

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 2ND APRIL 2014

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.8 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR LEIGH BRAMALL

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the re-lettering of paragraphs (b) to (f) as new paragraphs (d) to (h) and paragraph (g) as a new paragraph (j); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (b), (c) and (i) as follows:-
 - (b) believes this is a direct consequence of the Gambling Act 2005, introduced by the last Government, which removed the need for operators to prove unmet demand;
 - (c) notes the comments of the Labour MP, Tom Watson, who stated the Labour Party 'dropped the ball' over the 2005 Gambling Act;
 - (i) therefore welcomes the motion passed by the Liberal Democrat Conference in September 2013 on High Street Gambling, which called for a separate planning use class for betting shops;
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 new paragraphs (h) and (i) as follows:-

- (h) notes the proposal for a separate use class for betting shops made by Hackney Council under the Sustainable Communities Act, which has been supported by 62 other councils, the Greater London Authority and the Local Government Association and which is currently being considered by Government;
- (i) therefore also calls on the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, The Rt. Hon. Eric Pickles MP, to agree to this proposal and directs that a copy of this motion be forwarded to him and to Local Works who are orchestrating this

aspect of the campaign to control betting shops.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.9 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Diana Stimely

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (a) and (e) to (k);
2. the re-lettering of paragraphs (b) to (d) as new paragraphs (c) to (e); and
3. the addition of new paragraphs (a) and (b) and (f) to (j) as follows:-
 - (a) praises the action of the previous Administration, which took Sheffield – in the words of local businesses – from “the worst place to do business in South Yorkshire to the best”;
 - (b) underlines the importance of the Council continuing to work by the business-friendly principles introduced by the previous Administration;
 - (f) however, regrets that the actions of the current Administration do not live up to their rhetoric and notes the following as examples of the anti-business sentiments held by members of the ruling group:
 - (i) rejecting a proposal by NEXT to locate a new department store in Sheffield;
 - (ii) providing a lukewarm reception to the proposal for an IKEA superstore;
 - (iii) failing to hold the full MADE entrepreneur festival in 2013;
 - (iv) introducing city-centre parking charges on evening and Sundays, which was opposed by many city-centre retailers;
 - (v) ignoring appeals from traders in Millhouses for additional parking over the Christmas period; and
 - (vi) a bizarre attempt to ban ice cream vans more than 5 years old;

- (g) believes these examples have helped contribute to the following comments made by businesses that Sheffield City Council is:
 - (i) “closing its doors” to business;
 - (ii) “out of touch with the business reality of the 21st Century”; and
 - (iii) “killing us”;
- (h) in contrast endorses the action that Liberal Democrats in Government have helped to secure to support Sheffield businesses, including:
 - (i) providing business rate discounts and enhanced capital allowances in Enterprise Zones;
 - (ii) cutting National Insurance contributions to give businesses an ‘employment allowance’ of £2,000;
 - (iii) supporting businesses to take on apprenticeships through the Apprenticeship Grants scheme;
 - (iv) capping business rates at Consumer Price Index (CPI) in 2014 and providing new rebates and discounts;
 - (v) reducing business energy costs by freezing the Carbon Price Support rate and giving special help to companies who are ‘energy intensive’;
 - (vi) doubling the amount of money that companies can set off against tax for investing in new equipment; and
 - (vii) reducing corporation tax to 20%;
- (i) furthermore, thanks the Government for enabling £30 million of investment to allow the New Retail Quarter to proceed but regrets that so little progress has been made in the past year by the current Administration;
- (j) implores the Administration to drop their anti-business attitude and work towards a genuinely business-friendly Council.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.10 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR COLIN ROSS

- 4. 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 (i) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (j) as follows:-

(b) therefore welcomes the record of the present Administration in ensuring that Sheffield has the best record of apprenticeships of all the Core Cities and notes recent figures for the Core Cities are as follows:

•	Sheffield	7.8%
•	Liverpool	5.6%
•	Nottingham	5.2%
•	Leeds	5.0%
•	Bristol	4.9%
•	Newcastle	3.5%
•	Manchester	2.5%
•	Birmingham	2.4%

