

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 20TH FEBRUARY, 2023

List of Amendments (to Notices of Motion) received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.7 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “DRIVING FORWARD THE HERITAGE STRATEGY FOR SHEFFIELD”

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Barbara Masters, seconded by Councillor Ian Auckland

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (n) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (j) to (l) as new paragraphs (o) to (q):-
 - (j) believes that strong partnership between local business, the Council and heritage organisations is vital to Sheffield's economic future, and especially welcomes the third aim of the Heritage Strategy to build on the contribution of Sheffield's heritage to the city's economic wellbeing;
 - (k) notes the adoption by the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee of the Sheffield Culture Collective Strategy last September, and the work currently being undertaken to develop a full city Culture Strategy, and welcomes the critical role this will play in securing future Arts funding for Sheffield;
 - (l) believes that there are many cases where the City's industrial and craft heritage have been neglected, such as the loss of industrial heritage and craft trades for housing development in Kelham Island, and the continuing threat to heritage as demonstrated by the recent demolition of the Plough Inn, the continuing neglect of the Old Town Hall and Crown Court, and the repeated delays to the Castlegate site, and actively supports local listing of heritage assets;
 - (m) believes that previous administrations have failed to develop and implement a coherent and economically viable plan for the Graves building, and requests that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee considers adding this issue to its work programme;
 - (n) notes that the Council has left many buildings it owns which are of heritage value to fall into a poor state of repair, such as Birley Spa Bath House and the Rose Garden Café, and believes that

the Council must invest more in proactive maintenance in order to protect heritage buildings in its possession;

2. the addition of a new paragraph (r) as follows:-

- (r) believes that the recently listed John Lewis building is another critically important Heritage asset, believes that it is incredibly important to ensure that the right decision is taken on its future and to avoid poor project outcomes such as those seen in the Fargate Container project, and requests that the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee considers whether public consultation on any proposal would be beneficial to achieve this.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Brian Holmshaw, seconded by Councillor Angela Argenzio

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (b), (g) and (l), and the re-lettering of paragraphs (c), (d), (e), (f), (h), (i), (j) and (k) as new paragraphs (b) to (i); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (r) as follows:-
 - (j) notes the positive tone of this motion, congratulates the volunteers at Joined Up Heritage Sheffield on their long standing efforts to place heritage at the centre of our cultural landscape and applauds the long-overdue emphasis finally being placed on the power of heritage to do good in the city;
 - (k) welcomes the significant shift in attitude towards heritage since the Cabinet Member described heritage disparagingly as a “barrier to development” in 2019;
 - (l) believes that Sheffield City Council needs to:-
 - (i) abandon its risk-averse approach to heritage in the city and embrace the environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits of heritage in all its forms; and
 - (ii) nurture better working relationships with the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England and other large-scale national and regional funding bodies, as an essential part of being able to fund the type of heritage projects the city has missed out on over the years;
 - (m) requests that the Governance Committee look at the place of heritage within the committee system within their Governance Review;

- (n) requests that whichever committee is responsible for heritage considers establishing a cross-party task and finish working group to work with Sheffield Heritage Partnership Board, and make recommendations to the relevant Policy Committees or to this Council on the implementation of the grassroots Joined Up Heritage Sheffield Heritage Strategy;
- (o) recommends that if a task and finish working group is established, that its programme of work includes looking at the possibilities for:-
 - (i) providing financial and organisational support for the work of the Sheffield Heritage Open Days volunteers who, with over 130 free walks, talks, tours and exhibitions across the Sheffield region between 9 – 18 September 2022, have made the festival one of the biggest and best in the country; and
 - (ii) employing additional SCC conservation staff, community heritage officers and planning enforcement officers to support the implementation of the heritage strategy;
- (p) affirms support for the inspiring Harmony Works project team in their bid for national public funds to move the Music Hub to a heritage building in Castlegate in the heart of the city;
- (q) recommends that relevant Committees should use the mechanism of the Corporate Opportunities Register to identify and put in funding bids and establish partnerships to support heritage in the city; and
- (r) requests that the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee adds the future of the city’s paused Conservation Areas, such as the one at Castlegate, to its work programme, as this Council believes they can bring positive economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits, together with heritage funding, to the communities they serve.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.8 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “THE LOCAL PLAN IN BEIGHTON”

