

## CITY OF SHEFFIELD

### METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

#### MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL – 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2016

#### COPIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO

##### Questions

##### Answers

#### Questions of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

1. From the 22nd July when the Independent Tree Panel report was published:-
  - (a) When were you first aware of it?

The advice was received by the Streets Ahead team on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2016 and I was made aware of this by the Cabinet Member for the Environment sometime following the Council's consideration of the report but cannot confirm exact date and time.
  - (b) When did you read it? Please provide dates.

I was told of its existence and content, but cannot confirm exact date and time.
  - (c) When was it decided to set up a "Silver Command"?

I have been informed that a silver command was decided at a joint meeting between Council staff, Amey and the Police on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.
  - (d) Who were the members of "Silver Command"? Please name the members and their positions from
    - (i) Sheffield City Council,
    - (ii) Amey
    - (iii) South Yorkshire Police
  - (e) How many meetings did this "Silver Command" hold in relation to Rustlings Road? Please also provide dates of these meetings and

names of who was in attendance.

- (f) Can you please state the specific date when it was decided that the police would be present and involved with the felling of the Rustlings Road trees? I understand that discussions about the operation on Rustlings Road took place on more than one occasion and cannot give a specific date.
- (g) Who made the suggestion of using Trade Union legislation to deal with protestors? South Yorkshire Police decide what/which legislation/law to use.
- (h) Where were you on the morning of Thursday 17th November? This is not an appropriate question.
- (i) Do you defend the use of trade union legislation for the arrests made at Rustlings Road? See (g) above. It is not for Councillors to determine, interfere or intervene in police matters.
- (j) Where you aware before the event that the Rustling Road trees would be felled at 5am with police in attendance? No
2. (a) Do you share my concerns that the omission of the South Yorkshire part of the HS2 route from the most recent announcement does not look promising for a HS2 station in our region? The current plans involve a spur into Sheffield Midland station, you welcomed this in the October Council and put the following amendment forward
- (a) *welcomes the recent announcement by the Government to provide a spur line to the HS2 route directly into Sheffield Midland Station;*
  - (b) *believes that HS2 and improving connectivity for Northern cities need not be a case of either/or, and both can and should be welcomed;*
  - (c) *believes that improving connections between northern cities is vitally important to improving prosperity in the North, and HS2 coming to Sheffield city centre, rather than an out-of-town*

*parkway station, is a step in the right direction;*

- (d) believes that Sheffield Victoria should still be re-opened and redeveloped to improve capacity and connectivity, particularly to Stockbridge and the North of Sheffield; and*
- (e) resolves to send a copy of this motion to Sheffield City Region and the Department of Transport.*

(b) As you failed to answer these questions in June, I will ask again - What representations has the Leader of the Council made to

- (i) MP for Stocksbridge and Penistone;
- (ii) MP for Doncaster North;
- (iii) Leader of Barnsley Council;
- (iv) Leader of Rotherham Council;
- (v) Mayor of Doncaster;
- (vi) The Government - to push the case for a Sheffield City Centre HS2 station

I did answer the question in June please see the answer below.

I have had a consistent position on this issue throughout that the station should be located in the city centre. This is a fundamental issue for our economy and the evidence overwhelmingly suggests that the economic case is far stronger in the city centre, counting to thousands of extra jobs and billions more in GVA than a Meadowhall station. Analysis of commuter patterns also illustrate that a city centre option creates more jobs to be accessed by people in every part of the city region than the Meadowhall station.

I have always stood up for Sheffield and pushed this view on many occasions to each of the stakeholders you have listed in recent years. However, I feel it is important to point out that this has been a longstanding campaign and Meadowhall was first announced as the Government's preferred option by then Deputy Prime Minister and Sheffield Hallam MP Nick Clegg in January, 2013.

Ultimately, this is a decision that will be taken by the Government and HS2 Ltd, therefore it is unbelievable that the MP for Sheffield Hallam chose to sit on his hands and do nothing to push the case for a city centre station when he was Deputy Prime Minister and you didn't put pressure on him to change the Government's view. You consistently put the interests of the MP for Sheffield Hallam above the interests of Sheffield.

We met with the MP for Sheffield Hallam about this issue when he was Deputy Prime Minister,

but ultimately he did nothing to help.

I am increasingly concerned about your attempts to use this as a party political issue due to the difference in views between South Yorkshire Councils. Doing this will do nothing to help the campaign to locate the station in the city centre. I have not made this issue party political despite the obvious failings of the MP for Sheffield Hallam who has let Sheffield down badly. It is outrageous that whilst he was Deputy Prime Minister the MP for Sheffield Hallam launched the South Yorkshire station at Meadowhall instead of in the city centre.

Unlike myself who has always put the interests of Sheffield first regardless of the politics, when the Deputy Prime Minister launched HS2 at Meadowhall and supported it over the city centre, your group under your leadership went distinctly quiet on the issue and therefore failed to exert any influence to change his mind when it could have influenced Government policy, this included your group voting against a number of motions calling for Government to change to a city centre station.

The link to Nick Clegg launching HS2 at Meadowhall as Deputy Prime Minister can be found at this link, where he also dismisses and criticises the city centre HS2 option:

<http://www.itv.com/news/calendar/update/2013-01-28/nick-clegg-hs2-will-heal-north-south-divide/>

Please also see an excerpt from an article from the BBC website, 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2013 with the following quote from Nick Clegg

"The city centre option is not a cost-free one.