(c) believes that the commitment to apprenticeships made by the present Administration has played a significant role in helping to achieve this success with policies such as:

(i) a One Hundred Apprenticeship Programme for young people furthest from the jobs market which has now operated successfully for three years;

(ii) a locally developed Skills Made Easy apprenticeship programme, which this Council played a key role in designing, that seeks to create 4000 additional apprenticeships across the Sheffield City Region and uniquely puts the purchasing power for skills in the hands of business, thereby meeting the needs of the local economy, young people and the business community far better than national programmes;

(iii) the RISE graduate internship programme, which encourages small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to take on graduates; and

(iv) piloting a recent hugely successful Employment and Skills event that has matched young people with real jobs and advice on apprenticeships and other training offers;

(d) recalls that when the present Administration first introduced the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme, the former Leader of the Council publically criticised the scheme in a local business magazine;

(e) remembers the previous Administration's appalling record at tackling youth unemployment and particularly the broken

promise made by the previous Leader of the Council who publically pledged to commit £1 million of Council funding to the previous Government's Future Jobs Fund, only to scrap this commitment;

- (f) reiterates its opposition to the Liberal Democrat complicity in abolishing the previous Government's Future Jobs Fund;
- (g) notes with interest the article on the respected Channel 4 Fact Check Website entitled "Factcheck: Lib Dem spin out of control on apprenticeships";
- (h) notes that the Factcheck article states "There is no suggestion in the paper that a Labour government should scrap the funding for people who want to do the equivalent of an intermediate qualification. This would simply be an exercise in rebranding.

It also specifically says a Labour government should not do what is set out in that Lib Dem bar chart and just axe the intermediate apprenticeship overnight.

The report states: 'These measures would inevitably lead to a dramatic fall in apprenticeship numbers if introduced suddenly. Employers and providers should therefore be given time to improve the quality of their apprenticeships over an agreed period.'";

- (i) is appalled at Liberal Democrat attempts to scaremonger and notes that the Factcheck article states "Another piece of mischief here is the use of the word "deadweight" in the press release, as though Labour are saying the people doing those apprenticeships are a weight dragging on society. In policy circles, deadweight or "additionality" is simply a technical term for 'what would have happened anyway if we had done nothing'."; and
- (j) believes that the motion is attempting to mislead the Council, for which the mover of the motion should apologise, and furthermore, that the main opposition group are equally as untrustworthy as the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party and considers that this is just a latest example of what the Deputy Prime Minister meant when he said "read the small print" when trying to explain Liberal Democrat literature.

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the re-lettering of paragraphs (h) and (i) as new paragraphs (i) and (j) and the addition of

a new paragraph (h) as follows:-

- (h) furthermore, notes that 90% of young people that passed through the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme completed Level 2 qualifications and regrets that a Labour policy review is in effect rubbishing this important local scheme;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BEN CURRAN

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Roger Davison, seconded by Councillor David Baker

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) recalls the record of the last Government who built up a record deficit year-on-year from 2001 onwards and oversaw the biggest collapse in this country’s economy in recent memory;
- (b) notes that the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) now expects the UK economy to grow faster than any other G7 economy in the first six months of this year and believes that Liberal Democrats in Government have been crucial in securing this economic recovery;
- (c) furthermore notes figures from the Office of National Statistics that demonstrate that the number of people claiming jobseekers allowance has fallen for the fifteenth consecutive month;
- (d) asks Members to consider the following facts:
 - (i) Employment – May 2010: 28.93 million; Now: 30.15 million; Result: 1.22 million more people in work;
 - (ii) Unemployment – May 2010: 7.9%; Now: 7.2%; Result: 0.7% reduction in unemployment; and
 - (iii) Inflation – May 2010: 3.4%; Now: 1.7%; Result: Inflation halved;
- (e) contrasts the wild predictions of Labour politicians with the economic reality of the country;
 - (i) STATEMENT – The Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP: [The Government] have a programme which will lead to the disappearance of a million jobs; REALITY – More than one million more people in work than 2010;

