

## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING – 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018

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

#### ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.5 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “IMPROVING SECONDARY SCHOOL STANDARDS ACROSS SHEFFIELD”

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jayne Dunn, seconded by Councillor Mike Drabble

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

- (d) believes that despite improvements being required in some of the city’s schools, these results are a testament to the hard work of teachers, leaders and the communities they serve, throughout the city and that, increasingly, schools are working in partnership with one another and Learn Sheffield, resulting in substantial progress being made over the last few years;
- (e) believes, however, that Sheffield schools only succeed in spite of, and not because of, this Government, as they are in desperate need of improved funding - and this is reflected in the results of the Ofsted report, and the fact that Sheffield schools would be over £18 million better off if the Government had listened to our demands to speed-up the implementation of the new funding formula;
- (f) notes that, under these budgetary constraints, some schools are falling short of what we, or Ofsted, would expect, and we will continue to do everything we can to work with these schools to deliver the required improvements, and we will continue to demand that Government give more to local schools to deliver the right education for every child across the city;
- (g) notes that from 1997 to 2010, Labour Governments increased spending on education as a proportion of GDP from 4.5% to 6.2%, and that the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) estimates that real terms expenditure increased by 4.2% every year, compared with an average increase of just 1.5% from the Conservative Governments of 1979 to 1997;
- (h) further notes that Labour made education a top priority and that average government spending reflected this from 1997-2010:-
  - (i) every year, capital spending on schools increased by 12.9%;

- (ii) every year, further education spending increased 7.7%;
  - (iii) every year, under-5s spending increased by 6.1%;
  - (iv) every year, day-to-day secondary school spending increased by 5%; and
  - (v) the average growth in day-to-day primary school spending was at least 3.9% every year;
- (i) further notes that the increases in spending translated into larger numbers of teachers and declining class sizes, with the number of teachers increasing by 12% over the period, from 400,000 to 450,000, as well as a huge increase in the number of support staff and teaching assistants whose numbers tripled to 190,000 by 2010;
  - (j) notes that this is in stark contrast to government spending from 2010 and the formation of the Conservative-Liberal Democrat Coalition over which point, according to the IFS, the amount of per pupil spending in England's schools has fallen by 8% every year, and record numbers of teachers have left the profession;
  - (k) further notes that recent studies show that Sixth form funding has been cut by 25% and local authority support is down by 55%;
  - (l) finds it remarkable that the largest opposition group have chosen to single out underperforming schools in Sheffield instead of laying blame where it should be; with the Government's completely inadequate funding;
  - (m) regrets that the main opposition group have nothing constructive to say for improving the situation of schools in Sheffield and have instead only asked the Administration to do what it is already doing – working closely with the academy trusts operating underperforming schools and actively offering what support we can, alongside Learn Sheffield;
  - (n) notes that this Administration puts fairness and tackling inequality at the heart of all policies - actively investing more in the areas of greatest need and readdressing geographical disparities in the city, and yet efforts to do so are often opposed by the leading opposition group;
  - (o) believes we need a Labour government to ensure local authorities can build schools again and scrap the free school programme, a flagship initiative of the Rt. Hon. Michael Gove, MP when he was Secretary of State for Education under the coalition government, bring academies under greater democratic control and bring to an end the Conservative-Liberal Democrat legacy of fragmentation and privatisation of the education sector; and
  - (p) further notes that a Labour government would stop schools being able

to operate their own admission policies, as the current situation has left local authorities with a duty to ensure that every school age child gets a school place, yet are not always able to place children where they want, although in Sheffield we continue to perform much better than the national average, with 97% of children given a place at a secondary school of their choice.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alison Teal, seconded by Councillor Douglas Johnson

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

- (b) gives credit to the dedication that staff, young people and their families put into the education of young people in Sheffield, but notes that the quality of a child's education in Sheffield still depends too much on where they were born and where they live.

