

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 7TH FEBRUARY 2024

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

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “EXTENDING THE HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND”

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Tim Huggan, seconded by Councillor Kurtis Crossland

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (k) as follows:-

- (k) calls on all parties in Westminster to remove the two-child cap on Child Benefit which contributes to child poverty among many, larger families.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Maroof Raouf, seconded by Councillor Angela Argenzio

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (i) and (j) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraph (j) as a new paragraph (k):-
 - (i) believes that poverty has been made significantly worse by the removal of the £20 per week uplift to Universal Credit and the introduction of the two-child cap on Child Benefit;
 - (j) believes that, in addition to the local flexibility offered by the Household Support Fund, an uplift to national benefits is needed to address systemic poverty;
2. the insertion, in the new paragraph (k) [original paragraph (j)], after the words “in Sheffield,”, of the words “to remove the two-child cap on Child Benefit, to provide a Universal Credit uplift of £40 per week,”.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "TACKLING EMPTY HOMES"

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Fran Belbin, seconded by Councillor Zahira Naz

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraphs (o) and (p) and the re-lettering of paragraphs (n) and (q) as new paragraphs (r) and (s); and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (n) to (q) as follows:-

This Council:-

- (n) notes that a decision on implementing applying the LTEP at 100% to properties empty and unfurnished over 12 months and on second homes, will be taken by the Finance Committee on 19th February 2024, with the Council only gaining the power to do so given recent changes to national legislation, and so further notes that this matter does not need to be referred to the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee;
- (o) notes, furthermore, that the Chair of Finance Committee and Labour councillors have been clear in their support for implementing the changes and doing everything we can to incentivise empty properties coming quickly back into use;
- (p) notes the strain placed upon local authority planning departments following 14 years of government cuts, but highlights the considerable success of the Council's Planning Service, with applications reaching a successful outcome higher than the national average and metropolitan area averages;
- (q) welcomes Labour's commitment to reforming the planning system and to improve the capacity in the system by hiring more than 300 planners in the public sector;

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Douglas Johnson, seconded by Councillor Brian Holmshaw

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition (at the end of the section "That this Council notes") of a new paragraph (i) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (i) to (n) as new paragraphs (j) to (o):-
 - (i) that Green Party councillors have previously proposed to invest in additional empty homes officers, who do excellent work in bringing empty properties back into use, creating new homes and reducing the blight on residential streets;

2. the deletion of the original paragraph (o);
3. the addition of new paragraphs (p) and (q) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (p) and (q) as new paragraphs (r) and (s):-
 - (p) support the principle of making use of new powers to maximise the charge of council tax on empty properties and second homes;
 - (q) endorse the response of the Local Government Association to the Government's consultation on social housing allocations, in particular with regard to the call for reform of the Right to Buy system which has destroyed a large part of the country's social housing;
4. the deletion, in the new paragraph (s) [original paragraph (q)], of the words "Liberal Democrat"; and
5. the addition of new paragraphs (t) and (u) as follows:-
 - (t) request the Chair of the Housing Policy Committee to write to the Local Government Association to express this Council's support for its call for reform of the Right to Buy system; and
 - (u) support investment in further action on empty homes, including expanding the Council's housing acquisitions to help alleviate the homelessness crisis.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 10 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "FIVE YEARS SINCE DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY"

NB. Proposed alteration to be sought by the mover of the Motion (Councillor Paul Turpin)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.10(a) (Alteration of motion or amendment), the mover of the Motion (Councillor Paul Turpin) will seek the consent of the meeting to alter paragraph (m) of the Motion to read as follows –

“(m) ask the Member Development Working Group to consider how to ensure effective Climate Literacy training for all Members”.

Once the mover has requested the alteration, the Lord Mayor will then ask the meeting to give its consent to the alteration.

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Minesh Parekh, seconded by Councillor Craig Gamble Pugh

