



Council

Wednesday 7 November 2012

2.00 pm

**Council Chamber, Town Hall,
Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HH**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

COUNCIL

Wednesday 7 November 2012, at 2.00 pm
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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

THE LORD MAYOR (Councillor John Campbell)
THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR (Councillor Vickie Priestley)

1	<i>Arbourthorne Ward</i> Julie Dore John Robson Jack Scott	10	<i>Dore & Totley Ward</i> Keith Hill Joe Otten Colin Ross	19	<i>Mosborough Ward</i> David Barker Isobel Bowler Tony Downing
2	<i>Beauchief & Greenhill Ward</i> Simon Clement-Jones Roy Munn Clive Skelton	11	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Garry Weatherall Steve Wilson Joyce Wright	20	<i>Nether Edge Ward</i> Nikki Bond Anders Hanson Qurban Hussain
3	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Helen Mirfin-Boukouris Chris Rosling-Josephs Ian Saunders	12	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Penny Baker Roger Davison Diana Stimely	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> Martin Lawton Lynn Rooney
4	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	13	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Shelia Constance Alan Law Chris Weldon	22	<i>Shiregreen & Brightside Ward</i> Peter Price Sioned-Mair Richards Peter Rippon
5	<i>Broomhill Ward</i> Jayne Dunn Shaffaq Mohammed Stuart Wattam	14	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Sue Alston Andrew Sangar Janice Sidebottom	23	<i>Southey Ward</i> Leigh Bramall Tony Damms Gill Furniss
6	<i>Burngreave Ward</i> Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain	15	<i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i> Steve Jones Cate McDonald Tim Rippon	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Katie Condliffe
7	<i>Central Ward</i> Jillian Creasy Mohammad Maroof Robert Murphy	16	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Ian Auckland Bob McCann Denise Reaney	25	<i>Stockbridge & Upper Don Ward</i> Alison Brelsford Richard Crowther Philip Wood
8	<i>Crookes Ward</i> Sylvia Anginotti Rob Frost Geoff Smith	17	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Janet Bragg Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond	26	<i>Walkley Ward</i> Ben Curran Neale Gibson Nikki Sharpe
9	<i>Darnall Ward</i> Harry Harpham Mazher Iqbal Mary Lea	18	<i>Manor Castle Ward</i> Jenny Armstrong Terry Fox Pat Midgley	27	<i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i> Trevor Bagshaw Adam Hurst Alf Meade
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Mick Rooney Jackie Satur Ray Satur

John Mothersole

Chief Executive

Contact:

Paul Robinson, Democratic Services

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PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Council is composed of 84 Councillors with one-third elected three years in four. Councillors are democratically accountable to the residents of their Ward. The overriding duty of Councillors is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them

All Councillors meet together as the Council. Here Councillors decide the Council's overall policies and set the budget each year. The Council appoints the Leader and at its Annual Meeting will appoint Councillors to serve on its Committees. It also appoints representatives to serve on joint bodies and external organisations.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday, or you can ring on telephone no. 2734552. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Cabinet meetings. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information.

Council meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Council may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

**COUNCIL AGENDA
7 NOVEMBER 2012**

Order of Business

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

To receive the record of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 3 October 2012 and to approve the accuracy thereof

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

To receive any questions or petitions from the public, or communications submitted by the Lord Mayor or the Chief Executive and to pass such resolutions thereon as the Council Procedure Rules permit and as may be deemed expedient

5. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

5.1 Questions relating to urgent business – Council Procedure Rule 16.6(ii).

5.2 Supplementary questions on written questions submitted at this meeting – Council Procedure Rule 16.4.

5.3 Questions on the discharge of the functions of the South Yorkshire Joint Authorities for Fire and Rescue, Integrated Transport, Pensions and Police - Section 41 of the Local Government Act, 1985 – Council Procedure Rule 16.6(i).