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

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

- (i) notes that a Labour government established academies through the Learning and Skills Act 2000 and aimed to "improve pupil performance and break the cycle of low expectations" by directly funding schools through central government and giving more freedom and choice to schools to choose their own term times, curriculum and staff;
- (j) notes that more than half of the biggest multi-academy trusts (MATs) have issued warnings in 2018 about funding, citing pay, staffing levels, building maintenance and mounting deficits, and some are relying on emergency handouts from the taxpayer;
- (k) notes that many have failed to improve after being converted into academy schools and a number have been adversely affected by the ineffectiveness of the MAT they are under;
- (l) notes that Regional Schools Commissioners do not have the powers or policy framework to influence the development of MATs;
- (m) believes MATs should undergo external inspection, with those failing to improve standards re-brokered by local authorities;
- (n) believes that measures should be introduced to prevent MATs using education funding to pay excessive executive salaries; and
- (o) believes local authorities should have a significant role, with the remit to promote high standards across the state school sector, including academies.

## **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.6 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “DEVOLUTION DEAL”**

### **4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraph (e) and the addition of new paragraphs (e) to (g) as follows:-

- (e) (i) demands that the three Council Leaders in South Yorkshire, the elected Mayor of Doncaster and the Sheffield City Region Mayor now sort out this impasse, as it is they that are creating the uncertainty for local business and it is these five people who hold the solution to bringing about the Sheffield City Region deal, and to bring forward all necessary measures to implement the South Yorkshire deal, and believes that, if they cannot do that in the next six months, they will have to admit they have let down the local area on devolution in South Yorkshire and (ii) believes that this should be done by appointing an independent facilitator who can broker a deal amongst these 5 people;
- (f) expects Sheffield City Council to be involved as a full and active member of programmes and trade delegations that the Sheffield City Region Mayor runs; and
- (g) demands that, if after six months, the three Council Leaders, the elected Mayor of Doncaster and the Sheffield City Region Mayor are still letting the local area down by not being able to implement the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal, they should return to Government, admit that they cannot break the deadlock and seek a timescale that the Government will keep open the South Yorkshire Deal.

### **5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Robert Murphy, seconded by Councillor Martin Phipps**

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (e) and the addition of new paragraphs (c) and (d) as follows:-

- (c) notes that this Council has contributed funding to the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority, which has spent millions of pounds on what this Council now regards as a rushed, divisive, and unsuccessful Devolution Deal, Combined Authority and Mayoral Election and office, and received little in return in terms of powers or funding; and
- (d) believes this Administration should stop supporting this Government's agenda on devolution and join with the vast majority of Yorkshire Councils working towards a Yorkshire-wide devolution that should rival the devolution granted to London, Scotland and Wales.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.7 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING  
“HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN YEMEN”**

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Richard Shaw

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

- (k) calls for the suspension of UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia in response to their consistent targeting of civilians in Yemen which is in breach of international humanitarian law;
- (l) requests that a copy of this motion is sent to the Saudi and the Yemeni Embassies in London; and
- (m) requests that a copy of this motion is sent to the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary.

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Kaltum Rivers, seconded by Councillor Douglas Johnson

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

- (k) notes that research shows the UK was responsible for selling Saudi Arabia \$436 million worth of armaments in 2017, which are likely to have been used in a war which Save the Children estimates has resulted in the death of 85,000 children under the age of 5;
- (l) believes that the Government should not grant an export licence if there is a clear risk that the items might be used in the commission of a serious violation of international humanitarian law; and
- (m) therefore resolves that this Council will write to the Secretary of State for International Trade requesting an immediate suspension of arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.8 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHOPPERS AT FARGATE CHRISTMAS MARKET”**

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jim Steinke, seconded by Councillor Mohammad Maroof

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

- (e) notes that the additional security measures have not been implemented in response to any increase in the threat level and are

instead purely precautionary, and that thanks should be given to all those who make the city centre safe throughout the year, including, but not limited to, City Centre Ambassadors, South Yorkshire Police and Police Community Support Officers;

- (f) believes that though the bollards serve an important function, the Administration has launched a plan to dramatically improve the look of the grey bricks to help keep the festive theme around the city centre, with the public submitting designs;
- (g) further notes that five designs will be chosen and printed onto covers which will be placed on the blocks, and that these can be used for future years also; and
- (h) believes that Sheffield Christmas markets are going from strength to strength, year-on-year, and that this demonstrates increasing confidence in the city centre as a destination for shopping and leisure.