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Karen McGowan, seconded by Councillor Denise Fox

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (f) to (k) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (f) and (g) as new paragraphs (l) & (m):-

- (f) believes that, not only as a council but as a city, we should be proud to celebrate the rich histories and diverse cultures of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, and provide traveller sites in full consultation with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities;

- (g) notes that the site allocation list for Beighton, and the whole of the South-East, was put to councillors on 11th July 2022;
- (h) believes that this whole process was completely transparent and notes that, following these briefings and discussions within political groups, the whole Council met on 14th December 2022 to vote on the Local Plan, and all parties – Labour, Liberal Democrat, Conservative and Green – approved the plans;
- (i) notes that the Local Plan was delivered cross-party, and notes that were any traveller site removed from the current Plan, an alternative site would need to be found in order to meet recognised need;
- (j) notes that while an alternative site, instead of site SES 03, may be required, it would not be appropriate to determine this until the public consultation has completed – and Members need to consider all representations (including from the gypsy and traveller community) as well as any further evidence, around all sites in the city;
- (k) believes that the Local Plan is for all of Sheffield – all of its people and different communities, without prejudice – and that this Council needs to balance all considerations in the final approved report, including issues around traffic mitigation, supporting infrastructure, environmental protection, the standard of homes, and economic growth;

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alexi Dimond, seconded by Councillor Henry Nottage

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (a) to (d) and (f) and (g) and the re-lettering of paragraph (e) as a new paragraph (a); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (h) as follows:-
 - (b) notes that following the Race Equality Commission, and in the past, Sheffield Council has committed to working towards becoming an anti-racist city;
 - (c) believes that, as the two biggest parties in the Council, both Labour and the Liberal Democrats have a responsibility to this commitment and should not be campaigning against one of the most marginalised and demonised groups in the UK;
 - (d) notes that the Labour Party's nominated candidate for the Beighton Ward has set up a petition against the proposed traveller site in Beighton, and believes this is a cynical attempt to win votes in the local election;

- (e) affirms that the Council has a legal and moral obligation to provide traveller sites in Sheffield;
- (f) notes that no objections to the proposed site in Eckington were made at Full Council when the draft local plan was unanimously agreed in December 2022;
- (g) notes that many areas of Sheffield have high levels of traffic and pollution, and believes that, if councillors were really concerned about this, they would support measures to reduce car use in favour of public transport, such as a Workplace Parking Levy, better bus routes and introducing more parking schemes, and more effective enforcement of parking schemes and policies that already exist; and
- (h) notes that Labour and Liberal Democrat Councillors have previously supported traffic-increasing developments, such as Meadowhall expansion, the IKEA shopping centre, free parking at Christmas and to exclude private cars from the Clean Air Zone.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.9 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “MARKING THE SUCCESS OF THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM IN SHEFFIELD”

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Sue Alston, seconded by Councillor Joe Otten

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (d), (g), (h) and (i) and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (e) and (f) as new paragraphs (d) and (e).
2. the addition of new paragraphs (f) and (g) as follows:-
 - (f) that the Liberal Democrat group has advocated for this governance change for several years, and that a motion in support of moving to a Committee system was proposed by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed in June 2018;
 - (g) that the committee system involves a greater number of councillors across the different political groups and enables higher quality debate on decisions, but believes that it is too early to judge whether this has resulted in improved decision making, particularly as the effect of the council being in Labour-led No Overall Control will also influence this process;
3. the re-lettering of paragraph (j) as a new paragraph (h).
4. the addition (within the section “That this Council believes”) of new paragraphs (i) and (j) as follows:-