(NB. Minutes of recent meetings of the four South Yorkshire Joint Authorities have been made available to all Members of the Council via the following link <https://meetings.sheffield.gov.uk/council-meetings/full-council>)

6. REPRESENTATION, DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND RELATED ISSUES

To consider any changes to the memberships and arrangements for meetings of Committees etc., delegated authority, and the appointment of representatives to serve on other bodies

7. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

Report of the Director of Legal Services.

8. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

That this Council:-

- (a) notes that 4th - 10th November is Living Wage Week, and that the Living Wage is calculated by the Centre for Research in Social Policy at £7.20 per hour, compared to the national minimum wage of £6.19 per hour;
- (b) notes recent research from KPMG indicating that 4.82 million people across the country are paid less than the Living Wage, which amounts to one in five workers in the UK;
- (c) notes that a Living Wage has been introduced in other areas across the country where several leading public and private sector organisations have signed up to the campaign;
- (d) believes that paying the living wage boosts the incomes of the lowest paid, who have been hit especially hard by rising prices, increasing costs of living and the double dip recession;
- (e) supports this Administration's commitment to providing the Living Wage of £7.20 per hour for all Council employees from 1st January 2013;
- (f) welcomes that this commitment from the present Administration means that from January next year all staff employed by Sheffield City Council will be paid a wage of at least £7.20 per hour, which will see an increase for the lowest paid 275 staff on the lowest two grades at the Council;
- (g) regrets that Council staff have seen their pay frozen for the past two years in order to protect as many jobs and services as possible given the massive cuts imposed by the Government and notes that consultation is currently taking place with trade unions to extend the increment freeze, acknowledging that if increments were frozen again the Council would save £5 million per year, however, implementing a living wage would target raising the incomes of the Council's lowest paid staff;
- (h) supports the present Administration's commitment to meet the cost of the Living Wage at the same time as making a £1 million saving through cuts to senior management positions; and

- (i) directs that a report is brought to Cabinet outlining plans to implement a Living Wage in the Council and to initiate a campaign to support a Living Wage for Sheffield involving partners across the City in public, private and voluntary sector organisations.

9. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR BRYAN LODGE

That this Council:-

- (a) notes the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2013/14 to 2017/18 presented to Cabinet last month outlining the financial position of Sheffield City Council over the next five years;
- (b) expresses its anger and dismay at the Council's budget position which is now significantly worse than was previously estimated because the Government are making additional unfair cuts to Sheffield as a result of their failure to grow the economy and notes that even without the additional cuts the Council was already facing an impossible budget position which will have a massive impact on Council services in Sheffield;
- (c) notes that this is in addition to the £140 million that has been reduced from the Council's budget over the past two years meaning that future cuts will unavoidably have a bigger impact on Council services that are valued by local people;
- (d) further notes that the £50 million of cuts to next year's budget followed by £35 million the following year means that the cuts will now total £225 million over four years;
- (e) deplores this Government's continued attack on Sheffield and believes that they have no understanding of the lives of normal hardworking families and the fact that they are making additional cuts to local government at the same time as giving income tax cuts to millionaires indicates the values of this Government;
- (f) is shocked at the irresponsibility of the Government who will not confirm the final settlement until the Autumn Statement in December, when the Council has to set the budget in March;
- (g) continues to oppose the unfairness of the cuts which see councils with the highest levels of deprivation receiving the majority of the cuts whilst some of the wealthiest areas in the country receive almost no cuts at all;
- (h) deplores the continued broken promises of the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam, who earlier this month stated that he would ensure that future cuts are targeted at the wealthiest,

whilst at the same time being the Deputy Prime Minister in a Government which is making additional unfair cuts to Sheffield and reneging on its promise that 100% of Sheffield's business rates would be localised to spend on local services by now reducing this to 50% of business rates;

- (i) welcomes that the present Administration have identified protecting services for the most vulnerable as a key priority in addition to the significant work that the present Administration are undertaking to support the development of the local economy;
- (j) further welcomes that the present Administration are standing up for Sheffield, taking action to bring attention to the damaging impact of the reckless and unfair cuts that this Government are making to Sheffield and to be honest with local people by making clear the impact it will have on Sheffield; and
- (k) resolves to continue to stand up for Sheffield, focus on jobs, be business friendly and support and protect communities, however, regrets that given the level of cuts that the Government are imposing on the Council there will be significant changes to council services in the future which is unavoidable due to the Government's reckless and irresponsible actions.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DAVID BAKER

