

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 3RD APRIL, 2013

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.7 – SHEFFIELD LOCAL PLAN

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Sue Alston

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land at Canterbury Crescent for up to fifteen houses, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Katie Condliffe

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land at Worrall for up to fifty-five houses and green field land in Stannington for twenty houses, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Denise Reaney

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land in Norton for up to fifty houses and designation as Housing Area of land at Norton Oakes, Norton, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alison Brelsford, seconded by Councillor Trevor Bagshaw

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th

February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land in Oughtibridge for up to forty houses and green field land in Stocksbridge for fifty houses, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.8 – SHEFFIELD CITY REGION AUTHORITY

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th March, 2013 in relation to the establishment of a Sheffield City Region Authority, be approved subject to the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (d) and the addition of a new paragraph (b) as follows:-

- (b) directs the Director of Legal & Governance to undertake further work to ensure the new bodies maintain political proportionality.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.10 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPAM

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

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

- (b) reiterates the opposition of the Main Opposition Group on this Council to the bedroom tax;
- (c) welcomes concessions that have already been made to the bedroom tax, notably the exemption made for members of the armed forces and foster families;
- (d) supports also the Government’s decision to treble the Discretionary Housing Payment budget and provide councils with discretionary funding to help families in difficult circumstances;
- (e) believes these concessions come as a result of Liberal Democrat influence in Government and thanks Liberal Democrat Ministers for working to improve the policy;
- (f) furthermore, highlights that disabled tenants who require an

additional bedroom for a non-resident carer who provides overnight care were already protected from the change;

- (g) encourages the Government to go further by agreeing additional exemptions and increasing the Discretionary Payments funding;
- (h) believes the root cause of this problem is the previous Government's failure to address the nation's housing crisis, with the building of social housing declining to the lowest figure since the Second World War under the previous Government;
- (i) notes with concern that under the previous Government seven times more prison cells were built than council homes;
- (j) further notes with dismay that under the previous Government's Housing Market Renewal Scheme, 4,590 houses in South Yorkshire were demolished, while just 2,415 were built, at a cost of £265 million;
- (k) furthermore, understands that the present Administration have so far spent just 11% of the New Homes Bonus, a fund specifically targeted at encouraging more home building; and
- (l) recommends that Sheffield follows the example of Bristol City Council by setting up a cross-party working group, to agree ways to support local residents affected by the bedroom tax.

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

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (p) to (t) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (p) as a new paragraph (u):-

- (p) congratulates those who organised and attended simultaneous demonstrations across the country on Saturday 16th March and Saturday 30th March 2013;
- (q) notes that councillors are receiving a steady flow of casework around the legislation;
- (r) will therefore gather detailed case studies of those affected and submit these as evidence to Government on the effects of the under-occupancy measures and the case for more Government support for Discretionary Housing Payments;
- (s) requests the Administration to do everything it can to inform and help residents affected by the bedroom tax and avoid eviction, for example through:

- (i) encouraging tenants to claim the benefits they are entitled to, for example Disability Living Allowance; and
 - (ii) giving maximum practical support and choice to those tenants who do wish to move;
- (t) also requests the Administration to look into:
- (i) whether it would be possible to reclassify bedrooms so as to avoid the tax; and
 - (ii) whether it would be feasible to ask Housing Associations and the Council Housing Service not to take eviction proceedings where arrears are solely due to unaffordability caused by the bedroom tax;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JACK SCOTT

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words “That this Council” and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) supports the steps taken by the Rt. Hon. Ed Davey, M.P., the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, to promote collective switching across the UK;
- (b) is pleased to see the Council has accepted the Government’s challenge and encourages all residents to sign up to Big Sheffield Switch;
- (c) welcomes the ground-breaking Green Deal, first proposed by Liberal Democrats, which the Council’s Cabinet Member for Environment described as “fantastic news for Sheffield”;
- (d) supports further actions the Coalition Government is taking to tackle fuel poverty, including:
 - (i) reversing the previous Government’s planned cut to Cold Weather Payments, which are targeted at the most vulnerable;
 - (ii) reducing fuel bills for 2 million families by up to £130 through the Warm Home Discount; and
 - (iii) rolling out a ‘smart meter’ programme, which helps people

save money and ensures energy companies meet demand more efficiently;