"It would be a lot more expensive and also the train link would be slower, which slightly defeats the purpose of the whole exercise."

Mr. Clegg said a route in central Sheffield would have cut through a 4,000 home community housing development, the state-of-the-art Advanced Manufacturing Park in

Rotherham and a stretch of ancient woodland.

He said: "If you look at those balance of effects of one location versus another, most fair-minded people would conclude, as the Department for Transport has, that this is a better location."

One can only conclude that whilst he was Deputy Prime Minister and he actually had power and the opportunity to deliver a city centre station he had no interest in doing something about it which would have benefited Sheffield. Now the Liberal Democrats, coming to the party so late in the day, when Nick Clegg is a back bench opposition MP is cynical politics at its worst and represents much of why the Liberal Democrats and Nick Clegg in particular are not trusted.

In addition the Liberal Democrats on Ecclesfield Parish Council are continuing to push for a Meadowhall station now putting motions to recent Council meetings, so I hope you will encourage them to change their view.

(c) For each of the individuals above, I would like to know –

Please see the answer above

(i) how many meetings have you had with them on HS2, and if any, what were the outcomes of those meetings?

(ii) how many instances of correspondence have you had with them on HS2, and if any, what were the outcomes? Can you please publicly share these?

(d) Have you had an official meeting with either the Chief Executive or Chairperson of HS2 Ltd to push the case for a City Centre Station for

We have pushed the case for a city centre station many times over recent years and I have had several meetings with both the CEO and the Chairperson of HS2 Ltd., and the Secretary of State.

HS2, and if so, what were the outcomes of that meeting?

- (e) On HS2, are you with Nick Clegg or Ed Miliband?

As I have stated above, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg launched HS2 at Meadowhall and has supported a Meadowhall station right until he was no longer Deputy Prime Minister. He did nothing to help this cause when he was in a position to do so.

3. Do you still expect the mayoral election to take place in May 2017 as currently projected?

This is dependent on the outcome of the judicial review which has still not reported.

4. In November Council, I asked you "What law, rule or Council procedure prevents the inclusion of Members' questions on the discharge of the functions of the:-

- (a) Sheffield City Region Combined Authority
- (b) Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee
- (c) Local Enterprise Partnership
- (d) the Police and Crime Panel

- under item 5 (Members' Questions) on the Council Agenda?" - to which you replied "Any Member wishing to ask questions on the work/role of those bodies (and for that matter, any other joint/partnership bodies) can do so (to myself or appropriate Cabinet Member) via Council Procedure Rule 16.1 – the same arrangement under which you have asked this question.

Given your answer, can you please now make clear, for each of the bodies listed below, which Cabinet Member opposition members should direct questions to –

(a) Sheffield City Region Combined Authority

All of these bodies hold their meetings in public, and you can attend at any time and ask questions.

Me, you clearly know the answer to this as Question 3 is a Combined Authority Issue. You, yourself, are a member of the Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee therefore you can ask any questions directly to the CA.

(b) Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee

Councillor Mazher Iqbal, but you do have a member, Councillor Ian Auckland, on this Committee whom I'm sure can also raise questions on your behalf, or even, answer accordingly.

(c) Local Enterprise Partnership

Me

(d) the Police and Crime Panel.

Councillor Jackie Drayton, but also you have a member, Councillor Joe Otten, whom I'm sure can also raise questions on your behalf, or even, answer accordingly.

5. As you did not answer my question last month, I will ask you again - Do you think that publishing a report and the details of a decision two weeks after a decision has been made by a Cabinet Member and announced in the press is acceptable, as was the case with the Park Hill Development Agreement?  
If not, what measures have been taken to ensure this does not happen again?

I did answer the question, please see the answer below.

The date of the decision, taken by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, was 7<sup>th</sup> October and the decision was published and notified to Members on 20<sup>th</sup> October. The decision was "fast-tracked" and therefore was not able to have been called-in for scrutiny. There was a delay in publication of the decision whilst officers determined what level of detail could be disclosed in the written report published to accompany the decision.

Question of Councillor Robert Murphy to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

Do you still believe the new route for HS2 is "fantastic news"?

I still believe that the change from the Sheffield City Region being located at Meadowhall to Midland Station is fantastic news for Sheffield.

Questions of Councillor Paul Scriven to Councillor Cate McDonald (Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care)

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| 1. The Council's Chief Executive is a member of the Executive Board of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). What authority does he have to agree to any changes recommended by the STP? | This is an NHS Plan. The Chief Executive's role in this process was to advise from a local government Chief Executive perspective. |
| 2. Which Cabinet Members is he briefing back to and what authority have they in agreeing any changes suggested?  | None, the STP is an NHS plan.  |
| 3. Are you the Cabinet Member who has responsibility for overseeing the local STP? If not, who is?   | The STP is an NHS plan.  |
| 4. What briefings has the Cabinet Member had on the STP process and on what date?  | I have had numerous meetings with and briefings from officers about a range of matters relating to joint working with the NHS.     |
| 5. What options are the Council aware of so far for service changes in Sheffield that have been considered as part of the STP?   | The NHS is currently consulting with the public on its plans.  |
| 6. Has the Council yet refused to agree to any options on service change in Sheffield as part of the STP? If so please state them.   | This is an NHS plan. This Administration is opposed to cuts in funding for the NHS.  |
| 7. Has the Council so far agreed in principle to any service changes in Sheffield as part of the STP? If so please state them.   | See above.   |

Questions of Councillor Adam Hanrahan to Councillor Cate McDonald (Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care)

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| 1. What consultation was done regarding the closure of Hurlfield View Dementia Resource Centre on Gleadless Common, prior to the announcement of its closure? | In September 2016, Sheffield Health and Social Care (SHSC) confirmed that they were not able to continue to provide the services at Hurlfield View from April 2017. We have since consulted with service users and carers to reassure them and to shape the procurement of replacement services. |
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2. What work has been done by the Council to inform users of:

(a) the respite services

(b) the day services

that these services will no longer be available?

