

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2011

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO 11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BRYAN LODGE

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the substitution of the word “notes” for the words “is pleased to welcome” in paragraph (a);
2. the substitution of the words “failed to fulfil” for the word “fulfilled” in paragraph (a); and
3. the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (h) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (e) as follows:-
  - (b) recalls the Amendment moved by Cllr Bryan Lodge seconded by Councillor Julie Dore at the Full Council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2011, which includes the extract:

*(17) confirms that if the main opposition group is given a political mandate to form an administration in May, they would propose the following amendments to the Council’s budget for the Municipal Year 2011/12, redirecting £2,407k spend to key priorities:*

**Additional Spend of £2,407k**

- (i) prioritise safety in Sheffield’s neighbourhoods by restoring cuts to 10 FTE Police Community Safety Officer posts, at a cost of £300k;*
- (ii) ensure that a two-tier system is not created in adult care by restoring cuts to self-directed support, which involve changing the formula for calculating personal budgets, at a cost of £400k;*
- (iii) protect vital activities at the heart of Sheffield’s communities provided by Sheffield’s much valued Voluntary, Community Faith (VCF) sector, by restoring 7.5% of the cut to the grant aid budget, at a cost of £260k;*

- (iv) *prioritise education for Sheffield's young people by restoring cuts to study support services for children, at a cost of £131k;*
- (v) *ensure that young people across the City can continue to be involved in sporting activities by restoring cuts to Activity Sheffield which will ensure that Verdon Street Recreation Centre, Highfield Adventure Playground and Pitsmoor Adventure Playground stay open, and three Development Officer posts are saved, at a cost of £180k;*
- (vi) *ensure that vital projects and activities for children and families in Sheffield can continue, by restoring part of the cut to the childcare component of Children's Centres, Sure Start and Community Nurseries subsidies, at a cost of £247k, meaning that the overall reduction will be 10% instead of 22%;*
- (vii) *ensure that as many young people in Sheffield as possible are given the opportunity to enter the world of paid employment and do not become part of a culture of worklessness, by investing £500k to create a Youth Employment Fund to offer apprenticeships for 16-19 year olds;*
- (viii) *support employment in Sheffield, by restoring the Council's contribution to the Alliance for Regional Aid, at a cost of £4k;*
- (ix) *ensure that the lowest paid do not bear the brunt of the Government's cuts, by restoring cuts to the trainee and apprenticeship posts that have been cut in the Administration's budget, at a cost of £67k;*
- (x) *ensure that the important library service for the patients of Weston Park Hospital continues, by restoring cuts at a cost of £6k;*
- (xi) *recognise the importance of Sheffield's museums and galleries and the role they play in bringing business and leisure tourism to the City, by restoring cuts to Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust to ensure that Graves Art Gallery stays open, at a cost of £180k;*
- (xii) *ensure that standards of public health are protected, by restoring the subsidy of bulky waste services, at a cost of £22k and reintroducing a free rat treatment service for all households, at a cost of £110k;*

**Savings of £2,407k:**

- (i) *fund £425k of projects and activities for children and young people, from the Dedicated Support Grant, subject to confirmation with the schools forum;*

- (ii) *reduce spend on Small Grants by £170k in order to redirect this money to support the shortfall in funding for the grant aid budget;*
  - (iii) *absorb £133k costs for Activity Sheffield within the Positive Activities for Young People budget;*
  - (iv) *reduce spend on Household Waste Recycling Centres by £204k;*
  - (v) *use £115k one-off funding identified within transport services;*
  - (vi) *use £1360k Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) funding;*
- (c) therefore concludes that the present Administration have broken their promise to implement the above changes to the Council's budget, instead watering down commitments and in some cases dropping plans altogether, noting that these examples include:
- (1) making £2m of changes rather than the £2,4m promised;
  - (2) only allocating the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector £135K, rather than the £260K promised;
  - (3) only replacing £80K instead of the £180K promised to Museums Sheffield, with only 4 hours restored at Graves Art Gallery compared to the 30 promised;
  - (4) failing to restore £400K to self-directed support budgets, as the funding has been simply moved from within purchasing budgets for care packages;
  - (5) failing to restore 15% of the cuts to the childcare services at Children's Centres, Sure Start and Community Nurseries; and
  - (6) backtracking on plans to save money by cutting the Dedicated Schools Grant, LABGI fund and some elements of the small grants fund;
- (d) is concerned that much of the changes have been financed by dipping into the £13.4m budget surplus left by the previous Administration and unclear cuts simply described as 'within existing budgets'; and
- (e) is furthermore concerned that although the present Administration claim that these decisions have been made, there is no record of how the decisions have been made and by whom, no process for scrutiny and no completed equality impact assessment.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of three new paragraphs as follows:-