- (e) notes research by the Department of Energy & Climate Change, which demonstrates that the Coalition Government's climate change policies will save consumers roughly £166 in energy bills by 2020;
- (f) highlights the importance of Liberal Democrats in Government forcing Conservative Ministers to take warnings of climate change seriously, something that has been sadly ignored by previous Governments;
- (g) recalls the previous Administration's Decentralised Energy City Strategy, which set out a bold vision to make energy self-sufficient and allow the City to "adapt to future changes to our climate";
- (h) furthermore, commends the previous Administration's Free Insulation Scheme, through which over 28,000 homes in Sheffield are already benefiting from warmer homes and cheaper energy bills; and
- (i) requests that the Administration publishes a Cabinet Report on current progress against the Council's Decentralised Energy City Strategy.

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

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (p) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (p) as a new paragraph (q):-

- "(p) understands the need for Sheffield to contribute to energy generation and requests the current Administration to reopen the feasibility study into a windfarm at Westwood Country Park which was halted by the previous Administration."

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 12 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SHAFFAQ MOHAMMED

10. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) notes that the imposition of damaging cuts by the Coalition Government means that the budget position today is completely different from 2009/10, and therefore regrets that it is no longer sustainable to maintain parking zone permit prices at levels below those first set when parking permit zones were introduced;
- (b) notes that the previous Administration doubled on-street parking charges in permit parking zones in their 2010 budget;
- (c) further notes that the main opposition group also recently put forward a scheme that would have seen parking for small businesses given to residents during Streets Ahead works, with potentially devastating consequences for trade in local district centres, and recalls the total opposition to the plan by the Federation for Small Businesses;
- (d) recalls that the main opposition group opposed increases in resident permit charges last year, however notes they cynically abandoned this pledge in their budget proposal;
- (e) believes this demonstrates the total hypocrisy and short term view that the Liberal Democrats have demonstrated, not just locally but nationally, on issues such as tuition fees and the VAT tax bombshell; and
- (f) therefore believes it is clear the Liberal Democrats are more interested in their own party's short term interests than the long term welfare of Sheffield and cannot be trusted to take long term, responsible decisions.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.13 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI BOND

11. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Alison Brelsford

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

- (c) supports measures the Coalition Government has taken to tackle domestic violence, including enforcing serious case review for deaths related to domestic violence, and use of the international aid budget to address domestic violence abroad; and
- (d) regrets the need of the mover of the motion to cloud the very important issue of domestic violence with party-political point-scoring.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.15 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DIANA STIMELY

12. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs

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

- (b) notes that money to support Local District Centres, funded by the previous Government, has been cut by the present Coalition Government;
- (c) recalls that the Liberal Democrat Group have already back tracked on reversing increases in parking permit prices, in addition to their decision to double on street parking charges in permit parking zones in their 2010 budget;
- (d) is currently consulting on a pay back scheme trial in Broomhill, to support local district centres whilst protecting Council budgets;
- (e) notes that the main opposition group's budget proposal for free parking uses one-off funds allocated by the current Administration for schemes to grow the economy over the medium term, and fails to deliver sustainable support to district centres;
- (f) believes that the best way to help traders during the longest recession on record is to grow the economy – benefiting companies, jobs and trade;
- (g) believes that the local Liberal Democrats have failed to come up with one single initiative over the past two years, as the Government cuts have had to be implemented, that seeks to drive long term sustainable growth while recognising the increasingly difficult budget position the Council faces;
- (h) further notes that the main opposition group's proposed budget would have moved money away from key schemes to grow the economy over the medium to long term;
- (i) therefore believes that this is yet another example of short term promises made for their own political gain; and
- (j) re-affirms this Administration's commitment to make decisions for the long term well being of the City and the economy – despite the Government's focus on cutting local government budgets.

