

Agenda Annex

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 4TH SEPTEMBER 2024

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

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 7 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "HELPING VULNERABLE RESIDENTS IMPACTED BY CHANGES TO WINTER FUEL PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY"

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mark Rusling, seconded by Councillor Nikki Belfield

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the addition of the following new paragraphs (a) to (h):-

- (a) acknowledges the significant challenges facing our national economy, including the reported £22 billion budget shortfall inherited by the new Government, and notes the Office for Budget Responsibility's (OBR) announcement that the previous Government was spending more than they had revealed to the OBR;
- (b) believes that, after 14 years of economic mismanagement by previous governments, the scale of the task facing the new Government to rebuild Britain is significant;
- (c) notes that the Government has committed to protecting the 'triple lock' pension, which saw the state pension rise by £900 this year and notes that a further rise will be announced at the budget in October;
- (d) believes that the Government has had to make some difficult decisions to fix the foundations of the economy due to the dire state of the public finances;
- (e) notes that around 1.3 million households in England and Wales will continue to receive Winter Fuel Payments, and welcomes the Government's efforts to boost take-up of Pension Credit to ensure low-income pensioners continue to get this help;
- (f) welcomes this Council's work with partners to raise awareness about Pension Credit and to boost take up, and thanks the Council's Cost of Living team for their work to proactively identify all households in receipt of Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support, but currently not receiving Pension Credit, and to contact them providing information and support about how to apply;

- (g) encourages all elected members to share Pension Credit information with residents; and
- (h) welcomes the Government's extension of the Household Support fund which will enable support to continue to be provided to struggling households.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Paul Turpin, seconded by Councillor Marieanne Elliot

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of the the words "Liberal Democrat-chaired" in paragraph (f);
2. the addition of new paragraphs (j) and (k) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (j) and (k) as new paragraphs (l) and (m):-
 - (j) the cut to Winter Fuel payments and retention of the Two Child Cap on benefits shows that the new Government have made a political choice that the cost of austerity will fall on those who can least afford it;
 - (k) instead of imposing renewed austerity, the new Government has the power to raise public spending and investment, increase taxes on the wealthy and polluters, and properly regulate big businesses and financial institutions;
3. the addition of a new paragraph (n) as follows:-
 - (n) we desperately need the Government to act urgently on home insulation schemes to keep people safe, warm and out of poverty, and instead of cutting the Winter Fuel Allowance, it would make more sense to give pensioners the option to use it to help finance the installation of insulation measures and solar panels to reduce their energy bills permanently;
4. the re-lettering of original paragraphs (l) and (m) as new paragraphs (o) and (p).
5. the deletion of original paragraph (n) and the addition of a new, re-lettered paragraph (q) as follows:-
 - (q) notes that the Green Group has written to the Chancellor calling for the restoration of Winter Fuel payments to all pensioners and urges other political groups to do the same.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “CHANGING THE NARRATIVE ON MIGRANTS AND ASYLUM SEEKERS”

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mohammed Mahroof, seconded by Councillor Mike Levery

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (c) to (l) as new paragraphs (d) to (m):-
 - (c) notes that in 2023, 84,425 individuals made asylum applications in the UK;
2. the substitution, in new paragraph (d), of the words “rhetoric of some politicians, media, and misinformation on social media sites” for the words “rhetoric of some mainstream politicians and media”;
3. the deletion of new paragraph (i) [the original paragraph (h)] and the addition of a new paragraph (i) as follows:-
 - (i) believes that asylum seekers should have the right to work if they have been waiting for a decision for more than three months, enabling them to support themselves economically and socially through community integration;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “UNITY AGAINST HATE”

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

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

- (h) believes that community cohesion can be further achieved by allowing asylum seekers to work, and so integrate themselves into their communities and support the local economy;
5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Toby Mallinson, seconded by Councillor Alexi Dimond

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (h) and (i) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraph (h) as a new paragraph (j):-

- (h) therefore regrets that the Council has not declared Sheffield an Israeli apartheid free zone;
 - (i) notes the “Israel Premier Tech Pro-Cycling Team” has funding connections to the Israeli Government and therefore regrets that it will be competing in the Tour of Britain;
2. the addition of new paragraphs (k) to (p) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraph (i) as a new paragraph (q):-
- (k) believes the divisive rhetoric of some mainstream politicians and media has fuelled the recent violence and the ‘Stop the Boats’ narrative has contributed to division;
 - (l) notes comments by Dame Sara Khan, former independent adviser for social cohesion and resilience, that successive governments have failed the British people and left local authorities struggling to deal with consistent extremist challenges;
 - (m) recognises that migrants have always contributed to our society and that segregation of asylum-seekers into different systems for homelessness, destitution and work creates further division;
 - (n) condemns the ongoing policy of austerity, which causes hardship and resentment amongst the communities most left behind;
 - (o) resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister with a copy of this motion and to ask him to consider implementing the recommendations of the Khan Review;
 - (p) resolves to encourage every Sheffield elected member to work to ensure that dialogue around migration is not framed negatively, instead highlighting the human and ethical aspects, and the many positive economic and cultural benefits, of migration.