Letters were posted to all users currently using respite/day care at Hurlfield View and day support at Stocksbridge.

A helpline was set up and drop-in sessions were put on at both sites. SHSC made copies of the letters available to people who were not using the service at the time letters were posted. We will also be sending another letter to update people on what work is taking place.

We spoke to a number of carers of people using respite/day support, including some people who fund their own day support under a private arrangement with SHSC.

All current users are undergoing a review of their needs and will be given support during the changes.

3. What arrangements have been made for services to be provided elsewhere in the city?

We will be securing alternative provision via a tender process to meet the needs of people who are currently using the service (and more besides). We expect this to take place in locations across the city, instead of in a single venue.

4. Will there be a regular, bookable in advance respite service in the city to replace the service being lost at Hurlfield?

Yes, the tender is to provide both pre-bookable beds and beds specifically for emergency placements for dementia care.

In addition, funding is being made available for the purchasing of personalised support.

5. What will be happening to the facility once it has closed in its current usage?

In line with current policy, property services will work with other departments to decide the best/most viable options for the future use of the building.

6. Have any arrangements been put in place to sell off the facility and/or the land upon which it sits currently? If so, on what date?

See above.

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Cate McDonald (Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care)

When does the Administration intend to approve the NHS's local Sustainability and Transformation Plan for a funding gap of £571 million across South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw?

The Administration does not intend to approve the NHS's local Sustainability and Transformation Plan. See below an excerpt from a motion on today's Council Agenda which is crystal clear about this Administration's view of the STP: 'This Council:.....

- believes that the way that Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) have been developed has led to them becoming a mechanism for implementing the Five Year Forward View, which includes £22 billion of efficiency savings or cuts;
- believes that the STP process has lacked transparency and should have been conducted in a more transparent manner with a broad conversation with the public about the challenges facing the NHS and how to tackle them; and
- resolves to continue to oppose the Government's cuts to NHS and local government funding, which are already leading to a crisis for adult social care, and to make the case for the extra investment that is desperately needed for these vital public services and resist further cuts to the NHS and social care on the back of STPs

Questions of Councillor Vickie Priestley to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Community Services and Libraries)

1. When is the review of the Neighbourhoods Strategy, which will contain the review of Local Area Partnerships, promised 'within the next 12 months' by the previous Cabinet Member last November, due to be complete? Please can you specify a date or at least estimate a timescale.  
I refer you to the answers I gave on this topic last month.
2. When is the review of the Neighbourhoods Strategy due to be published? Please can you specify a date or at least estimate a timescale.  
I refer you to the answers I gave on this topic last month.
3. What consultation is the Council planning on relocating the Central Library?  
We are not at the stage of requiring consultation.  
  
Presently, we are exploring options and looking at initial developments.  
  
I have given a public undertaking that, should consultation be required, we will consult on the precise nature of that consultation and involve the people of Sheffield in its design, before we even start the consultation.

Questions of Councillor Adam Hanrahan to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Community Services and Libraries)

1. Would you consider giving ACV status to any building, pub, library or otherwise, which was objected to by the land owner?  
Yes. Of course I would consider any such application on its merits.
2. Could you please update the Council today on the progress that has been made on developing a policy similar to Wandsworth Borough Council (the Article 4 Direction) to protect a number of Sheffield's pubs, as promised in the Labour Group's Motion at the Full Council meeting of 7th September, 2016?  
I am pleased to report that good progress has been made.
3. Please state how many FTE equivalent officers have been allocated to look at  
This work is being undertaken within existing Officer resources.

the project?

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| 4. Please state how many meetings you have attended to discuss this?                                 | I estimate I have discussed issues relating to planning and community involvement at around 600 meetings since I was first elected in May 2010. |
| 5. Please state what advice you have sought on implementing an Article 4 direction for this purpose? | In developing our thinking in this area, I have sought legal, planning and licensing advice from a range of sources.                            |
| 6. Has anyone from Sheffield City Council sought to contact Wandsworth Borough Council about this?   | Yes.  |

Question of Councillor Magid Magid to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Community Services and Libraries)

The Council currently has a Service Manager from the library service on secondment to the Government's "Libraries Taskforce". Is the Council paying anything towards his wages? If so, how much, and will the Council ensure this opportunity is used to make representations on behalf of the people of Sheffield as to the value librarians bring to communities, and the importance of Sheffield receiving proper funding to staff its library service?

The secondment is for one day a week and is generating a large number of opportunities for the Library Service and the people of Sheffield.

Kathy Settle, Chief Executive, Libraries Taskforce affirms: "I am delighted that Sheffield City Council is an active partner in the Libraries Taskforce. I am confident that the secondment will enable their Service Manager to develop wider knowledge, skills and contacts that will significantly benefit the development of the Library Service in Sheffield. It also demonstrates the Council's commitment to delivering innovative, inclusive and progressive Library Services for the people of Sheffield".