- ( ) notes that members of the current Administration publicly criticised cuts to Sure Start and supported the Defend Sure Start Campaign, helping to collect signatures for the 5000 strong petition and voting to “applaud and support the campaign”;
- ( ) acknowledges that the recent budget adjustments have only reduced the cut to childcare, not to Sure Start Childrens' Centres' core purpose provision in the City and that Sure Start has lost out in comparison to other Early Years Services; and
- ( ) will therefore now do everything possible, for instance via the Review of Early Years Services and any future budget adjustments, to support the work of Sure Start Childrens' Centres to enable them to continue to provide universal, open access, non-threatening, non-stigmatising services for parents most in need.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO 12 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR IAN AUCKLAND**

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Garry Weatherall

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of the following words at the end of paragraph (d):

“providing that a sustainable plan can be developed regarding increasing the number of local parks and green spaces with ‘Green Flag’ status, and maintaining the existing ‘Green Flags’”

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO 13 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPHAM**

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Bob McCann

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion of the words “and previous” after the word “new” in paragraph (a);

2. the insertion of the words “and a change of direction implemented by the previous Administration” after the word “Government” in paragraph (c); and
3. the deletion of paragraphs (d) to (m) and the addition of new paragraphs (d) to (j) as follows:-
  - (d) notes the following comments from the Labour Shadow Chancellor, Ed Balls MP on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2011 “well, look, we would have made cuts to policing”;
  - (e) understands that, thanks to the huge national debt racked up by the previous Government, public spending reductions are required, although believes that they can be made whilst maintaining the current level of front line policing;
  - (f) urges the present Administration to concentrate on keeping Sheffield safe rather than indulge in petty party political point scoring, opposing cuts that they themselves had promised to implement if they won the General Election;
  - (g) recalls the change in direction towards preventative work and restorative justice brought about by the previous Administration, opposed by the present Administration, which included the launch of Community Justice Panels that have reduced re-offending rates to as low as 4%;
  - (h) welcomes the article in The Sheffield Star newspaper on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011, which reports that the previous Administration’s approach to youth justice has seen the number of teenagers entering the criminal justice system reduce by two thirds;
  - (i) welcomes that the new Sheffield approach is seen as an effective leading example and other local authorities around the country are putting our strategy into practice; and
  - (j) notes that this is in stark contrast to the 100% ASBO breaches and proliferation of exclusion zones we had seen under a Labour administration and hopes that we will not see a return to this ineffective approach to community safety.

**ITEM OF BUSINESS NO 15 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE**

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Gail Smith, seconded by Councillor Alison Brelsford

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

- (b) notes that there is a proposal to begin increasing the women's state pension age from 2018, but that this will not reach 66 until April 2020;
- (c) acknowledges that it would cost the taxpayer an extra £10 billion if the Government delayed action until 2020; and
- (d) regrets that the Labour Party has not identified where they propose to take this additional £10 billion from and remembers it was this kind of financial mismanagement by the previous Government that resulted in a record national budget deficit.

