

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 2ND OCTOBER 2019

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 5 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "FOR A FAIR AND JUST DEMOCRACY"

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Terry Fox, seconded by Councillor Dawn Dale

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:-

- (a) recognises the importance of decision making being as close to people as possible and that every effort should be made to ensure good governance and robust democratic links;
- (b) believes that it is important to continuously review the operation and governance of the Council, and notes that 5% of the electorate have signed the *It's Our City* petition, which, we believe, is a fantastic achievement and the organisers of the petition should be commended for their hard work in securing this;
- (c) believes that this is a positive opportunity to improve how the Council works and gain a wide range of views from different people, groups and partners across the city, but that it is of great importance that as many people as possible engage in this debate, and that we reach as many as possible of the remaining 95% of the people in this city;
- (d) welcomes looking at different governance systems, but believes that, crucially, this should also be about listening to people on how the Council engages and serves the people of Sheffield regardless of which governance system is in place; and
- (e) wants a big city-wide conversation, in all our communities, about how decisions are made that affect and improve people's lives and that we should always look to improve, and know that we can do more, and wants to listen to people's views about how we can best approach this.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Peter Garbutt, seconded by Councillor Alison Teal

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (e) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (e) as a new paragraph (f):-

- (e) notes that no action appears to have been taken by the Administration on the proposed committee system, and that the report requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to be brought to its September meeting, was not produced;
- 2. the addition of new paragraphs (g) to (j) as follows:-
 - (g) resolves that all parties and stakeholders are to be involved in the design of a new modern committee system;
 - (h) believes the First Past The Post electoral system of winner takes it all can no longer provide a stable government; that the adversarial old party system is no longer fit for purpose, and that a multiparty governance arrangement would better reflect the diversity of opinion amongst voters and create a more balanced and collaborative approach;
 - (i) believes that hereditary peers are inconsistent with principles of fairness and equity, and that the House of Lords is anachronistic and in need of complete reform to become an elected assembly; and
 - (j) believes that the climate emergency presents both dangers and opportunities for democracy and therefore directs officers to organise, as a matter of urgency, the Citizens Assembly as promised last February.
- 3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (d) to (g) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (d) and (e) as new paragraphs (h) and (i):-

- (d) notes with concern the rise in abuse, threats and violence coming from political extremists and the use of rhetoric likely to incite violence by senior politicians, and believes that elected politicians should show a lead in debating on the issues, showing at least a basic level of respect to those with differing views;
- (e) believes that notions of class struggle and retribution are, like notions of national exceptionalism and purity, destructive to social cohesion and do not advance the cause of social justice, but can generate anger that undermines sober and constructive political debate and civic institutions;
- (f) regrets the resurgence in political discourse of ideas, previously adverse to all major parties, of Marxism and of economic nationalism, which this Council believes are hostile to individual liberty and, if followed through, would be a grave threat to the economic strength of the UK and would therefore lower our standards of living and the quality of our public services;

- (g) believes that the common good is best served by a political culture that respects evidence, rational debate, and the intrinsic dignity and value of all people;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 6 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE (IHRA) DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM "

- 4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Joe Otten

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (c) and (d) as new paragraphs (d) and (e):-
 - (c) recognises all 11 examples as part of the IHRA definition, in particular recognises that the following are examples of antisemitism:-
 - (i) accusing Jewish people of being more loyal to Israel than their home country;
 - (ii) claiming that Israel's existence as a state is a racist endeavour;
 - (iii) requiring higher standards of behaviour from Israel than other nations; and
 - (iv) comparing contemporary Israeli policies to those of the Nazis;
- 2. the addition of a new paragraph (f) as follows:-
 - (f) notes that Sheffield condemns persecution in any form, especially with its proud history of religious tolerance and recognition as a leading City of Sanctuary.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 7 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "TACKLING SOCIAL ISOLATION : OPPOSING THE ENDING OF FREE TV LICENSES FOR THE OVER 75S"

- 5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Sue Auckland, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion of the words "and the commitment to them shown by Labour" at the end of paragraph (f):-
- 2. the substitution, in paragraph (g), of the words "this Administration", for the word "Labour"; and

3. the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (m) as follows:-
 - (j) requests officers to explore the possible reworking, in conjunction with the Passenger Transport Executive, of the discretionary travel scheme to include some women affected by the changes to pension age, including examining the costs of any scheme and the impact on equalities legislation;
 - (k) notes the recent report by Age UK warning that following the means testing of TV licenses, older people may be targeted by criminal fraudsters sending targeted emails requesting payment of the TV license fee;
 - (l) requests officers to facilitate and encourage pensioners who are eligible to take up pensioner credit, by providing assistance in navigating the application and to run a Council campaign to increase awareness of the benefit and eligibility; and
 - (m) instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to convey this Council's view that better transitional arrangements are needed for women affected by the changes to pensions.
6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Paul Turpin, seconded by Councillor Douglas Johnson

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion, in paragraph (g), of all the words after the words "believes that older people deserve fairer treatment than this"; and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (m) as follows:-
 - (j) is fundamentally opposed to the structure of the TV licence, which operates as a kind of poll tax; the poorest citizens in our society paying the same charge as billionaires;
 - (k) believes in publicly-funded public service broadcasting, but that it should be funded from a ring fenced portion of progressive taxation;
 - (l) regrets that Labour failed to provide funding to prevent the closure of Hurlfield View, which offered vital respite care to families, often elderly people caring for elderly loved ones at home; and
 - (m) asks the Chief Executive to report back within three months on the steps that this Council will take to address the issues raised about TV licences for over-75s, including how the Council will promote wider uptake of pensioner credit.