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business and Economy)

1. With regards to the new retail quarter:
  - (a) has the anchor tenant been secured for the project? We are still in ongoing discussions.
  - (b) what is the current estimate for the reduction in business turnover in the city centre if the anchor tenant is not secured? The scheme we are developing involves an anchor tenant, we do not anticipate not having an anchor tenant and if we did not have one, we would have to bring forward a different scheme.
  - (c) would the new retail quarter project be financially viable without the anchor tenant? See above
2. How many Council owned sites or properties outside of the city centre are being improved for business and employment use under the Asset Enhancement Programme? The programme has been targeted at housing sites outside the city centre which would also generate employment.
3. With regards to the recent announcement on the Central Library:
  - (a) what steps were taken to identify alternative investors for this site before signing the exclusivity agreement with the Sichuan Guodong Group? The Guodong Group approached us directly, we believe that this could have significant benefit for the city and have given them a 12 month period to develop a proposal and test viability, the Council would then have to decide on the benefits of any proposal should it come forward.
  - (b) will the exclusivity agreement be published? No as it is likely to include commercially confidential information
4. A report submitted to the Cabinet meeting on 30th November says the Sichuan Guodong Group are investing £200m in the next five years in Sheffield, but in June, the Council said the investment would be £220m over the next three years. Why has the size and timing of the investment changed so much in a short period of time? The money is in foreign currency and subject to currency fluctuations, it is \$300 million (US Dollars).

5. With regards to the trade deals with the Chinese cities of Nanchang & Daqing;
- (a) Will these agreements be published? I am happy to publish these in principle subject to legal advice.
- (b) is the Council in discussion on any similar agreements with cities outside of China? Not at this moment in time.
6. At October Council, my colleague asked a number of questions to you relating to the Sheffield Pound, to which you replied "Following the Full Council Motion in April, and after discussion with Lord Blunkett, who is the Chair of the Sheffield City Partnership Board, the Sheffield Pound was added to the set of priorities for the Board during 2016/17. Instead of considering the idea of a Sheffield Pound as a standalone initiative, the Board is focusing on how it can support broader inclusive economic growth in the City, building on the emerging work of the national Royal Society of Arts (RSA) Inclusive Growth Commission. This piece of work will consider how the city can ensure that all people and communities share in the proceeds of economic growth, and will include consideration of whether introducing a local currency might be helpful. This work will proceed over the next few months, and will include discussion with a range of stakeholders, including those working on the Sheffield Pound concept. It will also build on other activity that the City Partnership Board has been working on recently, including the development of a new Financial Inclusion strategy for Sheffield, and the ongoing Fair City campaign." Two months on from this, can you please update the Council what progress has been made in advancing this idea as part of the broader project? This question should be directed to the Sheffield Partnership Board.

Questions of Councillor Paul Scriven to Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business and Economy)

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| 1. Could you please say when the Central Library was accepted as a possible site for Sichuan Guodong Construction Co. to develop into a hotel?   | 30 <sup>th</sup> November, 2016  |
| 2. Could you please state if the Central Library was suggested as a potential site for development to Sichuan Guodong Construction Co. by the Council? If so, when and how was this done?                                  | Sichuan Guodong approached the Council.  |
| 3. Could you please state all public sector sites or buildings that the Council have suggested to Sichuan Guodong Construction Co. that could be potential for development within the city?                                | Sichuan Guodong Group have asked for a list of Council owned sites which have been provided, no public sector buildings have been suggested. |
| 4. Can you confirm that the Sichuan Guodong Construction Co. has been specifically told that the potential development of the Central Library into a hotel will not include a freehold option but only a leasehold option? | Our intention is that it will be leasehold.  |

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business and Economy)

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| What due diligence checks have been carried out on Guodong UK Ltd to ensure their 6 months of trading makes them suitable for a 60-year, billion-pound investment deal? | UKTI has undertaken due diligence. |
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Questions of Councillor Magid Magid to Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business and Economy)

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| 1. Please provide a breakdown of the £30 million estimated to be needed to bring the Central Library up to the standards of a new, modern library and cultural centre and a description of what this would be spent on? | This question should be directed to Councillor Jack Scott. |
| 2. What sites have been identified for the proposed new Central Library?  | This question should be directed to Councillor Jack Scott. |

3. Will you guarantee that the proposed new Central Library will not be based on a Private Finance Initiative?

This question should be directed to Councillor Jack Scott. However, we have already given this commitment in Cabinet.



Questions of Councillor Steve Ayris to Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families)

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| 1. Of the 16 current Children's Centres, how many have Category 1 (Outstanding), Category 2 (Good), Category 3 (Notice to Improve) and Category 4 (Inadequate) overall Ofsted gradings? | Children's Centre Areas Ofsted Categories:<br><br>Outstanding 0<br>Good 5<br>Requires Improvement 11<br>Inadequate 0   |
| 2. What would be the impact on the general level of poor performance if any of the Centres were to close?   | There are no proposals to close any Children's Centres.  |
| 3. October's Cabinet report on "Consultation on Proposals Relating to Children's Centres" refers to the Equality Impact Assessment at Annex 2. Where can I find a copy of the EIA?      | On the Local Authority's SharePoint system EIA No 896  |
| 4. What range of general methods as well as specific methods of consultation have been used, given the "variance of voice and influence" the report says the EIA has identified?        | The consultation does not finish until the 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2017. When it is completed a full report on the consultation with recommendations will be written and that report will go through the usual process to Scrutiny and to Cabinet. |
| 5. How does the consultation explain how the local authority will continue to meet the needs of families with children under five as part of any reorganisation of services?            | The proposal in the consultation is to change from 0 – 5 Children's Centre areas to 0 – 19/25 Family Centre areas.<br><br>The services around pre-birth and support to expectant mums will still continue and hopefully be enhanced.                 |
| 6. How many responses to the consultation on Children's Centres have been received:-<br><br>(a) in total?<br><br>(b) in relation to each Children's Centre, respectively?               | Please see answer to Q4  |
| 7. Of the 'drop-ins' that have taken place so far, how many members of the public have attended?  | Please see answer to Q4  |