That this Council:-

- (a) recognises and welcomes the progress of the 'Streets Ahead' scheme, secured by Liberal Democrat influence in Government and backed by £1.2 billion of Coalition Government funding;
- (b) believes that, as a result of the hard work of Liberal Democrat Councillors, the whole of Sheffield will see dramatic improvements in the quality of its road network;
- (c) however, notes the large swathes of the City's residential areas, with highly-concentrated areas of on-street parking, and is concerned that no effort has been made to provide alternative parking arrangements to mitigate the significant disruption that will be caused by these vital works; and
- (d) therefore, calls upon the Council to liaise with Amey and local land owners in order to provide free and secure alternative parking facilities to affected residents for the duration of the works.

11. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JAYNE DUNN

That this Council:-

- (a) is appalled that the Chancellor of the Exchequer in this Government has announced he is planning to make £10billion of further cuts to the welfare budget;
- (b) is concerned that the impacts will be felt greatly by hard working low income families, and that Northern cities including Sheffield will bear the brunt of the cuts, having huge detrimental impacts on local residents, the Council's services and the local economy with an estimate of £180 million less coming into the City's economy annually;
- (c) worries that the system is not fit for purpose, noting that analysis of the new system for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, by the University of Portsmouth and the Centre for Social and Economic Inclusion, has raised serious concerns about the administration of Universal Credit and potential outcomes and they believe that "while some would see improvements to their finances, the report concludes, not everyone will benefit and some could be worse off on universal benefit than under current arrangements...our research has found the actual roll-out could unintentionally trap people in poverty and hardship";
- (d) is concerned that the proposal of Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, (the Rt. Hon. Iain Duncan Smith, MP) to only give child and work related benefits to the first two children is attacking poor low paid families in an attempt to paint welfare recipients as 'takers' who should have to "cut their cloth like everyone else", and believes that the move is ill thought out and would only save £200million;
- (e) is worried that recipients of disability benefits are going to be worse off under Universal Credit, noting that £9billion has already been cut from the budget since this Government came to power with further cuts planned and many people will have to be reassessed and will find their benefits reduced, and that the Hardest Hit Campaign believes these further cuts will put disabled people at risk of poverty, debt and isolation;
- (f) is concerned that the bedroom tax is likely to affect approximately 6-7000 residents in Sheffield, and that many residents will have to leave family homes as they will be unable to pay the tax to stay put, and that this also puts a further strain on the Council as there is a shortage of housing in the City;
- (g) opposes the Government's cuts to Council tax benefit which will see many families in Sheffield being hit with increased Council tax bills, putting a further strain on their finances at the same time

as this Government are giving tax cuts to millionaires;

- (h) worries that the cumulative effect of welfare cuts is going to have a huge detrimental impact on the most vulnerable people in society and cause further poverty, force people into using debt and burden frontline services that are already being cut; and
- (i) urges this Government to wait a year before implementing Universal Credit and believes that there are too many questions that have yet to be answered and such significant changes to welfare should wait until they can be implemented properly.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI SHARPE

That this Council:-

- (a) is aware that there are approximately 3.6 million children living in poverty in the UK today and the Government is not doing enough to tackle the problem and proposed new legislation announced by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, (the Rt. Hon. Iain Duncan Smith MP) which limits benefits to two children threatens to make the situation much worse;
- (b) regrets that there are even more serious concentrations of child poverty at a local level: in 100 local wards, for example, between 50 and 70 per cent of children are growing up in poverty, 23% of children in Sheffield live in poverty, there are significant variations with numbers at 36% and 37% for Brightside and Central compared to just 5% in Hallam and 11% in Hillsborough;
- (c) believes that, despite Government rhetoric, work does not provide a guaranteed route out of poverty in the UK, noting that almost two-thirds (62 per cent) of children growing up in poverty live in a household where at least one family member works;
- (d) acknowledges that people are poor for many reasons, however, believes this Government's explanations which put poverty down to drug and alcohol dependency, family breakdown, poor parenting, or a culture of worklessness, are not supported by the facts;
- (e) also regrets that child poverty blights childhoods and has long lasting effects, noting that by age 16, children receiving free school meals achieve 1.7 grades lower at GCSE than their wealthier peers, and that leaving school with fewer qualifications translates into lower earnings over the course of working life;
- (f) is concerned that child poverty is also related to more complicated health histories over the course of a lifetime, again

