield held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH, on Wednesday 3 September 2014, at 2.00 pm, pursuant to notice duly given and Summonses duly served.

PRESENT

THE LORD MAYOR (Councillor Peter Rippon)
THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR (Councillor Talib Hussain)

1	<i>Arbourthorne Ward</i> Julie Dore Mike Drabble Jack Scott	10	<i>Dore & Totley Ward</i> Joe Otten Colin Ross Martin Smith	19	<i>Mosborough Ward</i> David Barker Isobel Bowler Tony Downing
2	<i>Beauchief & Greenhill Ward</i> Simon Clement-Jones Roy Munn Richard Shaw	11	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Pauline Andrews Steve Wilson Joyce Wright	20	<i>Nether Edge Ward</i> Nikki Bond
3	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Chris Rosling-Josephs Ian Saunders	12	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Penny Baker Roger Davison Diana Stimely	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> John Campbell Lynn Rooney Paul Wood
4	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	13	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Sheila Constance Alan Law Chris Weldon	22	<i>Shiregreen & Brightside Ward</i> Peter Price Sioned-Mair Richards Peter Rippon
5	<i>Broomhill Ward</i> Jayne Dunn Stuart Wattam Brian Webster	14	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Sue Alston Andrew Sangar Cliff Woodcraft	23	<i>Southey Ward</i> Leigh Bramall Tony Damms Gill Furniss
6	<i>Burngreave Ward</i> Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain	15	<i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i> Cate McDonald Tim Rippon	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Katie Condliffe Vickie Priestley
7	<i>Central Ward</i> Jillian Creasy Robert Murphy	16	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Ian Auckland Steve Ayris	25	<i>Stocksbridge & Upper Don Ward</i> Jack Clarkson Richard Crowther
8	<i>Crookes Ward</i> Rob Frost Anne Murphy Geoff Smith	17	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond Josie Paszek	26	<i>Walkley Ward</i> Olivia Blake Ben Curran Neale Gibson
9	<i>Darnall Ward</i> Harry Harpham Mary Lea	18	<i>Manor Castle Ward</i> Jenny Armstrong Terry Fox Pat Midgley	27	<i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i> John Booker Adam Hurst Alf Meade
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Jackie Satur Ray Satur

1. MINUTES SILENCE

Former Councillor Dennis Metcalfe

The Lord Mayor (Councillor Peter Rippon) reported that former Councillor Dennis Metcalfe passed away on 12th August, 2014. Mr Metcalfe was appointed to the City Council on 7th May, 1992, as a Labour Councillor, representing the former Handsworth Ward, and served until May, 1996. Members paid tribute to former Councillor Metcalfe later in the meeting.

75th Anniversary of the Outbreak of World War 2

The Lord Mayor reported that September 2014 marked the 75th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 2, which began in September 1939.

Council observed one minute's silence in respect of former Councillor Dennis Metcalfe and in honour of all those who gave their lives in the conflicts of both World Wars, 1914-1918 and 1939-1945.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nasima Akther, Qurban Hussain, Mazher Iqbal, Steve Jones, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Denise Reaney, Mick Rooney, Sarah Jane Smalley and Philip Wood.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Adam Hurst declared a personal interest in respect of the urgent of item of business concerning Child Exploitation as he is an employee of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and has been since 2005.

Councillor Jack Clarkson declared a personal interest in respect of item of business numbered 9 on the Summons for this meeting (Notice of Motion concerning Social Housing) as he is a landlord.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that the minutes of the Special and Ordinary meetings of the Council held on 2nd July 2014 be approved as a correct record.

5. URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS: NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

Child Sexual Exploitation

The Lord Mayor (Councillor Peter Rippon) announced the proposal that an urgent of business be considered at this point in the proceedings. Council Procedure Rule 26 states that “An item of business may be considered at a meeting of the Council, a Committee or Sub-Committee as a matter of urgency, where it has not been possible to give five clear working days’ notice, on the recommendation of the Chair but the reason for such urgency must be recorded in the minutes. Any non-confidential or non-exempt report relating to such item must be made available for public inspection once it has been issued.”

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore) had requested that the Council considers an additional Notice of Motion concerning child sexual exploitation. This follows the publication, after the Council agenda had been published, of Professor Alexis Jay’s report into child sexual exploitation in Rotherham. In view of the nature of the issue and its relevance to Sheffield and the timing of the publication of Professor Jay’s report, the Lord Mayor stated that he was satisfied that there are clear reasons for taking this Notice of Motion as an urgent item of business.

The proposed Motion was circulated to Members of the Council on 2 September 2014 and was published on the Council’s website. Copies of the Motion were made available in the Council Chamber and Public Gallery.

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Julie Dore, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross, that this Council:-

- (a) notes with horror and disgust the extent and nature of child sexual exploitation in Rotherham described in the report by Professor Alexis Jay OBE;
- (b) believes that the position of Shaun Wright, the Police and Crime Commissioner, is now untenable and that he no longer has the confidence of the public;
- (c) therefore calls upon the Police and Crime Commissioner to resign with immediate effect;
- (d) notes the current inability of any agency or public group to remove the postholder from office, and calls on the Government to rectify this unacceptable position;
- (e) agrees that an assessment will be carried out of Professor Jay’s report, and that this assessment will benchmark practice in Sheffield against the situation described in that report, identifying any additional improvements that can be made; and
- (f) confirms that this assessment will be reported within approximately two months to the Cabinet, the relevant Scrutiny Committee and the independently chaired Safeguarding Children Board.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Petitions

6.1.1 Petition Requesting Resurfacing and Other Road Safety Measures on Mill Road, Ecclesfield

The Council received a petition containing 78 signatures and requesting resurfacing and other road safety measures on Mill Road, Ecclesfield.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Fran Holland and Lorraine Ricketts.

Fran Holland stated that Mill Road was in a very poor condition and she drew particular attention to the concerns regarding road safety. Motorists had restricted vision owing to vehicles being parked on both sides of the narrow road. There were 62 dwellings on Mill Road, predominantly comprising terraced housing, pre-fabs or bungalows and 43 properties had no off-road parking. Residents had to pull out into the traffic. Access was required to the doctors' surgery, which caused people to park on the road and contributed to existing congestion.

Bus drivers had expressed concern about the congestion on Mill Road and the difficulty for adults and children in crossing the road safely was also of great concern. Between 7 and 13 vehicles per minute used the road according to a recent traffic survey.

Lorraine Ricketts stated that dust and gravel was thrown up by passing traffic, which damaged residents' parked cars and there were HGVs using the road both day and night, which woke people from their sleep. Mill Road was not built to withstand such levels of traffic. It was recommended that a one-way system was introduced on Mill Road from the Common to Church Street, which would improve safety. Weight restrictions might also be introduced. Vehicles travelled faster than the present 30 mph speed limit and it was suggested that speed cameras were installed to enforce the speed limit. She said that an accident was waiting to happen on Mill Road.

The Council referred the petition to Councillor Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene. Councillor Scott responded that the resurfacing works which were part of the Streets Ahead project had been scheduled for 2017. However, he had spoken with the local Councillors and Mill Road would now be resurfaced later in 2014 instead, because of the condition of the Road.

In relation to other concerns regarding safety, speed and enforcement, the Council had a duty of care. He suggested that a meeting be arranged for local people to meet with him and local ward councillors so that an action plan could be developed.

6.2 Public Questions

6.2.1 Public Question concerning the Sheffield Federation of Tenants and Residents Associations

James Turton submitted information and several questions concerning the Sheffield Federation and asking the Council to support the Federation, which it was intended would act as an umbrella organisation for Tenants and Residents' Associations. On behalf of the Federation, he asked the Council for a first year grant of £ 61,500. If the Council was not willing to make such a grant, he asked for the reasons for this to be publically stated by the Council.

In response, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, Councillor Harry Harpham, stated that he did support the idea of an independent, democratic and accountable federation, which was able to help the Council to deliver a better housing service and one which would serve tenants well. He said that he would need to see clear evidence that the Federation was supported by Tenants and Residents' groups across the City.

Councillor Harpham stated that he would provide a more detailed response to the questions in writing to Mr Turton.

6.2.2 Public Question concerning Field Sports

Knowledge Kutekwa referred to the closing of the Don Valley Stadium and to an absence to facilities for field athletics in Sheffield, which had caused some young athletes to seek alternative provision in Manchester, for example. He asked that a balance be reached between spending cuts and the availability of such sports facilities.

The Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure, Councillor Isobel Bowler responded that facilities for field athletics were accommodated at the re-opened Woodburn Road Stadium, which was run by Sheffield Hallam University for the City. Two Sheffield athletics clubs transferred to the Stadium and used the track and field facilities there. In fact, the in-field at the Stadium was considered to be better than that previously situated at Don Valley as it did not endure damage, which had sometimes resulted from the multiple uses of Don Valley, for example, Rugby League. She said that the Sheffield Hallam University City Athletics Stadium was a good facility at which athletics could take place in Sheffield.

6.2.3 Public Question Concerning Freebee Bus Service and Moor Market

Valerie Wilson stated that the traders at the Moor Market were losing customers because of the Market's location and the removal of the city centre Freebee Bus service. Some stalls were closing and trade was decreasing, affecting people's income and jobs. She believed the environment of the market was more akin to a shopping mall.

The Freebee Bus service was withdrawn after the Moor market was opened. The bus service had been very reliable and was a good service for people who found

it difficult to travel in the City Centre. She asked City Councillors to visit the Moor Market for themselves to find out how things are at the Market and she specifically asked Councillor Leigh Bramall, the Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development, to meet with her at the Moor Market.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development, Councillor Leigh Bramall, stated that he was willing to meet with traders at the Moor market and that he had visited the Markets many times and had spoken with people there. He believed that people should not talk-down the Moor Market. 62,000 people visited the Market every week, although he recognised that this was not as many people as had been previously anticipated.

He had met with traders 3 weeks ago with his Cabinet Advisor, Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs, who was also a member of the National Market Traders Federation. Traders of food and drink were doing well, but it was recognised that some traders were not doing so well. The Council's role was to create an environment where well run businesses could be successful and prosper.

In a recent radio phone in on the subject of the Moor Market, some people clearly said they did like it and it was probably a matter of personal opinion as to whether or not somebody liked the Market itself.

The Freebee bus service was withdrawn as the result of Government budget reductions to the local councils in South Yorkshire that, in turn, funded the Passenger Transport Executive, which had operated the Freebee Bus. Due to cuts to their own budgets, Councils reduced the funding they provided to the Passenger Transport Executive. The Passenger Transport Authority, having considered its budget position, decided to withdraw the Freebee bus services, which operated in both Sheffield and Rotherham. However, in Rotherham a modified service operated, which ran from the town centre to the Parkgate shopping centre and would be funded by the owners of the shopping centre for approximately two years until the opening in 2016 of the Tram-Train service between Sheffield and Parkgate.

He said that the cuts to local government had been disproportionate and funding reductions had been made across Council services. Footfall in the Moor market was measured and there had not been a change in footfall since the Freebee Bus service ended. More buses served the new Market than the Castle Market.

The route of the rapid transit scheme was being examined to see whether the route of the former Freebee bus might be replicated in some form in Sheffield City Centre. He pointed out that First Bus charge a flat fare of 50 pence to travel anywhere in the City Centre, although more might be done to promote that offer. Pensioners could also use bus services for free. He emphasised that the withdrawal of the Freebee bus service was not something that the Council would have wanted to happen.

6.2.4 Public Question Concerning Leopold Street

Jonathan Marsden asked if the Council could please rename Leopold Street as it

was named after King Leopold of Belgium, who he said was responsible for mass murder in the Congo.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene, Councillor Jack Scott, stated that, whilst he was aware of the genocide which took place in the Congo, he would have to conduct some research into when and after whom Leopold Street in Sheffield was named. He undertook to respond to Mr Marsden in writing once he had obtained more information.

6.2.5 Public Question Concerning Workfare

Jonathan Marsden asked for the City Council to send out a strong message that charities using Workfare-indentured Jobseekers Allowance labour were not welcome in Sheffield and will not receive funding from the Council or European Union Funding for which the Council was responsible. This included 'Help to Work' and 'Community Work Placements'.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Ben Curran, stated that he would provide an answer on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, who was not able to attend this Council meeting. He said that he believed that work should pay and that he was aware that there were examples of Workfare having acted as a substitute for paid work. He said that people should be properly employed and that a Motion concerning Workfare schemes had been passed at the meeting of Council in July, which pledged that the Council would not use any Workfare placements and would also encourage contractors not to use the schemes.

Councillor Curran stated that he would ask Councillor Mazher Iqbal, the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, to respond to Mr Marsden in writing on the issues of grant allocations to charities. He added that there were many charities which did contribute greatly to the City.

6.2.6 Public Question Concerning Public Questions

Marcus O'Hagan referred to a question, which he had raised at the Council meeting on 5 February 2014 and which concerned responses given by Cabinet Members to public questions. He stated that Councillor Dore had responded at that meeting with regards to the production of written advice for members of the public concerning how they can ask questions of the Council. He now asked Councillor Dore to provide a progress report on this issue, including where it had been discussed and where the minutes of such discussion can be accessed.

Marcus O'Hagan stated that he had received a written communication from the Information Commissioner concerning a question which he had raised in January 2014 and requiring that the Council provide a written response to the question. He stated that this communication was received from the Information Commissioner's Office on 30th April and, as yet, there had been no response from the Council. Having waited four months he asked, will an answer ever come?

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, responded that with regard to opportunities for the public to ask questions, the Council's Corporate Members' Group had discussed on several occasions, how the public questions process might be improved, such as by adding opportunities at the end of Council meetings and permitting questions by email. The Health and Wellbeing Board had, when people were not able to attend a meeting, set up a link through Skype. In other words, the Council was always looking at ways in which people could use different ways to ask questions, such as by telephone, email, Councillors' surgeries, Cabinet in the Community and budget engagement events.

The issue had been discussed at meetings, including the Corporate Members' Group and other meetings of leading Councillors and Council Officers. Whilst the minutes of Corporate Members' Group were not a public record, it may be possible to provide information to Mr O'Hagan as to when the issue of public questions had been discussed.

6.2.7 Public Question Concerning South Yorkshire Police and Child Safeguarding

Marcus O'Hagan stated that, with regard to South Yorkshire Police and Children's safeguarding, he had made the Council aware over several years that the reporting of safeguarding matters was a flawed procedure. He said that he had brought questions concerning such matters to the Council in the past and he had not been allowed to ask them.

He asked what measures were in place to protect the children of Sheffield from the same abuses which have occurred in Rotherham?

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, responded that the Council did not stop people speaking with the Council on the issue of child safeguarding. She requested Mr O'Hagan to provide more detail concerning the occasion(s) to which he referred.

Councillor Jackie Drayton, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families, stated that she was sorry if My O'Hagan felt that the reporting of safeguarding was a flawed procedure. She said that this was a dedicated service and it was expected that the service would respond to all enquiries. At meetings of Council, if a question identified an individual person, then the person asking the question may have been asked not to ask the question in public, but instead to report the matter to the Cabinet Member. This was a process which had been used whilst she had been Cabinet Member. She suggested if Mr O'Hagan had specific concerns that he writes to her and she would make sure the matter was taken to officers and was investigated.

In relation to measures to protect children in Sheffield, Councillor Drayton stated that the Council aimed to prevent, protect, pursue and prosecute. The child sexual exploitation service was an independent service in Sheffield Futures and it included social workers and dedicated youth workers and police officers. The service had been in place since 2001 and had been Home Office funded and subject to evaluation and scrutiny. Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary had inspected that service and it had also been externally scrutinised by Ofsted. Such

external evaluation helped to develop the service.

Sheffield also had a Child Safeguarding Board. Child exploitation was a priority for the programme and training included that issue. The processes in Sheffield were robust and the City was considered an example of best practice by the Inspector of Constabulary and Ofsted. Innovative work had been undertaken with the taxi and the hospitality trades to increase knowledge and awareness. Sheffield had adopted the phrase “say it if you see it” so people understand terminology such as grooming and exploitation. Councillor Drayton stated that she could send Mr O’Hagan further information.

Councillor Drayton stated that Sheffield should, despite the service performing well, also make sure it reassess processes and there was a policy of the Executive Director and Cabinet Member selecting case files at random and scrutinising what was happening in relation to those particular cases. The Council also had a Scrutiny Committee which considered issues relating to children, young people and families and it had in place the Corporate Parenting Panel. Councillors also went to see for themselves work in this area. The Council needed to remain vigilant as it could always do better.