- (a) in total?  
 (b) in relation to each Children's Centre, respectively?
8. What measures have been taken to inform service users, their families and carers of the consultation? Please see answer to Q4
9. How have staff members at Children's Centres been informed of and involved in the consultation? Please see answer to Q4
10. How have organisations associated with Children's Centres, such as friends groups, been informed of and involved in the consultation? Please see answer to Q4

Questions of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families)

Given the recent news that Silverdale School will no longer be the sponsors of the new school at Bannerdale –

1. when were you made aware of this? The Trust informed the Director of Children's Services on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November in the late afternoon, shortly before issuing a press release and a statement on their website. I saw an email on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon.
2. what actions do you now plan to take? The new school proposals will go on as planned, including the pre-planning consultations for the school to open in 2018.
- We will make sure that whatever happens, there are enough local school places for children and young people in time for when they are needed.
- We have been in touch with the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Department of Education and are working with them to ensure we get an Academy sponsor that can command the confidence of local

families. The Regional Commissioner will advise us of the new Academy sponsor in the near future.

Once the new sponsor is appointed consultation on admission arrangements will continue.

3. how does this affect the timetable for

(a) opening of the new school

(a) It does not prevent the school opening in 2018 as planned

(b) consultation on the new catchment areas?

(b) Consultation on admissions arrangements is the responsibility of the sponsor and would therefore be undertaken once a sponsor is appointed by the Regional Schools Commissioner

Questions of Councillor Pauline Andrews to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Housing)

1. The tenants of 1-29 St Michaels Crescent, Sheffield have received letters to say that their garages are to be demolished. Could you please tell us when this is going to happen?

The original city wide plan for garage demolition was November 2016 to June 2017. We do not have individual demolition site dates as we are waiting for planning approval.
2. Why is this project happening here, when only one garage is in need of slight repair, and the others are owned and maintained by the tenants, not costing anything to the Council?

Our site surveys / photographs have indicated the garages on the site are in various states of repair with a proportion very old and showing evidence of disrepair. Repairs to garages are the responsibility of the tenants but the Council is responsible for the site maintenance.
3. Why, when there are 14 garages rented out, only one needing slight repair and five spaces for more garages, would the Council want to demolish them?

The review undertaken indicated a lack of long term demand for the site and that future liability for repairs on the site was not sustainable for the rent that the site generates.
4. The letter states that they will demolish down to the slab, which may provide additional off road parking, but why would they want to park on a slab of concrete instead of parking in a lockable garage?

See below
5. When the tenants are paying rent for the garages to the Council, and there is no need for money to be spent on maintenance, why would the Council want to demolish to slab to let people park for free?

Consultation was undertaken locally with tenants group on the proposed demolition some time ago. We have received a number of enquiries regarding the decision to demolish and clear this garage site and we are in the process of reviewing this decision. We will provide a further update to Councillor Andrews and the other local Councillors once we have concluded this.

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Housing)

1. How many families have been in bed and breakfast accommodation for more than six weeks?

None. We only use B+B in an emergency. We currently have four people in B+B and the average stay is 2.2 days.

2. How many 16 and 17 year olds have been placed in bed and breakfast accommodation?
- None. We do not use B+B's for this age group unless there is absolutely no other alternative in an emergency. We undertake a joint assessment of need for 16/17 years olds between Housing Solutions and Children, Young People and Families and agree a plan of support.
3. Does the local authority have a homelessness strategy and how is its implementation being assessed by senior officers?
- Our last Homelessness Strategy was produced in 2010 and key performance is monitored by the Housing Leadership Team and Communities Portfolio Leadership Team quarterly. This shows we are meeting all targets to reduce homelessness locally including the number of acceptances, number of homeless preventions, rehousing for people in priority need, and use of temporary accommodation. It will be very challenging for the Council to continue to perform so well, as nationally homelessness has been increasing.
- We are developing a new Homelessness Strategy that will be implemented in 2017 and this will focus on even greater focus on earlier prevention by collaborative work, supporting groups most at risk, improving housing options, health and access to employment/training and education. The new strategy will be sufficiently flexible to respond to any new duties that are currently being considered by Parliament in the Homeless Reduction Bill. This will have significant resource implications for Councils.
4. What complaints have been raised about homelessness services, what were the outcomes and how has the Council improved its services as a result?
- We take all complaints seriously and reflect on these to make sure we learn from them. In the last 12 months, four complaints have been raised and these have concerned people not being happy with the service they have received and one

about moving on from one of our commissioned supported accommodation services. As a result, we have been very clear communicating with services about the importance of move on and have spoke to the staff team about managing customer expectations. Individuals can also ask for a review of their statutory decision and a more senior officer will have a fresh look at this. Since 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016 there has been 77 requests for reviews and 10 decisions have been overturned.

5. What is the Council's current estimate of
- (a) total homeless
  - (b) of which rough sleepers
  - (c) under 18 rough sleepers?

**(a) total homeless**

We monitor homelessness quarterly. At the end of September 2016, there were 350 homeless presentations and 94 homeless acceptances.