- (ii) STATEMENT – The Rt. Hon. Ed Balls MP: [The Government] have turned Britain’s recovery into ... a deep and deepening recession; REALITY – OECD expects the UK economy to grow faster than any other G7 economy in the first six months of this year; and
 - (iii) STATEMENT – Councillor Julie Dore: [Government policies] will contribute to the break-up of civil society if we do not turn back; REALITY – State of Sheffield Report 2013 claims “It is widely argued that the look and feel of the city, and its quality of life and place has never been stronger for many people”;
- (f) recognises that as a result of the massive economic crash this country faced, many families have seen their household budgets stretched and continue to struggle to make ends meet;
- (g) therefore welcomes the action of this Government and believes Liberal Democrats in Government have been vital in securing policies to support local people with the cost of living, including:
- (i) giving 24 million ordinary workers an £800 tax cut;
 - (ii) increasing the state pension by £650 thanks to the ‘triple lock’;
 - (iii) supporting Council Tax freezes, saving the average Sheffield household £185 this year;
 - (iv) delivering an average saving of £50 on household energy bills;
 - (v) freezing fuel duty, saving motorists £170 per year;
 - (vi) introducing 15 hours free childcare for disadvantaged two-year-olds; and
 - (vii) delivering free school meals for all infant pupils from this September;
- (h) contrasts this action with the appalling record of the last Government, who:
- (i) scrapped the 10p tax, leaving half a million of the lowest paid workers worse off; and
 - (ii) increased the state pension by an insulting 75p;
- (i) notes that British workers – excluding the richest 10% – saw

their take-home pay rise in real terms in the past year;

- (j) furthermore welcomes news that inflation has fallen again to 1.7%, the lowest level for four years, and confirms that this could not have been achieved without tough action on the massive deficit that the last Government left behind; and
- (k) notes that the national Labour Party has changed its policy on bankers' bonuses on a staggering eleven occasions since 2011 and believes this confirms their complete ineptitude.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.13 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW SANGAR

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ben Curran, seconded by Councillor Cate McDonald

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 reason that "budgets are reducing" is that the Government are making unprecedented cuts to the Council's budget and by 2015/16 the Council will have had an overall reduction in Government formula funding by 50%;
- (b) confirms that since this Government came to power, the Council has had to make savings of over £230 million with more cuts to come in future years and regrets that at the same time as Sheffield has to make these savings some of the wealthiest areas of the country receive just a fraction of the cuts;
- (c) welcomes that the present Administration have attempted to deal with this unprecedented budget gap as far as possible through finding efficiencies within the Council including:
 - (i) reducing spending on computers and technology by 30%;
 - (ii) reducing the number of offices occupied by the Council, saving £34 million;
 - (iii) reducing staff in corporate services, for example the finance department's budget has already been cut by 45% since 2010/11; and
 - (iv) saving £1 million through a review of senior management in addition to the management savings that are made year upon year;

- (d) resolves to continue to work innovatively to make savings that reduce the impact of cuts on front line services, however, regrets that the level of cuts that the Government have made to the Council's budget means it is not possible to achieve the savings targets through efficiencies alone and believes it is impossible to take the amount of money the Government is cutting from the Council without impacting on front line services;
- (e) recalls that when the previous Administration entered into a shared service with Rotherham Council for the Emergency Planning Service, there was an increase in costs not a reduction and is shocked at the hypocrisy of the main opposition group who criticise the present Administration for not reducing costs through sharing services, when they increased costs through sharing services, not reduced them;
- (f) notes that despite claiming that their budget would save money through sharing services, the main opposition group failed to identify a single service where savings could be made through this practice and fears that like all of the policies of the main opposition group when you "read the small print" you discover the gap between the rhetoric and the reality; and
- (g) resolves to continue to do everything to make savings to reduce the impact of cuts on front line services as the Council continues to deal with the unprecedented and unfair cuts imposed by the Government, however, will take no lessons from the main opposition group who have not put forward a single service that could be shared.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.16 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DAVID BAKER