6.2.8 Public Question Concerning Investment Funds

Martin Brighton asked would this chamber please remind all those who answer questions that whatever they say can be checked and also remind this chamber of the seriousness and consequences should any statements prove untrue. He asked: please can the Council answer question 6 to the Full Council of 2 July. The question asked whether the Council had “any plans, however tentative, to seek investment funds from any institution in any way associated with supporting any proscribed organisation”.

In response, Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, stated that she was not aware of any bids or applications of this nature to any of these organisations. She asked Mr Brighton to bring to her attention any such cases.

6.2.9 Public Question Concerning Complaints

Martin Brighton stated that it is recorded by this Council, and in this chamber, how he was subject to sanction (i.e. he had emails blocked for a while) for which an alleged contributory factor was councillor complaints. He asked would those councillors now come forward and provide the evidence to support their complaints.

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, stated that the Council’s Chief Executive would respond in writing to Mr Brighton.

6.2.10 Public Question Concerning Recognition Policy

Martin Brighton stated that the Cabinet Member for Housing had said that he would be politically foolish if he were to approve something that tenants did not want. He asked, given that the Recognition Policy Review Group voted 12:2

against, and City-Wide TARAs voted 38:2 against, why has the rejected Recognition Policy been 'signed off'.

Councillor Harry Harpham, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods stated that with regard to the Recognition Policy, no votes had been taken at any point in the review process.

6.2.11 Public Question Concerning Tenants and Residents' Association

Martin Brighton stated that renewed use of Freedom of Information (FoIA) upon this Council has demonstrated that there is no evidence to support the allegations against BNTARA, all questions were answered, there were no genuine 'issues and concerns', and the recent council statement confirmed that due process had not been applied anyway. He asked will this Council now explain the real reason why BNTARA is being abused.

Councillor Harry Harpham, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, stated that he answered questions on this subject on many occasions and he had nothing to add to the answers that he already provided.

6.2.12 Public Question Concerning Racism Awareness Training

Martin Brighton stated that at the last Full Council, when both ITV and BBC cameras were present, the Cabinet Member for Housing stated that Racism Awareness Courses had been arranged. To date, use of FoIA via council departments and external providers has established that not only were no courses held, but none were planned. He asked: would the Cabinet Member please explain.

Councillor Harry Harpham, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, responded that there were no racism awareness courses arranged during August. He understood that Louise Nunn, the officer responsible for delivering training for TARAs and employees had responded to Mr Brighton's enquiry.

6.2.13 Public Question Concerning Recognition Policy (2)

Martin Brighton stated that, in this chamber, it has been explained that the proposed new TARA Recognition Policy excludes or limits democratically elected residents from community volunteering processes that decide how money should be spent. He asked: is it therefore appropriate that the Cabinet Member Advisor on this issue be a Resident who purchased a council house, allegedly because of fears over where the government of the time was going.

Councillor Harry Harpham, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, responded that tenants and residents were treated equally and the Recognition Policy for TARAs does not discriminate between elected representatives.

6.2.14 Public Question Concerning Complaints (2)

Mr Brighton asked: has this Council ever suppressed complaints, etc. on grounds of political pragmatism, damage limitation, or reputation management?

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council responded that she had never suppressed such information on the grounds referred to in Mr Brighton's question and nor was she aware that the Council had done so. If there was evidence or specific examples, then she asked that Mr Brighton bring this to her attention.

6.2.15 Public Question Concerning Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Nigel Slack referred to the motions on the agenda of the Council meeting concerning the NHS and to the People's March for the NHS. He asked if the Council will undertake to use their influence with members of the National Labour Party, through local MPs and other contacts, to persuade the party to drop their support for the TTIP whilst ever it contains the condition that the NHS will be available for privatisation.

Councillor Mary Lea, the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living, responded that the health reforms proposed by the Government were both unexpected and without a mandate and would allow privatisation throughout the country. There was a two tier system already in operation in some places, in cases where a clinical commissioning group was unable to offer care, this would be referred to a private provider, including some surgical procedures.

The TTIP was of particular concern because of the potential effect on the NHS and GP Practices. The Shadow Secretary of State for Health, Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP had written to the Chief Executive of the NHS, requesting that no clinical services contracts were signed before the next General Election and MEPs would demand exemption for the NHS from the TTIP. The City Council will lobby the Government to make sure the NHS remains exempt from TTIP.

6.2.16 Public Questions Concerning Child Sexual Exploitation

Nigel Slack asked if the Police and Crime Commissioner was going to be present at the Extraordinary meeting of the Police and Crime Panel to be held on 9 September and whether the Panel were in a position to instigate an investigation into possible criminal actions?

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, stated that, if there was a by-election for the post of Police and Crime Commissioner, the cost would be borne by the Home Office.

Councillor Harry Harpham stated that the Police and Crime Commissioner would have to attend a meeting of the Police and Crime Panel, providing that he had been given adequate notice of 5 days. Councillor Harpham stated that, as the Chair of the Panel, he had called a meeting for 9th September 2014. However, the Police and Crime Commissioner was summoned to London to attend a Home

Office Parliamentary Select Committee. In these circumstances, the Select Committee took precedence over the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel. Councillor Harpham explained that it was therefore intended to re-arrange the Panel meeting.

The Police and Crime Panel could only remove a Police and Crime Commissioner from office if they were arrested and charged with a criminal offence. The Panel could not ask for a criminal investigation to take place.

6.2.17 Public Questions Concerning Oasis Academies

Nigel Slack referred to the inclusion of the Oasis Academies, in the Sheffield education establishment. He said that the Council was choosing not to recognise the problems with the Oasis approach to education. He made reference to the words Evangelical and Pentecostal, which, he said, described the ethos of the Evangelical Pentecostal Oasis Church, who run the academies, which he stated were particularly relevant and gave definitions of both words.

He asked the Council to answer the following questions concerning the decision making process and why, in his opinion, it went so wrong:

1. Details of all the Academy providers that bid for these three schools?
2. Who, specifically, was on the 'Panel' that considered their suitability?
3. Which providers were interviewed by the 'Panel'?
4. What information was provided to the 'Panel' about each provider?
5. Where are the minutes of the meetings/ interviews/ deliberations/ decisions of the 'Panel'?
6. What information did the “desktop investigation into all of the providers of academies which put themselves forward” consist of and did the 'Panel' see it all?
7. Why is this information not available on the council website?

Councillor Jackie Drayton, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families, stated that she would respond in writing to Mr Slack's questions.

Councillor Drayton stated that it was clear that every academy should be open to anyone and any community, which is what the Oasis Community Trust says. Oasis were on the Government's approved list of academy providers, which was the result of a process of due diligence. The assertions which Mr Slack had made regarding the Oasis Community Trust were not reflected in what was on the Community Trust's website. The decision concerning the appointment of the Academy was made in the Department for Education and whilst it was not a decision of the Council, the Council had made sure they had a view from Sheffield. The Panel comprised representatives including from a governing body, trades union, parents, local elected Members, officers and community representative. The website had included detail of the bidding process approximately one year ago and was available where there were no commercial restrictions. This was an open process and there was no evidence regarding the assertions that Mr Slack had made with regard to Oasis Academy.

6.3 Petitions

6.3.1 Petition Requesting the Council to Support World Car Free Day

The Council received an electronic petition containing 33 signatures requesting the Council to support World Car Free Day on 22nd September, 2014.

There was no speaker to the petition and the Council referred the petition to Councillor Jack Scott, Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene.

6.3.2 Petition Requesting the Council to Relaunch the City Centre Half Marathon in 2015

The Council received an electronic petition containing 26 signatures requesting the Council to relaunch the Sheffield Half Marathon in 2015, with a City Centre start and finish.

There was no speaker to the petition and the Council referred the petition to Councillor Isobel Bowler, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure.

7. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

7.1 Urgent Business

There were no questions relating to urgent business under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.6(ii).

7.2 Questions

A schedule of questions to Cabinet Members, submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16, and which contained written answers, was circulated and supplementary questions under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.4 were asked and were answered by the appropriate Cabinet Members.

7.3 South Yorkshire Joint Authorities

There were no questions relating to the discharge of the functions of the South Yorkshire Joint Authorities for Fire and Rescue or Pensions under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.6(i).

8. REPRESENTATION, DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND RELATED ISSUES

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that (a) approval be given to the following changes to the memberships of Boards, etc.