- (i) that more work is needed to move away from the ‘strong leader’ culture, and believes that its continuing influence can be seen in several areas, for example the repeated delays to the publication of the Leisure Strategy;
 - (j) that more work is also needed to ensure that work programmes are not officer led and that policy committees are involved in the early stages of policy development, as the engagement findings of the Governance Review reported;
5. the deletion of paragraph (k) and the addition of a new paragraph (k) as follows:-
- (k) that effective scrutiny of decisions relies on active challenge and debate by the policy committees to ensure that decisions are made in the best interests of the city;
6. the deletion of paragraph (s) and the addition of a new paragraph (s) as follows:-
- (s) improve the understanding and clarity of the role of all committees to make decisions as envisaged when the system was developed, including committees being involved in the early stages of policy development, in order to reduce the number of decisions taken back to the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee; and

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.10 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “LEVELLING-UP - WHY WE NEED TO TAKE BACK CONTROL FROM WHITEHALL TO DELIVER ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR SHEFFIELD”

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Tim Huggan, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion of paragraphs (g) to (n), and the re-lettering of paragraphs (o) to (q) as new paragraphs (g) to (i);
- 2. the deletion of paragraphs (r) to (v); and
- 3. the addition of new paragraphs (j) to (r) as follows:-
 - (j) believes that Sheffield’s steel industry only grew to such heights due to strong trading and export links, and that to rebuild green industry will similarly require a strong private sector and positive trading relationships;
 - (k) believes that governments since 2016 have weakened the UK’s trading position in the world through pursuing a disastrous hard

Brexit and protectionist trade barriers, and believes that the UK must take immediate action to rebuild trade links with our European neighbours;

- (l) believes that Sheffield has an enormous opportunity to contribute to reaching the net zero target and creating a circular economy, but that this can only be achieved through resolving the UK's chronic low productivity and slow growth;
- (m) condemns the decision by the Government to award no money to local authorities that had received funding from Round One of the Levelling Up Fund, and believes that not publishing this decision during the bid process led to a significant waste of officer resources;
- (n) believes that this Council must practice what it preaches when it comes to local decision making, and that it cannot decry the hoarding of power in Whitehall while seeking to hoard power in the Town Hall;
- (o) reaffirms its commitment to ensuring the success of the Local Area Committees, welcomes the good work that has been done locally across the whole city, and believes that truly local politics will be essential to building a circular economy;
- (p) believes that Local Area Committees have improved local decision making power for communities, and have made great progress on schemes which are tackling fly tipping and antisocial behaviour, beautifying local communities, and addressing the cost of living crisis;
- (q) believes that the LACs require significantly more powers in order to successfully deliver for their communities, including powers on local transport initiatives, parks and leisure, and social care, and believes that increasing the power of the LACs will go a significant way towards ensuring the success of the Committee system; and
- (r) believes that if localism is to be fully embraced, LACs must be empowered to make decisions which run contrary to the Town Hall's wishes.

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ruth Mersereau, seconded by Councillor Paul Turpin

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

- (w) believes that a proportional voting system is necessary to truly "Take Back Control" by making all votes matter, noting that since

1935 not one of the single party majority governments elected by our current First Past The Post voting system received a majority of the votes;

- (x) notes that under First Past The Post voting system the amount of votes taken to elect an MP differs by party, and this historically favours the Conservative Party: the Green Party received 866,000 votes in the 2019 general election and elected one MP, the Liberal Democrat Party received 336,000 votes per MP elected, the Labour Party received 51,000 votes per MP elected and the Conservative Party only had to receive an average of 38,000 votes to elect an MP;
- (y) believes that under the current system the largest two parties appeal to voters in "swing seats", taking votes in "safe seats" for granted, and notes that proportional representation weighs all votes equally - if a party received 20% of the votes then they would receive approximately 20% of the seats;
- (z) believes that an electoral system returning results that match how the electorate voted is not only key to taking back control from Whitehall, but to democracy;
- (aa) notes that 40 out of 43 European countries use a form of proportional representation to elect MPs, with UK and Belarus the only countries using First Past The Post; Resolves:

This Council resolves:-

- (bb) to support proportional representation and the Councils For PR campaign; and
- (cc) to request that the Chief Executive writes to the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Rishi Sunak MP, and the Leader Of The Opposition, the Rt Hon Sir Keir Starmer MP, requesting the Government changes to use proportional representation in local, national and regional elections, attaching a copy of this motion.