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Geoff Smith

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 that the Council is facing an unprecedented level of cuts from Central Government, meaning that by 2015/16 the Council will have had an overall reduction in Government formula funding by 50% and recognises that with this level of funding reductions all services across the Council will be seriously affected;
- (b) further recognises that over the past three years, the Council has done everything possible to make budget reductions in

libraries without making substantial changes to the service, however recognises that with the level of cuts now facing the Council, this is no longer possible;

- (c) welcomes that the Council is looking to find new ways of delivering library services given the serious situation facing libraries nationally and notes reports stating that over 400 libraries have closed nationally and 1000 are estimated to close by 2016;
- (d) welcomes the changes to the proposals for associate libraries recently announced which will now ensure that they have all running costs met and will continue to offer internet access and be on the Council's catalogue;
- (e) recognises that this extra support is based on the feedback from what community groups said that they need to operate associate libraries and appreciates that the proposals offer a genuine opportunity to keep all libraries open at a time when libraries across the country are closing due to the unprecedented and unfair cuts that the Government is making to cities such as Sheffield; and
- (f) resolves to continue to do everything possible to work with local community groups to support them to keep all libraries open in the city, in the face of unprecedented Government cuts.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.17 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SUE ALSTON

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Mick Rooney

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) agrees with comments from Liberal Democrat Minister, Norman Baker MP, "The Sheffield Bus Agreement is good news for the city and shows what can be achieved when local councils, bus operators and transport authorities work together for the benefit of passengers. This partnership will transform passengers' experience by making bus travel easier and cheaper";
- (b) confirms that since its launch in October 2012, the Partnership has seen:
 - (i) 3.99 million more fare-paying passengers on Sheffield's buses;

- (ii) over 60% of adult fare paying customers benefitting from cheaper fares;
 - (iii) improvements in customer satisfaction by up to 45%;
 - (iv) 50,000 bus users benefitting from new links and better frequencies;
 - (v) significantly improved reliability month on month to 98.6%;
 - (vi) 80 new buses provided in 2013/14 together with £4.7m of improved infrastructure; and
 - (vii) two UK Bus Awards won;
- (c) confirms that many prices are still below what they were before the Bus Partnership Agreement was introduced and in particular welcomes the new reductions in prices for children and young people;
- (d) confirms that if the bus partnership agreement were to be scrapped, fares could go back up to their higher levels making passengers pay more and the millions of investment secured would be put at risk; and
- (e) believes that the main opposition group should put the interests of passengers before their own narrow political interest and support the Partnership which has been described by a senior Liberal Democrat as “good news for the city”.

10. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Robert Frost, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion of the words “and Stagecoach” after the word “First” in paragraph (a); and
 2. the re-lettering of paragraph (e) as a new paragraph (f) and the addition of a new paragraph (e) as follows:-
- (e) furthermore regrets the collapse of the Optio ticket range, which was introduced with a fanfare just two years ago, and believes it was a half-hearted attempt at cross-ticketing, which failed to simplify the ticketing system;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.18 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR ROBERT FROST

11. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ben Curran, seconded by Councillor Martin Lawton

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) welcomes any moves to give much needed support to people on low incomes, however, regrets that people are worse off under this Government and wages are down £1,600 a year due to the Government’s failure to tackle the cost of living crisis;
- (b) regrets that at the same time as people on low and average incomes are losing out, people earning over £150,000 have been singled out for a tax cut and reiterates its opposition to the ‘millionaires tax cut’;
- (c) is disappointed that the Government has chosen its flagship budget announcement as an increase of the ISA limit to £15,000, at a time when workers on the minimum wage and the living wage won’t even earn £15,000;
- (d) believes this is evidence that the Government is not serious about helping people on low incomes;
- (e) welcomes the policy of the Labour Party to reintroduce the 10p tax rate which will give support to people on low incomes;
- (f) further supports the Labour Party policy of introducing a mansion tax on high value properties and regrets that the Liberal Democrats have failed to deliver this policy in Government;
- (g) regrets that this Government cannot tackle the cost of living crisis because they do not believe there is one and recalls that this is best highlighted through their opposition to Labour’s energy price freeze policy; and
- (h) believes it is unbelievable of the main opposition group to celebrate the record of the Government on living standards when people are worse off and believes that this is just a further example of how out of touch they are.