Cabinet Highways Committee - Councillor Jack Scott to replace

	Councillor Harry Harpham
Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee -	Councillor Tim Rippon to replace Councillor Ray Satur
Planning and Highways Committee -	Councillor Roy Munn to replace Councillor Tim Rippon
Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee Substitute Members -	Councillor Jillian Creasy to fill a vacancy
(b) representatives be appointed to serve on other bodies, as follows:-	
ACIS Local Management Committee -	Councillor Paul Wood to fill a vacancy
Access Liaison Group -	Councillors Tony Downing and Adam Hurst to fill vacancies
Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust Council of Governors -	Councillor Adam Hurst to replace Councillor Jayne Dunn
Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee -	Councillor George Lindars-Hammond to fill a vacancy
	Councillor Colin Ross to fill a vacancy
Combined Authority Audit Committee -	Councillor Helen Mirfin-Boukouris to fill a vacancy
Sheffield Co-Operative Development Board -	Councillor Anne Murphy to fill a vacancy
(c) Councillor Anne Murphy be appointed as an additional Member of the Corporate Parenting Board.	

9. ORDER OF NOTICES OF MOTION ON THE COUNCIL SUMMONS 2014-15

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that this Council adopts the formula for the order in which Notices of Motion shall be listed on the Council Summons during the Municipal Year 2014-15, as set out in the report of the Chief Executive now submitted, and approves the proposed consequential changes to Council Procedure Rule 10.2(b) as set out in the appendix to the report.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR COLIN ROSS

Economic Growth

It was moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Joe Otten, that this Council:-

- (a) notes reports that the UK's economy has performed better than that of any other G7 country in the first six months of the year;
- (b) welcomes the latest employment statistics, which saw the largest annual fall in youth unemployment since records began, and that the number of Job Seeker Allowance claimants in Sheffield has fallen by 22% since May 2010;
- (c) notes that in the last year, Sheffield has reported a record number of people in work and a record low for the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs);
- (d) welcomes the latest growth deal, delivered by Liberal Democrats in Government, which has secured a £320 million cash boost for Sheffield City Region and will create over 28,000 jobs and training for 40,000 people;
- (e) notes that the Sheffield City Region Growth Deal is the fifth largest in the country and will specifically deliver:
 - (i) infrastructure investment including improvements to Sheffield city-centre and an extended airport link road to Doncaster-Sheffield Airport;
 - (ii) a £130 million Skills Bank, which will provide training for 40,000 people in the Sheffield City Region, including between 5,000 and 7,500 apprentices; and
 - (iii) upgrades to further education facilities and a brand new British Glass Academy;
- (f) recalls that this latest Growth Deal follows the City Deal, pioneered by the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP and agreed in 2012, which has:
 - (i) seen Sheffield record the highest proportion of young people in apprenticeships out of England's core cities;
 - (ii) provided training and up-skilling to employees across the city; and
 - (iii) helped ensure that the city's New Retail Quarter will finally go ahead thanks to investment in the city-centre;
- (g) calls upon the Administration to ensure Sheffield City Region maximises the potential of this investment; and

- (h) therefore invites the Chair of Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership and the Chair of Sheffield City Region Combined Authority to make a presentation to a Full Council meeting outlining their plans for the Growth Deal.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (a) to (g) and the re-lettering of paragraph (h) as a new paragraph (k); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (a) to (h) as follows:-
 - (a) echoes criticisms that since it came to power in 2010 this Government presided over the weakest economic recovery in history which was a direct result of the Government's failure to produce a credible plan for jobs and growth and led to a double dip recession;
 - (b) regrets that because of the Government's mismanagement of the economy, with slower growth and higher unemployment, the Government is now set to continue to make cuts beyond the current Parliament;
 - (c) notes that the impact of the Government's economic failure has hit the north of England and areas such as Sheffield much harder than the south;
 - (d) believes that this is illustrated by a Centre for Cities report earlier this year which demonstrates that between 2010 and 2012, 80% of all new jobs created in the United Kingdom were in London;
 - (e) opposes Government decisions which contributed to the weakening of the recovery, such as cutting public spending too far too fast, significantly cutting investment in regional economic growth including the abolition of Regional Development Agencies, abolishing the Future Jobs Fund, increasing VAT and failing to put in place measures to stimulate growth;
 - (f) calls on the Government to do more to support local businesses and commit to giving genuine support to all small and medium-sized enterprises, which are the lifeblood of our economy, by matching the pledge of the Leader of the Opposition to cut and freeze business rates for all small firms, and not just those in retail, but manufacturers, high-tech firms and other job creators;
 - (g) welcomes any recent falls in unemployment in Sheffield and supports the actions of the present Administration to support job growth including:
 - (i) the Skills Made Easy Programme
 - (ii) Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme
 - (iii) RISE graduate internship programme

- (iv) start up loans for young people
 - (v) Keep Sheffield Working Fund
 - (vi) SME Loan Fund
 - (vii) export pilot project for 30 companies
 - (viii) launched Threshold Companies Initiative for growth SMEs
 - (ix) Summer Saturdays
 - (x) developed Sheffield City Region Investment Fund
 - (xi) secured Tax Increment Finance scheme for city centre – 1 of 3 places in England
 - (xii) enterprise programme provided intensive support to over 200 growing SMEs and 150 start ups
 - (xiii) launch of the Sheffield Economic Masterplan
 - (xiv) series of business summits held, hundreds of business engaged
 - (xv) Business Advisor Panel helping to keep Sheffield business friendly
 - (xvi) making the case for HS2 and Victoria Station;
- (h) welcomes new developments in the city supported by the present Administration such as Ikea, new developments at Sheffield and Hallam University campuses, Factory of the Future, Heart of the City Block 3, plans to improve Castlegate, new developments at Kilner Way and Stocksbridge and latest news of XLN bringing 300 plus jobs to the city announced this week, which are all a result of actions or support by the present Administration;
- (i) welcomes the Sheffield City Region Growth Deal which was developed locally, with the present Administration working in partnership with other City Region Authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership; and
- (j) recalls that the Sheffield City Region City Deal was also developed and pioneered locally and that in conjunction with the wider work of the present Administration, this has led to the highest proportion of young people in apprenticeships out of England's core cities and helped to progress and deliver the New Retail Quarter.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

(Note: Councillors Brian Webster, Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (a) to (d) and abstained on paragraphs (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j) of the amendment and asked for this to be recorded.)

After a Right of Reply by Councillor Colin Ross, the original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) echoes criticisms that since it came to power in 2010 this Government presided over the weakest economic recovery in history which was a direct

- result of the Government's failure to produce a credible plan for jobs and growth and led to a double dip recession;
- (b) regrets that because of the Government's mismanagement of the economy, with slower growth and higher unemployment, the Government is now set to continue to make cuts beyond the current Parliament;
 - (c) notes that the impact of the Government's economic failure has hit the north of England and areas such as Sheffield much harder than the south;
 - (d) believes that this is illustrated by a Centre for Cities report earlier this year which demonstrates that between 2010 and 2012, 80% of all new jobs created in the United Kingdom were in London;
 - (e) opposes Government decisions which contributed to the weakening of the recovery, such as cutting public spending too far too fast, significantly cutting investment in regional economic growth including the abolition of Regional Development Agencies, abolishing the Future Jobs Fund, increasing VAT and failing to put in place measures to stimulate growth;
 - (f) calls on the Government to do more to support local businesses and commit to giving genuine support to all small and medium-sized enterprises, which are the lifeblood of our economy, by matching the pledge of the Leader of the Opposition to cut and freeze business rates for all small firms, and not just those in retail, but manufacturers, high-tech firms and other job creators;
 - (g) welcomes any recent falls in unemployment in Sheffield and supports the actions of the present Administration to support job growth including:
 - (i) the Skills Made Easy Programme
 - (ii) Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme
 - (iii) RISE graduate internship programme
 - (iv) start up loans for young people
 - (v) Keep Sheffield Working Fund
 - (vi) SME Loan Fund
 - (vii) export pilot project for 30 companies
 - (viii) launched Threshold Companies Initiative for growth SMEs
 - (ix) Summer Saturdays
 - (x) developed Sheffield City Region Investment Fund
 - (xi) secured Tax Increment Finance scheme for city centre – 1 of 3 places in England
 - (xii) enterprise programme provided intensive support to over 200 growing SMEs and 150 start ups
 - (xiii) launch of the Sheffield Economic Masterplan
 - (xiv) series of business summits held, hundreds of business engaged

- (xv) Business Advisor Panel helping to keep Sheffield business friendly
 - (xvi) making the case for HS2 and Victoria Station;
- (h) welcomes new developments in the city supported by the present Administration such as Ikea, new developments at Sheffield and Hallam University campuses, Factory of the Future, Heart of the City Block 3, plans to improve Castlegate, new developments at Kilner Way and Stocksbridge and latest news of XLN bringing 300 plus jobs to the city announced this week, which are all a result of actions or support by the present Administration;
- (i) welcomes the Sheffield City Region Growth Deal which was developed locally, with the present Administration working in partnership with other City Region Authorities and the Local Enterprise Partnership; and
- (j) recalls that the Sheffield City Region City Deal was also developed and pioneered locally and that in conjunction with the wider work of the present Administration, this has led to the highest proportion of young people in apprenticeships out of England's core cities and helped to progress and deliver the New Retail Quarter.
- (k) therefore invites the Chair of Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership and the Chair of Sheffield City Region Combined Authority to make a presentation to a Full Council meeting outlining their plans for the Growth Deal.