#### **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO 17 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY**

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Jenny Armstrong

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. The deletion of paragraph (c);
- 2. The addition of new paragraphs (c) to (o) as follows:-
  - (c) confirms that the present Administration is proud to have supported the Defend Sure Start campaign;
  - (d) believes that early years is incredibly important because it is about giving all our children in Sheffield the very best start;
  - (e) feels strongly that what a child experiences at this early age will determine so much about their success in life, and believes that this must be something we get right;
  - (f) notes the fantastic work that takes place by all early years providers across the City, to help and support children and families, and thanks all those who make this possible;
  - (g) believes that Sure Start Children's Centres have been critical in providing early years child care provision, and supports the analysis of Ofsted Reports by 4Children indicating that they are effective at reaching vulnerable families;
  - (h) regrets the Government's decision to reduce funding for Sure Start;

- (i) furthermore regrets that the Government chose to mislead the public by claiming that Sure Start funding is increasing and notes evidence from the Daycare Trust confirming that this is not the case;
- (j) regrets that, following the Government's cuts, the Council has had to cut funding to SureStart Children's Centres in the 2011/12 budget;
- (k) confirms that, ahead of the elections in May 2011, the present Administration promised that if they were elected to power they would do two things in relation to early years:-
  - (i) ensure that vital projects and activities for children and families in Sheffield can continue, by restoring part of the cut to the childcare component of Children's Centres, Sure Start and Community Nurseries subsidies, at a cost of £247k, meaning that the overall reduction will be 10%; and
  - (ii) immediately carry out a full review of all early years services, including Multi Agency Support Teams (MAST) to ensure that:-
    - (A) the funding that the Council has available to spend within the early years service provides value for money;
    - (B) SureStart Children's Centres are given the support that they need to help Sheffield's children and families;
    - (C) maintained and community childcare providers across the City are supported; and
    - (D) the Multi Agency Support Teams (MAST) are working well with partners to improve outcomes for children;
- (l) is pleased to welcome that the £247k has now been restored as promised;
- (m) is also pleased to welcome that the new Administration launched the Early Years Review on 15th June, 2011;
- (n) is extremely disappointed that the smallest opposition group has decided to launch an attack on the Administration for 'not reversing cuts to Sure Start', given that the Administration has fulfilled all the promises that they made ahead of the election, given that the Council budget for 2011/12 required the Council

to save £80 million and to address a revenue gap of up to £219 million over four years, and given that the Early Years Review is ongoing; and

- (o) considers that instead of attacking the Administration, the smallest opposition group would be better placed to direct their criticisms regarding Sure Start funding to the present Government, whose ideologically driven cuts to the public sector are putting the vital work taking place in all Children's Centres across the City at risk;

- 3. The re-lettering of original paragraph (d) as new paragraph (p).

### **ITEM OF BUSINESS NO 18 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BEN CURRAN**

- 7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alison Brelsford, seconded by Councillor Roger Davison

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion of paragraphs (d) and (e) and the addition of new paragraphs (d) to (h) as follows:-
  - (d) recognises that despite 13 years in power, Labour politicians failed to tackle the root causes of homelessness, with 1.75 million people on social housing waiting lists and an estimated additional 380,000 'hidden homeless' people in the UK;
  - (e) notes with concern, that under the previous Government, the building of social housing declined to the lowest figure since the Second World War, with seven times more prison cells being built than council homes;
  - (f) welcomes moves by the Coalition Government to increase the building of social housing, and action taken by the last Council administration to build the first new council homes in Sheffield for two decades;
  - (g) acknowledges specific moves by the Coalition Government to tackle homelessness, such as a cross-departmental Homelessness Working Group and proposals in the Localism Bill, which will mean that rather than having the uncertainty of long waits in temporary accommodation, homeless families can be instead helped to find a suitable home in the private rented sector; and



- (h) supports broader Government initiatives, which have been welcomed by homeless charities, such as the Health Inclusion Board, which will tackle chronic health problems among vulnerable people, such as the homeless, and the new mental health strategy, *No Health without Mental Health*, which focuses on the needs of homeless people;
2. the re-lettering of original paragraphs (f) to (i) as new paragraphs (i) to (l).