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

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

- (b) notes that the Government has allocated Sheffield £100,000 through the High Street Innovation Fund, alongside £10,000 for Banner Cross traders;
- (c) further notes that £64,000 of this money has already been allocated to fund just four apprentice positions, indicating that, whilst worthwhile, this funding is a drop in the ocean compared to the challenges faced by local high streets;
- (d) notes that, whilst the investment in Banner Cross is very welcome, current construction of a Sainsbury's store within this local centre threatens the viability of one of the most diverse and thriving District Centres in the City, and that the impact of the proposed Sainsbury's store in Crookesmoor would have a similar impact on that Centre;
- (e) regrets that the Core Strategy (policy CS34) and provisional City Policies and Sites document (policy C4.16) encourages the opening of superstores in District Centres, regardless of need and the importance of diversity in local shops, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraph 23);
- (f) notes that the impact assessment for a supermarket similar to that currently planned at Banner Cross, adjacent to the District Centre, predicted takings for local shops would fall by around 15% but that no impact assessment for the scheme within the District Centre was required;
- (g) instructs officers to explore options for the provision of impact assessments for all supermarket developments (or development over an agreed floorspace threshold), whether within or outwith District Centres;
- (h) notes the New Economics Foundation "Reimagine Your High Street" initiative, which seeks to create low carbon, socially vibrant local economies by combating the growth of national chain stores, and asks that officers and Members work with Community Forums and other neighbourhood groups to support this initiative;
- (i) welcomes the new supermarkets watchdog that will regulate how supermarkets purchase their food but believes this will be

inadequate, on its own, to keep supermarket growth in check and tackle the perceived abuse of planning procedure, land-banking and product pricing that powerful supermarkets engage in; and

- (j) therefore, asks the Chief Executive to write to Government and request that Councils are indemnified against the legal costs of 'vexatious' supermarket planning disputes.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.16 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

14. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones

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

- (c) notes that this underspend is not an unprecedented phenomenon;
- (d) believes a proportion of this underspend should be allocated to "shovel-ready" capital projects in culture, leisure and park facilities;
- (e) highlights that these projects will not only improve services but boost the local economy; and
- (f) furthermore, recommends that a number of future allocations in the capital programme should be reviewed, including the £2.2 million earmarked for City Centre Civic Accommodation.

15. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Bryan Lodge

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) regrets, along with eminent Early Years specialists, including Dame Tickell, the decision made by this Coalition Government to cut £7.4m from the Early Intervention Grant;
- (b) further regrets that the Government has taken away funding from early intervention and prevention, 'wraparound' services to children and families and redistributed it to the Deputy Prime Minister's pet project of 'free learning for two year olds';

- (c) reminds the smallest opposition party that capital programme funding cannot be used to fund revenue spending;
- (d) notes that capital schemes in the Children, Young People and Families portfolio are mostly two or three years projects running over academic years and any profile spend is not an actual 'underspend' but just accounts for the difference in the academic and financial years;
- (e) also reminds the smallest opposition group that any attempt to take money away means that schools across the City would not get their 'promised' improvements, including to boilers, windows and toilets; and
- (f) is committed to working with providers to enable them to develop sustainable business plans for their organisations and help them to access all other relevant funding.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 18 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SUE ALSTON

16. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Denise Fox

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) recognises the importance of Outdoor Education and its part in raising attainment and expectations and enabling enriching experiences of many children and young people across the City;
- (b) notes with concern that this Government is making unprecedented and unfair cuts to Sheffield City Council and that the Council has had to make savings of £140 million over the past two years with a further £50 million for 2013/14 and also the additional £7.4m cut to the Early Intervention Grant which specifically funded revenue work with children and young people;
- (c) regrets that Mayfield Environmental Education Centre is not being used by school groups in the City;
- (d) notes that despite providing funding last year to keep the Centre open and supporting a campaign to find a sustainable future for the Centre, a viable solution has not been found;
- (e) welcomes the Administration's capital investment in the Thornbridge Outdoor Education Centre, especially enabling the

Centre to adapt to provide more activities for disabled children and their families; and

- (f) is pleased to support Thornbridge Outdoors so it continues to provide access to the exciting outdoor opportunities for all children and young people in Sheffield.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.19 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SIMON CLEMENT-JONES

17. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Bryan Lodge, seconded by Councillor Ian Saunders