(Note 1. Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayris, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraph (k), against paragraphs (a) to (f) and abstained on paragraphs (g) to (j) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillors Brian Webster, Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (a) to (d) and (k) and abstained on paragraphs (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPHAM

Social Housing

It was moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Tony Damms, that this Council:-

- (a) supports the launch of the SHOUT (Social Housing Under Threat) campaign on 18 June 2014;
- (b) agrees with SHOUT that building social housing - social rented homes - is

at the core of tackling the housing crisis nationally and locally in Sheffield and that social rented housing meets needs that other tenures cannot address;

- (c) notes under the Coalition Government the funding of social housing has become increasingly marginalised with the latest prospectus for bidders from the Homes and Communities Agency stating that 'social rent provision will only be supported in very limited circumstances.';
- (d) welcomes the action taken by the present Administration to put in place plans to build 800 new Council houses in the city, however, recognises that many more houses could be built with greater levels of investment;
- (e) regrets that social housing faces great challenges in meeting the needs of those affected by welfare cuts and rule changes over the last three years, including the damaging "bedroom tax", and increased pressure from the escalating number of Council homes lost through the Right to Buy scheme;
- (f) is appalled at what this Council believes to be recent cynical attempts by the Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP, to feign opposition to the "bedroom tax", which he implemented as part of the Coalition Government and believes that the bedroom tax should be abolished, not reformed as Nick Clegg has suggested; and
- (g) therefore resolves to support the work of the SHOUT campaign and take a lead in affirming the positive value and purpose of social rented housing.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Steve Ayris, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (c)-(f);
2. the re-lettering of paragraph (b) as a new paragraph (h) and paragraph (g) as a new paragraph (i); and
3. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (g) as follows:-
 - (b) supports moves by the Coalition Government to increase the building of social housing;
 - (c) welcomes new statistics that show the number of social homes has increased for the fifth year running, taking the overall stock back above the four million mark for the first time in a decade;
 - (d) supports plans secured by Liberal Democrats in last year's spending review for a £3.3 billion affordable homes programme that will see 165,000 new affordable homes delivered over three years from 2015;
 - (e) backs Liberal Democrat proposals to remove borrowing caps to enable

councils to build more social housing and regrets that this policy has not been endorsed by the Labour Party;

- (f) furthermore backs the action taken by the last Council administration to build the first new council homes in Sheffield for two decades;
- (g) contrasts this action with the lamentable record of the previous Government and recalls that during their thirteen years in power:
 - (i) the building of social housing declined to its lowest figure since the Second World War;
 - (ii) the number of people on local authority housing lists doubled;
 - (iii) seven times more prison cells were built than council homes;
 - (iv) the Housing Market Renewal Scheme demolished 4,590 houses in South Yorkshire and built just 2,415 at a cost of £265 million; and
 - (v) a legacy was left of almost 2 million households in England on housing waiting lists and 250,000 families living in over-crowded accommodation;

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negated.

After a Right of Reply from Councillor Harry Harpham, the original Motion was then put to the vote and carried, as follows:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) supports the launch of the SHOUT (Social Housing Under Threat) campaign on 18 June 2014;
- (b) agrees with SHOUT that building social housing - social rented homes - is at the core of tackling the housing crisis nationally and locally in Sheffield and that social rented housing meets needs that other tenures cannot address;
- (c) notes under the Coalition Government the funding of social housing has become increasingly marginalised with the latest prospectus for bidders from the Homes and Communities Agency stating that 'social rent provision will only be supported in very limited circumstances.';
- (d) welcomes the action taken by the present Administration to put in place plans to build 800 new Council houses in the city, however, recognises that many more houses could be built with greater levels of investment;
- (e) regrets that social housing faces great challenges in meeting the needs of those affected by welfare cuts and rule changes over the last three years,

- including the damaging “bedroom tax”, and increased pressure from the escalating number of Council homes lost through the Right to Buy scheme;
- (f) is appalled at what this Council believes to be recent cynical attempts by the Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP, to feign opposition to the “bedroom tax”, which he implemented as part of the Coalition Government and believes that the bedroom tax should be abolished, not reformed as Nick Clegg has suggested; and
- (g) therefore resolves to support the work of the SHOUT campaign and take a lead in affirming the positive value and purpose of social rented housing.

(Note: 1. Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayris, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraphs (a), (b), (d) and (g) and against paragraphs (c), (e) and (f) of the Motion as asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillors Brian Webster, Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e) and (g) and abstained on paragraphs (c) and (f) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

12. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MAZHER IQBAL

Library Service

It was moved by Councillor Jackie Satur, seconded by Councillor Karen McGowan, that this Council:-

- (a) welcomes the news that all Sheffield libraries are now on track to remain open;
- (b) notes that libraries in other towns and cities across the country have closed due to government cuts and commends the fantastic efforts of community groups across the city who have come together to put forward business plans to run the associate libraries to keep libraries open in Sheffield;
- (c) welcomes that the Council will support associate libraries by funding building running costs, providing access to the Council’s library catalogue and computer service, helping train volunteers and providing ongoing advice and support;
- (d) continues to oppose the unprecedented level of cuts imposed on the Council by central government that have led to cuts in the funding of the library service, noting that by next year the Council will have lost 50% of its core government funding which is impacting on services across the Council; and
- (e) resolves to continue to work with all hub, co-delivered and associate

libraries and to write to all community organisations who submitted business plans, and external partners who supported the groups, thanking them for their efforts in keeping open all libraries in the city, and to all staff for their continued dedication and commitment to the service in extremely difficult times.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following words therefor:-

- (a) thanks community groups for their incredible effort in stepping forward to save community libraries which Labour Councillors were threatening to close;
- (b) recalls the comments of officers in a leaked report that the original plans put forward by the Administration were not sustainable;
- (c) notes that key concessions were only made after a massive city-wide campaign and a 16,000 signature petition, supported by the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg, MP, and local Liberal Democrats;
- (d) believes that many community groups feel their achievements were made in spite of the Council rather than because of them;
- (e) notes reports in the local media that many groups are still involved in negotiations over property leases which threaten to make their business plans unsustainable again; and
- (f) calls upon the Administration to immediately work with community groups to ensure that appropriate leases are agreed so that beloved local libraries can stay open.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negated.

It was then moved by Councillor Brian Webster, seconded by Councillor Jillian Creasy, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (f) and (g) as follows:-

- (f) recognises that each library branch and community group is different, and that a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to working with co-delivered and associate libraries will be less effective than an approach that is tailored to each individual context; and
- (g) therefore calls upon the Administration to give full consideration to alternative ideas put forward by community groups for the running, financing and future development of co-delivered and associate library branches in the city.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) welcomes the news that all Sheffield libraries are now on track to remain open;
- (b) notes that libraries in other towns and cities across the country have closed due to government cuts and commends the fantastic efforts of community groups across the City who have come together to put forward business plans to run the associate libraries to keep libraries open in Sheffield;
- (c) welcomes that the Council will support associate libraries by funding building running costs, providing access to the Council's library catalogue and computer service, helping train volunteers and providing ongoing advice and support;
- (d) continues to oppose the unprecedented level of cuts imposed on the Council by central government that have led to cuts in the funding of the library service, noting that by next year the Council will have lost 50% of its core government funding which is impacting on services across the Council;
- (e) resolves to continue to work with all hub, co-delivered and associate libraries and to write to all community organisations who submitted business plans, and external partners who supported the groups, thanking them for their efforts in keeping open all libraries in the City, and to all staff for their continued dedication and commitment to the service in extremely difficult times;
- (f) recognises that each library branch and community group is different, and that a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to working with co-delivered and associate libraries will be less effective than an approach that is tailored to each individual context; and
- (g) therefore calls upon the Administration to give full consideration to alternative ideas put forward by community groups for the running, financing and future development of co-delivered and associate library branches in the City.