**(b) of which rough sleepers**

There were 15 rough sleepers in our official count which took place in November, 2016. We have a protocol in place with the Police and commissioned services to regularly conduct checks and work with rough sleepers to offer accommodation and plan support for the individuals. The majority of people affected by rough sleeping, sleep out for fewer than 5 days.

**(c) under 18 rough sleepers?**

None

6. What measures have been taken to address flooding in Jordanthorpe as a result of water run-off from the former Norton College site?

The site in question is situated to the north of an area of open space that has been enclosed by the Graves Leisure Centre. The open space is part of a site of FA Quality Football pitches, that were the subject of a planning application in 2015. The planning application sought reductions to surface water run-off from the site and the inclusion of swales and permeable paving within the associated car park to reduce the flow of water from the site. A Planning

Officer has visited the site and discussed with the applicant/contractors whether the measures installed are in accordance with what was required of them from the planning conditions. The alterations to the football pitch are considered to have been installed to the standards expected and there is no further action that can be taken by the Local Planning Authority to resolve the issues that have been raised.

However, it is clear from a recent event of flooding to the gardens of some of the local residents that there is an issue here that needs to be investigated and acted on. Investigations are being carried out by Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) Approval Board Lead Officers as to the condition of the culvert which runs to the south of the football pitches and north of the local housing. At this stage, the condition of the culvert is being determined and an assessment will have to be carried out to ascertain whether a business case can be made to gain Government funding for further improvements to it.

7. What has been the cost to the Council  
(a) for repairing damage to Council housing (including gardens) as a result of the aforementioned flooding?

The Housing Service has responded to just one flooding problem at 105 Ormond Road. A land drain has been fitted at a cost of £2,034.18.

(b) have these costs been recovered?

No

8. What has been the cost to the Council  
(a) for restoring Council-owned land, including grassed areas and pavements, due to construction on the former Norton College site?

The Norton planning application (16/00771/FUL) decision notice includes conditions relating to various highway improvements, including the creation of a multi-way junction onto Bochum Parkway. I can confirm that the restoration of existing footpaths and grassed areas, are to be restored

by the applicant who will be carrying out the improved junction to Bochum Parkway. As far as I am aware, therefore, the costs will not be absorbed by the Council.

- (b) have these costs been recovered? See above
9. What floor coverings are provided when fitting new kitchens or bathrooms in empty Council homes? If a full new kitchen / bathroom is being fitted then a vinyl floor covering is provided.
10. What floor coverings are offered to tenants when fitting new kitchens or bathrooms in occupied Council homes? Following on from the Decent Homes programme we provide a vinyl floor covering in all kitchen and bathroom upgrades through the elemental programme. Where a property is tenanted at the time of this work, there is a choice of floor colours.
11. How many wooden garden gates have been supplied unpainted or untreated to Council homes during the current (2016/17) financial year? To date in 2016, we have completed 12 gate replacements (some also included fencing). We do not have information to tell us if these were supplied untreated, some form of treatment should have been applied to the wood but they would not necessarily be painted.
12. How many have subsequently been replaced or adjusted by the housing repairs service as a result of weather damage? A timber gate of less than 12months old should not need to be replaced due to weather damage even if it had not been treated. We are not aware of complaints being made to the repairs service.
13. What has been the additional cost to the Council in relation to the above? We have not identified the need to replace a gate installed this year. If a specific case is creating some concern, officers will investigate the case further if an address can be supplied and Councillor Shaw can be provided with a full response.



Question of Councillor Martin Smith to Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport)

Will pre-planning application advice given to Guodong UK Ltd for the West Bar and Central Library sites be made public?

Any potential planning application will be dealt with the same as any other application in line with normal procedures.

Questions of Councillor Ian Auckland to Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Please provide a copy of the Traffic Regulation Order (and/or any other Order or Amendments made under Acts or Powers) pursuant to the felling of trees on Rustlings Road? | A copy of the Order is below  |
| 2. Are you satisfied that such order(s) were made legally?  | The orders were made legally and in line with normal procedures   |
| 3. Do you consider that reasonable notice was given about the impact of such an order upon residents/highway users - such as the placing of "no waiting" signage?             | The decision to not post these signs was all part of the decision not to give advance notification of the works due to the expected protester actions and the impact that could have on worker and public safety. |
| 4. Please outline the "Council Rules of Procedure" used in respect of Rustlings Road, for example was the order made by an Officer under delegated authority?                 | The order was made by officers in line with the Councils delegations  |
| 5. Please outline your own involvement in the process?  | I was not involved which is normal practice for any temporary road closure order.   |



# Temporary Traffic Regulation Order

## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA 1984) and Regulation 3 of the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Procedure Regulations 1992 (SI 1992/1215)

**STREETS AHEAD A24 WOODHOUSE, A23 GLEADLESS, A26 SOUTHEY, B80 SOTHALL, B74 HACKENTHORPE, B63 LOWFIELDS, A13 FULWOOD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF DRIVING, WAITING AND LOADING) ORDER 2016** ("the Order")