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Qais Al-Ahdal, seconded by Councillor Douglas Johnson

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the addition of a new paragraph (f) as follows and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (f) to (h) as new paragraphs (g) to (i):-
 - (f) believes that divisive rhetoric made by politicians such as Nigel Farage and Sir Keir Starmer against minoritised groups further exacerbates an already alarming rate of Islamophobia;

2. the addition of a new paragraph (j) as follows and the re-lettering of the original paragraph (i) as a new paragraph (k):-
 - (j) believes that councillors should speak against racist/Islamophobic rhetoric and actions of affiliated party members or party leaders.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 10 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S PLAY AND PLAYWORK THROUGH A JOINED-UP STRATEGY FOR ALL AGES”

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mohammed Mahroof, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (f) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (c) to (i) as new paragraphs (g) to (m):-
 - (c) notes that policies such as the two-child limit on benefits keep hundreds of thousands of children in poverty with significant impact on their mental and physical health;
 - (d) notes that the Household Support Fund has helped tens of thousands of families in Sheffield such as through Free School Meal vouchers in the school holidays and is a vital safety net for the most vulnerable families;
 - (e) welcomes the Government's decision to extend the Household Support fund for six months, and hopes this vital support will be made permanent, as it is essential to provide children with the foundations on which they can further their development through education and play;
 - (f) supports the Liberal Democrat manifesto promise to put a dedicated mental health professional in every primary and secondary school, providing support for all young people;
2. the addition of a new paragraph (n) as follows:-
 - (n) ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions with a copy of this motion, calling for the abolishment of the two-child benefit cap and for a permanent provision of the Household Support Fund;
3. the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (j) to (l) as new paragraphs (o) to (q).

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Marieanne Elliot, seconded by Councillor Alexi Dimond

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of a new paragraph (f) as follows, and the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (f) and (g) as new paragraphs (g) and (h):-
 - (f) believes that free-to-use, open play spaces are genuine improvements to parks and green spaces and the Council should take every opportunity to prioritise inclusive, free and open play spaces to increase play opportunities for children;
2. the addition of new paragraphs (i) and (j) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (h) as a new paragraph (k):-
 - (i) regrets that children today do not have the opportunities for play which their parents and grandparents had due to the exponential increase in motor vehicles which take up space and make streets dangerous;
 - (j) notes that in December 2017, the Council voted against a trial to develop a Play Streets policy framework pilot to take place in Sheffield in the summer of 2018, including designing a quick and simple application process for residents wishing to facilitate playing out sessions on their street, and removing barriers to them doing so;
3. the re-lettering of the original paragraph (i) as a new paragraph (l), and the addition of the following sub-paragraphs at the end of that paragraph:-
 - (i) for that strategy to include enabling a Sheffield pilot including designing a quick and simple application process for residents wishing to facilitate playing out sessions on their street, and removing barriers to them doing so; and
 - (ii) that the strategy is informed by Playing Out schemes currently or previously operating successfully in places such as Leeds, Hackney, and Bristol, to learn about the key steps to successfully implementing the policy;
3. the re-lettering of the original paragraphs (j) to (l) as new paragraphs (m) to (o).
4. the addition, at the end of newly re-lettered paragraph (o) [the original paragraph (l)], of the words “where children can play and travel safely to and from school”.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 11 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “REQUESTING THE GOVERNMENT TO SCRAP THE TWO-CHILD BENEFIT CAP”

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Rob Bannister, seconded by Councillor Tom Hunt

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words “That this Council” and the addition of the following new paragraphs (a) to (h):-

- (a) notes that tackling child poverty is at the heart of the Government’s mission to break down barriers to opportunity and improve the life chances of every child;
- (b) welcomes the Government establishing a cross-departmental Child Poverty Taskforce to address the root causes of poverty and notes that the Taskforce will publish a Child Poverty Strategy in spring next year;
- (c) supports the Government’s range of work to tackle poverty and boost household incomes, including providing free breakfast clubs for all children, and introducing the New Deal for Working People to help make work pay and focusing on helping people get back into work;
- (d) acknowledges the significant challenges facing our national economy, including the reported £22 billion budget shortfall inherited by the current Government, with the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) announcing the previous Government were spending and borrowing more than they had revealed to the OBR, with the deficit now £4.7bn higher than the OBR originally forecast;
- (e) notes the Labour Party voted against the introduction of the two-child benefit cap but, given the dire financial situation inherited, the Government has resolved not to make unfunded spending commitments;
- (f) welcomes the extension of the Household Support fund which will enable councils to continue to provide support to the most vulnerable households;
- (g) welcomes local efforts to tackle child poverty and particularly welcomes the launch of the Sheffield Poverty truth commission later this month; and
- (h) looks forward to working together with the Government to tackle poverty.

10. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Sue Alston, seconded by Councillor Richard Shaw

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (h) and (i) and the addition of a new paragraph (h) as follows:-

- (h) requests that the Government consider tax changes to make the economy fairer for everyone, such as reversing the previous Government's tax cuts for the big banks and raising the Digital Services Tax on tech giants.