(Note: Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayriss, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraphs (a), (c), (e), (f) and (g) and against paragraphs (b) and (d) of the Substantive Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

13. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR IAN AUCKLAND

Transport Policy

It was moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Katie Condliffe, that this Council:-

- (a) believes Sheffield needs a “pro-choice” transport policy, which helps and supports all modes of transport;
- (b) recalls the 2009 consultation on Penistone Road, in which increasing the speed limit was highlighted as the second most important issue by respondents;
- (c) welcomes that Government funding is available to undertake works on Penistone Road and notes Council reports that state increasing the speed limit would reduce journey times and improve air quality in the area;
- (d) regrets, therefore, that the intervention of anti-car Labour Councillors has seen the proposal to increase the speed limit to 40 mph dropped;
- (e) believes this latest decision follows a number of anti-car blunders by Labour Administrations in Sheffield, including:
 - (i) dangerous bus-stop build-outs in Dore and Bents Green that have infuriated local residents and businesses;
 - (ii) hikes in parking charges and parking permit fees that have hit local motorists; and
 - (iii) disastrous bus-gate experiments at Meadowhead and Hillsborough;
- (f) notes with further concern that the Motorists’ Forum has been abolished and support withdrawn from Sheffield on the Move and believes that this sends a dangerous message about the Council’s regard for local motorists;
- (g) contrasts this with the action of the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP and Liberal Democrats in Government who have helped secure £1.2 billion of investment for Sheffield to rejuvenate the city’s road network; and
- (h) calls upon the Administration to review its transport policy and bring a report to Cabinet within the next three months to outline how it will support all road users.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (h) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (i) as follows:-

- (b) confirms that the present Administration were supportive in principle of

increasing the speed limit on Penistone Road, however, regrets that the costs of this scheme have spiralled from the original estimates due to Coalition Government red tape;

- (c) confirms that this move would only save between 20 and 30 seconds per journey at a cost of £500,000, therefore a cost of up to £25,000 per second saved;
- (d) regrets that at a time when the Government has drastically cut Sheffield's funding for transport schemes and completing this work would mean taking money from other schemes, a £500,000 cost is too expensive to save between 20 and 30 seconds per journey;
- (e) is committed to listening to the voices of Sheffield motorists which is why it was a Labour administration that set up the Motorist Forum in the first place;
- (f) regrets that continuing Government cuts mean the Council has to find ways to make reductions that have the least impact on our services and merging the Motorists Forum with Sheffield on the Move means that both groups still have the opportunity to be heard;
- (g) welcomes the work the present Administration are undertaking to transform the city's road network through the Streets Ahead programme; and
- (h) regrets that the main opposition group continue to snipe from the sidelines, however, fail to set out a positive agenda of how they would support motorists.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

It was then moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following words therefor:-

- (a) believes Sheffield needs a transport policy which follows a hierarchy of sustainable modes of transport with walking, disabled access, cycling and public transport at the top and private motorised vehicles near the bottom;
- (b) recalls that in the 2009 consultation on the Penistone Road Smart Route (which did not propose increasing the speed limit) the majority of respondents, whether car drivers, bus users or cyclists, supported the proposals and that their commonest reasons for doing so were to improve congestion and bus routes;
- (c) welcomes that Government funding is available for improvements on Penistone Road but regrets that the information about journey times and air

quality in the Council report was not based on the actual recommendations with regard to speed limits and did not take into account the latest evidence about the effects of deceleration and acceleration on emissions or the virtuous circle of safer roads leading to more use of sustainable modes of transport, less congestion and faster overall journey times;

- (d) praises, therefore, the critical analysis provided by objectors and the eventual decision by the Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development to drop the proposal to increase the speed limit to 40mph;
- (e) believes, however, that this decision was in contrast to a number of backward steps by the current Administration with regard to sustainable transport, including:
 - (i) removing pedestrian crossings along Penistone Road between a key bus stop and Hillsborough College;
 - (ii) cutting the Streets Ahead Cycle Opportunities fund in half in the previous financial year;
 - (iii) removing cycle lanes on Pitsmoor Road so that motor traffic can use it in both directions; and
 - (iv) reducing public transport concessions for disabled and elderly people;
- (f) notes that the Motorists Forum has been abolished and that support for Sheffield on the Move has been reduced, but that the Cycle Forum continues to do excellent work in promoting sustainable transport;
- (g) notes that Streetsahead is a like for like replacement and maintenance programme with minimal resources for improvements to layout, markings and signage and is therefore a massive lost opportunity; and
- (h) calls upon the Administration to use all existing forums and planning decisions to work with the public to develop and implement sustainable transport policies which protect and benefit the city as a whole.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negatived.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) believes Sheffield needs a “pro-choice” transport policy, which helps and supports all modes of transport;
- (b) confirms that the present Administration were supportive in principle of

- increasing the speed limit on Penistone Road, however, regrets that the costs of this scheme have spiralled from the original estimates due to Coalition Government red tape;
- (c) confirms that this move would only save between 20 and 30 seconds per journey at a cost of £500,000, therefore a cost of up to £25,000 per second saved;
 - (d) regrets that at a time when the Government has drastically cut Sheffield's funding for transport schemes and completing this work would mean taking money from other schemes, a £500,000 cost is too expensive to save between 20 and 30 seconds per journey;
 - (e) is committed to listening to the voices of Sheffield motorists which is why it was a Labour administration that set up the Motorist Forum in the first place;
 - (f) regrets that continuing Government cuts mean the Council has to find ways to make reductions that have the least impact on our services and merging the Motorists Forum with Sheffield on the Move means that both groups still have the opportunity to be heard;
 - (g) welcomes the work the present Administration are undertaking to transform the City's road network through the Streets Ahead programme; and
 - (h) regrets that the main opposition group continue to snipe from the sidelines, however, fail to set out a positive agenda of how they would support motorists.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MARY LEA

National Health Service

It was moved by Councillor Mary Lea, seconded by Councillor Jayne Dunn, that this Council:-

- (a) notes the People's March for the NHS Jarrow to Parliament which came through Sheffield between 25th and 26th August 2014;
- (b) recognises the threat to our NHS from legislation including the Health and Social Care Act (2012) and the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership; both of which put profits before people;
- (c) values the principle of our NHS to provide free, universal healthcare for all; and
- (d) supports the People's March for the NHS along with its aims and intentions.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Roger Davison, seconded by Councillor

Joe Otten, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (a), (b) and (d);
2. the re-lettering of paragraph (c) as a new paragraph (a); and
3. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (g) as follows:-
 - (b) supports the Government's decision to protect NHS spending from the spending reductions that were caused by the previous Government's record national deficit;
 - (c) welcomes the £26 million increase in the 2011-12 revenue allocation for Sheffield Primary Care Trust, the additional £27 million increase in 2012-13 and the equivalent £16 million and £14 million increases in 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively;
 - (d) recalls comments by the Shadow Health Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham, MP, in June 2010 that it would be "irresponsible" to increase NHS spending and therefore believes that a Labour government would have cut spending on the NHS rather than increase it;
 - (e) believes that with Liberal Democrats in Government the country is seeing improving services across the NHS, with 6,000 more doctors, lower waiting times and new cancer drugs given to 30,000 people;
 - (f) laments scaremongering that the Health and Social Care Act will lead to the privatisation of the NHS and notes that, in fact, the Government have prevented preferential contracts being granted to private companies by the previous Labour Government, which saw them paid £250m for operations they didn't even perform; and
 - (g) supports the Government's policy of increasing funding for NHS services in Sheffield, as opposed to its belief that the Shadow Health Secretary would cut funding for the NHS.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negated.