1. Sheffield City Council makes the Order in exercise of its powers under section 14(1) of the RTRA 1984 and any other enabling powers over areas of the highway listed in the schedule to the Order.
2. The Council gives notice that under section 99 of the RTRA 1984 it is empowered to remove any vehicle which has been permitted to remain at rest contrary to this order in any of the roads listed in the schedule to the Order.
3. The Order is needed because works are being or are proposed to be executed on or near the said roads listed in the schedule to the Order.
4. The Order came into operation on 30 October 2016 and shall remain in force for a period of 18 months. The duration of the Order can be extended with the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport. The restriction specified will only have effect at such times and to such extent as indicated by the display of notices.
5. While the Order is in operation: it will prohibit any person from causing or permitting any vehicle to proceed or cause or permit any vehicle to wait or wait for the purposes of loading or unloading in any lengths of roads listed in the schedule. Such prohibition shall not apply to pedestrian and vehicular access to frontages, contractor plant and local authority and emergency services vehicles.
6. Access to adjacent properties will be maintained at all times.
7. The alternative route for the traffic affected by this order will be signed on site.
8. A copy of the draft Order may be viewed on request by contacting the Council on 0114 2734034

### Schedule

#### **A24 Woodhouse**

Europa Court, Europa Close, Europa View, Letsby Avenue, Europa Drive, Hendon Street, Medlock Drive, St Josephs Road, Handsworth Grange Road, Wheatley Grove, Birklands Avenue, Richmond Park Crescent, Medlock Drive, Rodman Drive, Horsewood Road, St James Walk, Wenlock Street, Tilford Road, Revill Lane, Badger Road, Schubert Close, Handsworth Grange Road, Beaver Avenue, Tilford Road, Greenwood Lane, Goathland Road, Badger Road, Balmoral Road, Greengate Lane, Greengate Road, John Calvert Road, Massey Road, Oldale Grove, Soap House Lane, Driver Street, John Ward Street, Watch Street, Kirkstead Gardens, Harbury Street, Rodman Street, Hudson Road, Coisely Road, Ashwell Road, Ashpool Close, Wolverley Road, Ashpool Fold, Cardwell Avenue, Miller Croft, Keyworth Place, Southsea Road, Mauncer Crescent, Chapel Street, Hardcastle Road, Swallow Wood Court, Twitchill Drive, Water Slacks Road, Skelton Lane

#### **A23 Gleadless**

Birley Lane, Blackstock Road, Constable Road, Daresbury Road, East Bank Road, East Road, Fox Lane, Gleadless Road, Gleadless Mount, Leighton Road, Myrtle Road, Norfolk Park Road, Park Grange Road, Prospect Road, Ridgeway Road, Spencer Road, White Lane

#### **A26 Southey**

Barnsley Road, Bellhouse Road, Chaucer Road, Cowley Hill, Cowley Lane, Cross Hill, Deerlands Avenue, Donovan Road, Elm Lane, Galsworthy Road, Gregg House Road, Hartley Brook Road, Hatfield House Lane, High Greave, High Street, Moonshine Lane, Nether Lane, Nether Road, Shiregreen Lane, Southey Green Road, St Marys Lane, St Michaels Road, Stocks Hill, The Common, Wordsworth Avenue, Yew Lane

#### **B80 Sothall**

Moorthorpe Way

#### **B74 Hackenthorpe**

Carr Forge Close

#### **B63 Lowfields**

Denmark Road

#### **A13 Fulwood**

Rustlings Road

Dated 27 October 2016

Questions of Councillor Roger Davison to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

1. What is the plan to promote Sheffield products/services now that we have lost out on the Great Exhibition of the North?  
GEON is about the North, not just Sheffield. Early indications are that Newcastle is keen to ensure that Sheffield art, design and culture is represented in the GEON – at this stage it's too early to say what that looks like but there's a real sense of collaboration.
2. What part will the Council play in the distribution of Arts Council grant for the Cultural Forum?  
The Council has a key role within the city's Culture Consortium and the Consortium seeks and receives Arts Council funding – so the Council is always involved with this  
  
The Council also works closely with the Arts Council alongside our relationship with the Consortium
3. In what way will the Council observe the success or otherwise of the U.K. City of Culture, Hull?  
Hull's success is great news for the region. The Culture Consortium already has close links with the Hull 2017 team and they will continue to work together on identifying areas of joint interest throughout 2017 and beyond.

Questions of Councillor Jack Clarkson to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment) (to be answered by Councillor Mary Lea, Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

6. The Council requested the police to attend Rustlings Road that morning. Are you also aware that the police attended a public meeting for over two hours regarding Angram Bank skateboard park? Please can you explain why the police were invited to that meeting?  
This was a planned Angram Bank stakeholder meeting - and the local police are included in the community groups involved in such meetings (reducing anti social behaviour etc). I understand that PCSO Andrew Brearley attended this meeting.

Questions of Councillor Jack Clarkson to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

1. Can you inform this Council how many Amey workmen and police officers were involved in the operation to cut the trees down on Rustlings Road and how much did this all cost the taxpayers of this City?

Approximately 21 Amey workmen in 8 teams (one per tree) were on site. We believe there were a maximum of 12 Police Officers in attendance. The only additional cost to the Council is that of the vehicle removal company of around £2,000.
2. Do you think that community relations between the Council and the residents of this area have been damaged, especially when children and elderly residents were subjected to heavy handed behaviour by the ruling Administration and the police, and who were awoken at 5am that morning?

As you are aware we have apologised for waking people at 5am
3. The Rustlings Road tree felling operation in conjunction with South Yorkshire Police was an extremely well executed operation. Can I ask Councillor Lodge if he was personally present to oversee the actions of the police, Amey workers, and to handle and communicate with local residents on behalf of Sheffield City Council during the operation to fell the trees?