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion, in paragraph (a), of the words “and a Nature Emergency” after the words “Climate Emergency”;
2. the addition (at the end of the section “That this Council notes”) of new paragraphs (d) to (f) as follows:-
 - (d) that public transport has a crucial role to play in addressing the climate emergency and welcomes plans to bring buses and trams under public ownership, and other measures the Council is taking to encourage active travel;
 - (e) that Olivia Blake MP has brought the Climate and Ecology Bill to Parliament with cross-party support; the Bill is drafted by many of the UK’s leading climate and ecology scientists and is the only piece of proposed or existing legislation that would tackle the intertwined climate and nature crises together;
 - (f) the pioneering work of the Council and South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority in developing green jobs and skills, including with the new Investment Zone – strengthening our advanced manufacturing and building on the success of the Innovation District in the Lower Don Valley;
3. the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (d) and (e) as new paragraphs (g) and (h);
4. the addition (within the section “That this Council believes”) of new paragraphs (i) to (k) as follows, and the re-lettering of all further paragraphs accordingly:-
 - (i) that the Government has utterly failed to provide the necessary funds to tackle the climate emergency;
 - (j) that Sheffield’s progress is comparable with other core cities and there has been notable successes including cross-party support for climate action the Council has taken: from introducing Climate Impact Assessments, to the creation of the Ten Point Plan for Climate Action, to ensuring major schemes like Connecting Sheffield and the Clean Air Zone progress, and notes the work currently underway to futureproof our city’s workforce, including the Council-funded upskilling of plumbers and heating engineers in air source heat pump technologies;
 - (k) that to reach net zero, the Council should undertake more cross-cutting work, and that requiring Policy Committees to set targets in isolation risks creating siloed working;
5. the deletion of original paragraph (i); and
6. the deletion of original paragraph (n).

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Robert Reiss

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition (at the end of the section "That this Council notes") of a new paragraph (d) as follows:-
 - (d) media reports regarding the Labour Party's recent backtrack on a £28bn Green Investment Fund;
2. the deletion of the original paragraphs (d) and (e);
3. the addition (within the section "That this Council believes") of new paragraphs (e) to (h) as follows, and the re-lettering of all further paragraphs accordingly:-
 - (e) that, despite cross party support for net zero, progress has been slow due to the lack of the very substantial investment required to make significant carbon savings, the slow pace of transformation of industries, particularly energy, transport and land use and a dearth of compelling offset opportunities;
 - (f) the substantial cash investment required alongside other demands on public funds mean that strong economic growth is required in Sheffield and elsewhere, alongside technological innovation to reduce carbon emissions in better ways;
 - (g) the failure of Labour and Green councillors to vote for a food waste recycling service represents an unfortunate missed opportunity to reduce carbon emissions;
 - (h) South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority foot dragging over bus franchising and failed bus partnerships have delivered an inferior bus service to the people of Sheffield and kept people in their cars;
4. the deletion of the original paragraphs (f) and (g);
5. the deletion of the original paragraph (j) and addition of a new paragraph as follows:-
 - (j) ask the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee to consider adding to its work programme, doing further work on Climate Impact Assessment processes and methodologies so that policy options can be compared on an estimated cost per tonne of CO2 saved basis;
6. the deletion of the original paragraph (l);
7. the deletion of the original paragraph (m) and addition of a new paragraph as follows:-

- (m) ask the Member Development Working Group to ensure all councillors are offered training on how to understand the carbon impact of policy decisions;
8. the deletion of the original paragraph (n) and addition of a new paragraph as follows:-
- (n) ask the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee to consider adding to its work programme, requiring all Policy Committees to set targets to reduce carbon emissions and to report performance against those targets.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 11 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COUNCIL HOMES AND THE QUALITY OF EXISTING STOCK"

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Nabeela Mowlana, seconded by Councillor Ben Miskell

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition, at the end of sub-paragraph (f)(i), of the words “whilst supporting partnerships to significantly increase all types of affordable homes, including housing association properties”; and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (g) to (i) as follows:-
 - (g) notes the renewed focus on building affordable housing in the city, including through the development of the Housing Strategy under the oversight of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee and the Council’s partnership work with Homes England, and welcomes the approval of the Council’s draft Local Plan which will make a huge difference in delivering affordable homes in the city;
 - (h) notes Labour’s commitment to reforming the planning system in England to provide the clarity and certainty that industry and local government need to get Britain building more houses, to create new sources of green energy and to get the economy growing; and
 - (i) believes a Labour government will reform arcane purchasing rules with reformed compulsory purchase rules to support strategic development on large sites, allowing local leaders to play a more active role in land assembly.

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Sophie Thornton

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (e);
2. the addition of a new paragraph (e) as follows:-
 - (e) notes that Liberal Democrats would have a national target for building social homes aiming for 150,000 per year with new powers for local authorities to build their own social and affordable housing;
3. the substitution, in sub-paragraph (f)(i) of the word “affordable”, for the word “council”; and
4. the deletion of sub-paragraph (f)(iii).

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Douglas Johnson, seconded by Councillor Henry Nottage

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (c) to (f) as new paragraphs (d) to (g):-
 - (c) endorses the response of the Local Government Association to the Government’s consultation on social housing allocations, in particular with regard to the call for reform of the Right to Buy system which has destroyed a large part of the country’s social housing;
2. the deletion, in the new paragraph (d) [original paragraph (c)], of all the words after the words “increasing building costs,” and the addition of the following words instead - “councillors from all parties voted to reduce the number of homes that could be built under the Council’s Stock Increase Programme.”.

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