The original Motion was then put to the vote and carried, as follows:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) notes the People's March for the NHS Jarrow to Parliament which came through Sheffield between 25th and 26th August 2014;
- (b) recognises the threat to our NHS from legislation including the Health and Social Care Act (2012) and the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership; both of which put profits before people;

- (c) values the principle of our NHS to provide free, universal healthcare for all; and
- (d) supports the People's March for the NHS along with its aims and intentions.

(Note: Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayriss, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraph (c) and against paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

15. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

Tour de France

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Julie Dore, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross, that this Council:-

- (a) believes that the hosting of one of the world's biggest sporting events, the Tour de France, was an extremely successful event for Sheffield;
- (b) welcomes that the event showcased the city and Yorkshire on the international stage and welcomes the increased profile that the Tour has given to Sheffield;
- (c) further welcomes the positive message that was sent to the world about the city, both in the fantastic scenery throughout the route and the enthusiasm of Sheffield people who wholeheartedly embraced the event;
- (d) further welcomes that the event has inspired more people to cycle in the city and notes that over 2,000 people took part in the recent Sheffield Sky Ride; and
- (e) thanks all staff and volunteers who worked incredibly hard to make the event possible.

16. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

National Health Service (2)

It was moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy, that this Council:-

- (a) supports the aims of the 999 Call for the NHS campaign, namely to have a health service which is universally accessible, free at the point of delivery and distributed according to clinical need not ability to pay;
- (b) congratulates Sheffield Save Our NHS for coordinating the welcome, support and publicity for the People's March for the NHS as it passed through Sheffield on 25th and 26th August 2014;
- (c) recognises that one of the greatest threats to the NHS is privatisation of the provision of services which puts profit before people and erodes the open, accountable and democratic nature of this public service;
- (d) therefore notes with alarm the secretive negotiations currently taking place between the EU and the USA to create a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) backed up by Investor-State Dispute Settlements (ISDS) which give corporations legal protection for their profits and powers to sue governments that threaten their interests;
- (e) believes that TTIP could cause ill health, by undermining labour rights, which would affect pay and conditions, and by downgrading EU standards on food, farming and the environment;
- (f) therefore believes that promises to exclude the NHS from TTIP, or to use courts rather than secret ISDS tribunals to enforce it, are insufficient and that any government concerned about the health and well-being of the population should be pursuing trade deals which protect human rights and the environment rather than corporate profits, here and internationally; and
- (g) directs that copies of this motion be forwarded to the Minister for Trade and Investment and all Sheffield MPs.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Mary Lea, seconded by Councillor Jayne Dunn, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following words therefor:-

- (a) notes the People's March for the NHS Jarrow to Parliament which came through Sheffield between 25th and 26th August 2014;
- (b) recognises the threat to our NHS from legislation including the Health and Social Care Act (2012) and the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership; both of which put profits before people;
- (c) values the principle of our NHS to provide free, universal healthcare for all; and
- (d) supports the People's March for the NHS along with its aims and intentions.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

It was then moved by Councillor Roger Davison, seconded by Councillor Joe

Otten, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following words therefor:-

- (a) values the principle of our NHS to provide free, universal healthcare for all;
- (b) supports the Government's decision to protect NHS spending from the spending reductions that were caused by the previous Government's record national deficit;
- (c) welcomes the £26 million increase in the 2011-12 revenue allocation for Sheffield Primary Care Trust, the additional £27 million increase in 2012-13 and the equivalent £16 million and £14 million increases in 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively;
- (d) recalls comments by the Shadow Health Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham, MP, in June 2010 that it would be "irresponsible" to increase NHS spending and therefore believes that a Labour government would have cut spending on the NHS rather than increase it;
- (e) believes that with Liberal Democrats in Government the country is seeing improving services across the NHS, with 6,000 more doctors, lower waiting times and new cancer drugs given to 30,000 people;
- (f) laments scaremongering that the Health and Social Care Act will lead to the privatisation of the NHS and notes that, in fact, the Government have prevented preferential contracts being granted to private companies by the previous Labour Government, which saw them paid £250m for operations they didn't even perform;
- (g) confirms that negotiations on TTIP are at an early stage and that any treaty will have to be scrutinised by both the European, and the UK Parliament long before it comes into force;
- (h) welcomes the comments of the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Rt. Hon. Vince Cable MP, that:

"There is no suggestion whatever that the TTIP negotiations could be used to undermine the fundamental principles of the NHS ...The NHS will always be there for everyone who needs it, funded from general taxation, free at the point of use"; and
- (i) supports the Government's policy of increasing funding for NHS services in Sheffield, as opposed to its belief that the Shadow Health Secretary would cut funding for the NHS.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negatived.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) notes the People's March for the NHS Jarrow to Parliament which came through Sheffield between 25th and 26th August 2014;
- (b) recognises the threat to our NHS from legislation including the Health and Social Care Act (2012) and the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership; both of which put profits before people;
- (c) values the principle of our NHS to provide free, universal healthcare for all; and
- (d) supports the People's March for the NHS along with its aims and intentions.

(Note: Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayriss, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraph (c) and against paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

17. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JACK CLARKSON

Tax Avoidance by Multinational Companies

It was moved by Councillor Jack Clarkson, seconded by Councillor John Booker, that this Council:-

- (a) calls on the Coalition Government to prevent tax avoidance by multinational companies every year, of which it has been estimated that the UK Treasury alone loses up to £12 billion a year, monies that could be spent on public services, welfare, health, education and the armed services, to better the people of this country;
- (b) notes with disappointment, that whilst ordinary people face falling household income and rising costs of living, some multi-national companies are avoiding paying billions of pounds in taxes from a tax system that fails to make them pay their fair share;
- (c) believes that developing countries and the UK alike would benefit from a fairer tax system where multi-national companies pay their fair share;
- (d) condemns the use of tax havens by some UK companies which is rife, with many of the FTSE companies routinely using tax havens;
- (e) calls on the UK Government to take on a lead role in creating a fairer tax

system to end tax dodging by multi-national companies, and to prevent Corporation Tax avoidance which is unjust as it harms ordinary people around the world, increasing poverty and inequality;

- (f) believes that local authorities would benefit from a fairer tax system where multi-national companies pay their fair share, enabling authorities to provide quality public services; and
- (g) calls on the Government to listen to the strength of public feeling, and to act to end the injustice of tax dodging by large multi-national companies in developing countries and the UK.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Ben Curran, seconded by Councillor Harry Harpham, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (h) as follows:-

- (h) further supports the following proposals set out by the Shadow Chancellor, the Rt. Hon. Ed Balls MP in June 2014 to tackle tax avoidance and calls on the Government to implement them:
 - (i) closing loopholes, particularly the “Quoted Eurobond Exemption” that’s estimated to lose the country up to £500 million a year, that allows companies to move their profits to tax havens abroad - as part of this, Labour will table an amendment to the Finance Bill pressing the Government to act on this loophole;
 - (ii) making the tax system more transparent so we know who owns firms and how much tax they pay - under this strand of the policy, Labour will require all UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies to publish the names of beneficial owners of companies;
 - (iii) putting a stop to dormant companies by requiring an annual confirmation of dormancy - currently, dormant companies can be used to avoid filing Corporate Tax returns, this means they can trade for up to five years without paying tax; Labour also plan to look into asking banks to automatically inform HMRC when there is activity in supposedly dormant accounts;
 - (iv) strengthening the National Audit Office to scrutinise tax reliefs and find when they are abused to avoid tax;
 - (v) working with ‘developing’ countries to tackle tax avoidance - this will include ensuring such countries, which are often affected by tax avoidance (in particular, through the extraction of natural resources), are part of global talks on tax reforms; and
 - (vi) finalise proposals to deem construction workers as employed for tax purposes if they meet relevant employment criteria.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

It was then moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the relettering of paragraph (g) as a new paragraph (h) and the insertion of the following words at the start of that paragraph:-

“recognises that there is always more that can be done and therefore...”