As the work was an operational matter I was not involved in it as I am not involved in any other operations.
4. How many cars were actually towed away from Rustlings Road that day, and were residents reimbursed the recovery charges?

There were no recovery charges passed to vehicle owners

There were 7 cars removed to an adjacent street.
5. Can you please inform this Council if you will be using these tactics against any other communities within the near future? And is this a new Council strategy?

As stated above, we have apologised for the way in which trees were replaced on Rustlings Road. The Council will only start tree removal operations in future after 7am unless the works are necessary due to safety reasons. This could include trees that have been damaged by gales or have become dangerous for other reasons such as a vehicle strike and require immediate removal

Question of Councillor Robert Murphy to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

Was the Police and Crime Commissioner made aware of the Rustlings Road operation before it took place?

That would be a matter for the Police rather than the Council.

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

Can you confirm whether either Amey or the Council asked the police to use arrest powers under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992?

I can confirm that neither the Council or Amey suggested the use of any legislation as that is not their role.

Question of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

Considering the recent report of alleged health & safety breaches to the Health and Safety Executive by a local H&S professional, do you intend to advise Amey Hallam Highways Limited to cease arboricultural and tree felling work until the alleged infringements are investigated by the HSE?

Discussions are planned with the HSE regarding the operations on Rustlings Road and in the meantime operations will continue.

Questions of Councillor Joe Otten to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

1. In light of your apology over the 'dawn raid' on Rustlings Road trees, will you apologise for use of anti-picket laws against public spirited citizens exercising their rights of peaceful protest?
2. Will you apologise for requiring tree surgeons (a high risk occupation) to operate in the dark in reckless defiance of good health and safety practise?

South Yorkshire Police decide what/which legislation/law to use.

Tree surgeons often work in the night to make the highway safe due to tree issues. The operation was planned with the involvement of tree surgeons who did not raise any concerns about safety.

Amey's operatives routinely work in hours of darkness attending highway emergencies, fallen trees and other

tree safety defects and as such are well experienced in working in low light conditions.

Street lights on street were also remotely brightened immediately prior to works commencing in order to further mitigate the risk of working in low light conditions.

3. Will you apologise for failing to post yellow 'no waiting' notices on Rustlings Road to define the time and extent of the restriction as required by the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO)?
4. What notice period do you undertake before commencing tree destruction, of a) publication of the Independent Tree Panel advice and b) publication of the Administration's response to that advice?
5. Will this Administration now "do nothing" in response to public demands that it reconsiders its policy on highway trees?

The decision to not post these signs was all part of the decision not to give advance notification of the works due to the expected protester actions and the impact that could have on worker and public safety.

We have committed to publishing the Independent Tree Panel reports in a timely manner, with full and transparent information about how we have come to decisions.

The policy on using the Streets Ahead programme of works to replace highway trees was developed under the Liberal Democrat administration, as stated in the April 2009 programme specification document for the contract:

“A significant improvement in the standard of tree maintenance will be required, with large numbers of over-mature trees being replaced by more appropriate species, and others pruned, crowned or otherwise maintained in a safe condition. The Authority will require the overall number of highway trees across the City to be sustained at current levels and the highway tree stock returned to a more balanced age-profile during the course of the Project.”;

The Council's approach to street trees has been endorsed by three different High Court judges. That includes our approach to decision

making and underlining the legal duties imposed on the Council to deal with issues from street trees.

Questions of Councillor Adam Hanrahan to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

1. Are you aware that the War Memorial Association has suggested it could help, via a grant, to fund a solution for the trees on Western Road, which are dedicated to the memory of those who attended Westways and lost their lives fighting in the First World War?

My officers will be contacting the War Memorial Association to discuss the trees before any action is taken on Western Road.
2. Will you agree to meet with me and concerned local residents to put together a grant application to secure funds to ensure that these incredibly important trees are not lost and are suitably maintained, for the benefit of everyone?

There have been a number of site meetings with concerned residents, the trees are still in consultation and as you can see in our amendment we have committed to engaging with stakeholders when considering the Council's response to the advice from the Independent Tree Panel. As stated above, officers will explore the offer from the War Memorial Association.
3. Will you undertake to ensure that local Councillors will get the report of the Independent Tree Panel, as soon as it is made available to the Council, for trees in their ward as a minimum?

Western Road is currently being surveyed and if 50% or more of respondent disagree with our proposals, the street will be put to the Independent Tree Panel for them to consider and provide advice. The results of the Household Survey are not due back until after 9<sup>th</sup> December.

As you can see in our amendment, we have committed to engaging with stakeholders when considering the Council's response to the advice from the Independent Tree Panel

Question of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

1. At November Council, you were asked by my colleague, Councillor Nash, "What consultation have Ward Councillors had in relation to street tree felling in their areas?", to which you

Due to the expected protester actions and the impact that could have on worker and public safety, the operational details of Rustlings Road were not shared in the same way as

replied "Ward Councillors are always informed prior to any planned tree removals." Given this, can you please explain why Ecclesall Ward Councillors were not notified about the tree felling on Rustlings Road?

usually happens.

Question of Councillor Steve Ayriss to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Environment)

1. At November Council, you were asked by my colleague, Councillor Nash, "What consultation have Ward Councillors had in relation to street tree felling in their areas?", to which you replied "Ward Councillors are always informed prior to any planned tree removals." Given this, can you please explain why the Graves Park Ward Councillors have not been informed about commencement in the Norton Woodseats B61 Zone of the tree replacement programme?

I am not aware of the situation you refer to and will undertake to have it investigated.