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words “That this Council” and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) regrets that the Government is giving with one hand but taking away much, much more with the other;
- (b) notes that April’s increase in the personal allowance doesn’t make up for what families have already lost in terms of tax and benefit changes;
- (c) further notes that when the impact of higher VAT and cuts to things like tax credits are taken into account, research has demonstrated that a family with one earner and two children on £20,000 will be £381 a year worse off in 2013-14 and £600 a year worse off in 2014-15;
- (d) believes that the real priority of this Government is to support the 13,000 millionaires who are set to get an average tax cut of £100,000 in just a few weeks’ time;
- (e) opposes the Government’s decision to cut the top rate of income tax;
- (f) regrets that the Liberal Democrats have abandoned so many of their manifesto promises and have forfeited their principles for power; and
- (g) believes that the Liberal Democrats have been duplicitous and requests that they hold their coalition partners to account rather than supporting their unfair and damaging policies in government.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.20 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

18. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Mazher Iqbal

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) notes that the 'bedroom tax' is due to take effect from April this year;
- (b) condemns this policy which will affect anyone of working age (below 61 ½) on housing benefit deemed to be 'under-occupying' a social housing home, which equates to around 7500 homes across Sheffield;
- (c) deplores the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam for allowing the Government to implement this deeply unfair policy;
- (d) notes that the following are not exempt from the bedroom tax:
 - (i) those couples who need an extra bedroom because of one of them having a medical condition or disability;
 - (ii) non-resident parents who have their children to stay at weekends in the holidays;
 - (iii) families who offer regular respite support to other family members; and
 - (iv) people living in homes which have been substantially adapted at tax-payers' expense;
- (e) is committed to supporting all residents both children and adults, including those with disabilities and medical needs;
- (f) regrets that the Discretionary Payments Fund that the Government has made available is completely inadequate and is estimated to cover only a fraction of people affected by the bedroom tax and notes that this Fund is also expected to cover other welfare changes;
- (g) notes that the Government's own Equality Impact Assessment estimates that two-thirds of households affected will have a member with a disability;
- (h) further notes that many independent analysts are predicting that households will move into the private rented sector, costing

more, and that care needs for many disabled people will increase, again costing more;

- (i) further notes that there is not an excess supply of small properties available for households to move into in Sheffield;
- (j) further notes the bedroom tax will unfairly hit many people, including families with disabled children or adults, families who share the care of their children and families who offer respite care to other family members;
- (k) further notes that this policy may well end up costing the public purse more;
- (l) believes that disabled people – both adults and children – deserve respect and not to be penalised for their medical needs;
- (m) values the role of non-resident parents and believes they should be encouraged to play as full a part in the lives of their children as possible;
- (n) further values and appreciates the role of families who offer respite care – and not only because it saves the taxpayer billions of pounds;
- (o) notes that Housing Associations will have difficulty in keeping arrears down, damaging services for all tenants; and
- (p) therefore resolves to:
 - (i) ask the Leader to write to the Secretary of State outlining the Council's concerns and urgently requesting that the bedroom tax is scrapped; and
 - (ii) ask the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods to write to Sheffield MPs outlining the concerns and asking that they lobby for their affected constituents and push for the bedroom tax to be scrapped.

19. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) notes that the 'bedroom tax' is due to take effect from April this year;
- (b) reiterates the opposition of the Main Opposition Group on this

Council to the bedroom tax;

- (c) welcomes concessions that have already been made to the bedroom tax, notably the exemption made for members of the armed forces and foster families;
- (d) supports also the Government's decision to treble the Discretionary Housing Payment budget and provide councils with discretionary funding to help families in difficult circumstances;
- (e) believes these concessions come as a result of Liberal Democrat influence in Government and thanks Liberal Democrat Ministers for working to improve the policy;
- (f) furthermore, highlights that disabled tenants who require an additional bedroom for a non-resident carer who provides overnight care were already protected from the change;
- (g) encourages the Government to go further by agreeing additional exemptions and increasing the Discretionary Payments funding;
- (h) believes the root cause of this problem is the previous Government's failure to address the nation's housing crisis, with the building of social housing declining to the lowest figure since the Second World War under the previous Government;
- (i) notes with concern that under the previous Government seven times more prison cells were built than council homes;
- (j) further notes with dismay that under the previous Government's Housing Market Renewal Scheme, 4,590 houses in South Yorkshire were demolished, while just 2,415 were built, at a cost of £265 million;
- (k) furthermore, understands that the present Administration have so far spent just 11% of the New Homes Bonus, a fund specifically targeted at encouraging more home building; and
- (l) recommends that Sheffield follows the example of Bristol City Council by setting up a cross-party working group, to agree ways to support local residents affected by the bedroom tax.