2. the addition of a new paragraph (g) as follows:-

- (g) is proud that Liberal Democrats in Government have taken tax avoidance seriously and that as a result of Liberal Democrat influence:

- (i) 33 tax loopholes have been closed;
- (ii) 1,000 new tax investigators have been employed;
- (iii) £9 billion has been clawed back through deals with Switzerland, Liechtenstein and the Channel Islands;
- (iv) 262 banks have signed up to the Code of Practice on Tax, stopping them from promoting tax avoidance;
- (v) an extra £1.4 billion has been raised by using better data to detect fraud; and
- (vi) 10 times more people have been prosecuted for tax evasion than in 2010;

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negated.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) calls on the Coalition Government to prevent tax avoidance by multi-national companies every year, of which it is has been estimated that the UK Treasury alone loses up to £12 billion a year, monies that could be spent on public services, welfare, health, education and the armed services, to better the people of this country;
- (b) notes with disappointment, that whilst ordinary people face falling household income and rising costs of living, some multi-national companies are avoiding paying billions of pounds in taxes from a tax

- system that fails to make them pay their fair share;
- (c) believes that developing countries and the UK alike would benefit from a fairer tax system where multi-national companies pay their fair share;
 - (d) condemns the use of tax havens by some UK companies which is rife, with many of the FTSE companies routinely using tax havens;
 - (e) calls on the UK Government to take on a lead role in creating a fairer tax system to end tax dodging by multi-national companies, and to prevent Corporation Tax avoidance which is unjust as it harms ordinary people around the world, increasing poverty and inequality;
 - (f) believes that local authorities would benefit from a fairer tax system where multi-national companies pay their fair share, enabling authorities to provide quality public services;
 - (g) calls on the Government to listen to the strength of public feeling, and to act to end the injustice of tax dodging by large multi-national companies in developing countries and the UK; and
 - (h) further supports the following proposals set out by the Shadow Chancellor, the Rt. Hon. Ed Balls MP in June 2014 to tackle tax avoidance and calls on the Government to implement them:
 - (i) closing loopholes, particularly the “Quoted Eurobond Exemption” that’s estimated to lose the country up to £500 million a year, that allows companies to move their profits to tax havens abroad - as part of this, Labour will table an amendment to the Finance Bill pressing the Government to act on this loophole;
 - (ii) making the tax system more transparent so we know who owns firms and how much tax they pay - under this strand of the policy, Labour will require all UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies to publish the names of beneficial owners of companies;
 - (iii) putting a stop to dormant companies by requiring an annual confirmation of dormancy - currently, dormant companies can be used to avoid filing Corporate Tax returns, this means they can trade for up to five years without paying tax; Labour also plan to look into asking banks to automatically inform HMRC when there is activity in supposedly dormant accounts;
 - (iv) strengthening the National Audit Office to scrutinise tax reliefs and find when they are abused to avoid tax;
 - (v) working with ‘developing’ countries to tackle tax avoidance - this will include ensuring such countries, which are often affected by tax avoidance (in particular, through the extraction of natural resources),

are part of global talks on tax reforms; and

- (vi) finalise proposals to deem construction workers as employed for tax purposes if they meet relevant employment criteria.

(Note: Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Brian Webster, Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayris, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraphs (a) to (g) and abstained on paragraph (h) of the Substantive Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

18. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR IAN AUCKLAND

Graves Park

It was moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Steve Ayris, that this Council:-

- (a) believes Graves Park is a jewel in the crown of Sheffield's great outdoors and a key contributor to Sheffield's deserved reputation as the greenest city in the country;
- (b) thanks the Friends of Graves Park for their tireless efforts to protect and restore the Park;
- (c) notes with disgust the images published in July, which appeared to show areas of the Park being used as a dumping ground by the Council;
- (d) recalls the decision in 1999 to restore the land in question to publically accessible parkland and regrets this has not happened;
- (e) regrets that this latest incident follows consistent attempts by Labour Cabinets to sell-off or dispose of parkland for development;
- (f) calls upon the Cabinet to reaffirm that it will:
 - (i) respect the existing boundaries of Graves Park;
 - (ii) restore the Norton Nursery site to fully accessible parkland in co-operation with the Friends of Graves Park; and
 - (iii) renew the governance arrangements to ensure past mistakes are not repeated; and
- (g) therefore recommends an immediate review of the governance of the Graves Park Charity on options to take power out of the hands of the Cabinet and ensure that it is exercised locally.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Isobel Bowler, seconded by Councillor Tony Downing, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following words therefor:-

- (a) is proud of Sheffield's status as the greenest city in the country;
- (b) thanks all Friends Groups across the city for their tireless work in their local parks and green spaces;
- (c) remains committed to maintaining the quality of our parks and green space across the city;
- (d) recognises that the efficient operation of the parks and countryside services is essential in these times of cuts to budgets and continuing financial challenge;
- (e) notes that the depot on the former Norton Nurseries site, which has been used as such for many years, is a vital part of that efficient operation; and
- (f) is reassured that steps have been taken to ensure that the operational problems the parks service experienced in July will not re-occur.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) is proud of Sheffield's status as the greenest city in the country;
- (b) thanks all Friends Groups across the city for their tireless work in their local parks and green spaces;
- (c) remains committed to maintaining the quality of our parks and green space across the city;
- (d) recognises that the efficient operation of the parks and countryside services is essential in these times of cuts to budgets and continuing financial challenge;
- (e) notes that the depot on the former Norton Nurseries site, which has been used as such for many years, is a vital part of that efficient operation; and
- (f) is reassured that steps have been taken to ensure that the operational problems the parks service experienced in July will not re-occur.

19. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW SANGAR

State Pension

It was moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Rob Frost, that this Council:-

- (a) recalls the Liberal Democrats' 2010 manifesto commitment to introduce a triple-lock to ensure the state pension rises by inflation, earnings or 2.5%;
- (b) is proud that Liberal Democrats in Government have delivered the triple-lock, restoring the earnings link that was scrapped by Margaret Thatcher's Government;
- (c) is pleased that this policy has ensured pensions have risen by £800 a year for Sheffield pensioners;
- (d) contrasts this with the measly 75p a week increase agreed by Gordon Brown and the last Labour Government;
- (e) welcomes calls by Liberal Democrats to legislate the triple-lock, guaranteeing an annual £790 increase and taking the state pension up to £131 a week by 2020; and
- (f) recognises that this policy will benefit thousands of Sheffield pensioners and calls upon the Council to support this policy and lobby for its implementation.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Ben Curran, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following words therefor:-

- (a) supports the triple lock guarantee and welcomes comments by the Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP "nobody should be in any doubt about my commitment to the triple-lock on pensions.";
- (b) regrets that pensioners in Sheffield are suffering from the cost of living crisis caused by the present Government, particularly noting increases in energy bills and supports the price freeze pledged by Labour;
- (c) notes comments from Dot Gibson, National Pensioners Convention General Secretary in June 2014, "Rising fuel bills and the government's inability to get a grip on the problem has resulted in more people suffering from fuel poverty now than two years ago ... Since coming to power they have cut back on home energy efficiency programmes and reduced the winter fuel allowance.";
- (d) recalls that the Liberal Democrats have been part of a government that

introduced the “Granny Tax” and the 2011 Budget announced that Winter Fuel Payments would revert to £200 for the over 60s and £300 for the over 80s in 2011-12 – a cut of £50 and £100 respectively;

- (e) recalls the report from the Institute of Fiscal Studies which stated that between 1997 and 2010 “both absolute and relative measures of income poverty fell markedly among children and pensioners”; and
- (f) continues to campaign to support Sheffield’s pensioners and calls on the Government to implement Labour’s energy price freeze which save Sheffield pensioners significant amounts of money on heating bills.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) supports the triple lock guarantee and welcomes comments by the Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP “nobody should be in any doubt about my commitment to the triple-lock on pensions.”;
- (b) regrets that pensioners in Sheffield are suffering from the cost of living crisis caused by the present Government, particularly noting increases in energy bills and supports the price freeze pledged by Labour;
- (c) notes comments from Dot Gibson, National Pensioners Convention General Secretary in June 2014, “Rising fuel bills and the government’s inability to get a grip on the problem has resulted in more people suffering from fuel poverty now than two years ago ... Since coming to power they have cut back on home energy efficiency programmes and reduced the winter fuel allowance.”;
- (d) recalls that the Liberal Democrats have been part of a government that introduced the “Granny Tax” and the 2011 Budget announced that Winter Fuel Payments would revert to £200 for the over 60s and £300 for the over 80s in 2011-12 – a cut of £50 and £100 respectively;
- (e) recalls the report from the Institute of Fiscal Studies which stated that between 1997 and 2010 “both absolute and relative measures of income poverty fell markedly among children and pensioners”; and
- (f) continues to campaign to support Sheffield’s pensioners and calls on the Government to implement Labour’s energy price freeze which save Sheffield pensioners significant amounts of money on heating bills.