influencing earnings as well as the overall quality and indeed length of life, noting that professionals live, on average, eight years longer than unskilled workers;

- (g) is aware that child poverty imposes costs on broader society – estimated to be at least £25 billion a year, but believes that savings could be made if the Government tackles the problem now;
- (h) acknowledges that child poverty reduced dramatically between 1998/9-2010/11 when 1.1 million children were lifted out of poverty (before housing costs) and that this reduction is credited in large part to measures by the previous Government that increased the levels of lone parents working, as well as real and often significant increases in the level of benefits paid to families with children;
- (i) is concerned that according to the charity Child Poverty UK, under current Government policies, child poverty is projected to rise from 2012/13 with an expected 300,000 more children living in poverty by 2015/16, and that this upward trend is expected to continue with 4.2 million children projected to be living in poverty by 2020;
- (j) is saddened that this Government has failed to acknowledge that what happens outside schools has a huge impact on children's ability to do well within them, noting that since the Coalition Government took office, out-of-school support for children has taken above-average cuts through the early intervention grant and local authority budget settlements, youth services have shrunk or disappeared, and financial support for low-income families has diminished, and that it is hardly surprising, then, that child poverty is projected to rise and frontline workers are under more pressure; and
- (k) urges this Government to tackle child poverty in the UK to give every child a fair and equal chance in life.

13. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOE OTTEN

That this Council:-

- (a) reiterates its commitment to Sheffield's magnificent parks and green spaces, which have earned Sheffield a reputation as the greenest city in the country;
- (b) praises the work of the previous Council Administration in doubling the number of parks with Green Flag awards, securing more of the awards than any other authority in Yorkshire;

- (c) believes that despite financial constraints the maintenance of local parks and green spaces remains an important duty;
- (d) understands that as the Council faces its future, more innovative and cost-effective methods of delivering services are required; and
- (e) therefore calls upon the Council to investigate new methods for delivering services in local parks, including partnership working with external organisations and greater collaboration with “Friends of Groups”.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MAZHER IQBAL

That this Council:-

- (a) is concerned that the average energy bills are soaring, up by £200 in the last two years and this Conservative-led Government is out-of-touch, out-of-date and puts the interests of the big energy companies ahead of ordinary families and pensioners struggling with soaring energy bills;
- (b) believes that this is a big contributor to the cost of living crisis afflicting millions of families across the country, where many families, including in Sheffield, are having to choose whether to heat or eat;
- (c) is aware that the energy market is dominated by just six companies; in fact 99 per cent of households get their energy from one of the ‘Big Six’ who are all but one putting up their prices between 6-11% by the end of 2012;
- (d) understands that a lack of competition in the market means energy prices are higher than they might otherwise be, and notes that a recent report by the Institute for Public Policy Research suggests that with more competition in the market, bills could be as much as £70 less per year;
- (e) acknowledges that switching between energy suppliers reached its lowest ever level in the first quarter of 2012, and believes this is not because customers are happy with their energy providers, but rather because there has been a loss of faith in the energy market;
- (f) is not surprised that the Prime Minister’s announcement that the Government would legislate to force energy companies to put customers on their lowest tariffs unravelled within hours, noting that even consumer groups argued that it was unworkable and

would destroy what little competition there is in the energy market, forcing prices up not down and believes this is another u-turn by the Coalition Government who have proven that they do not think before they make announcements;

- (g) is disappointed that the Government's Draft Energy Bill has nothing to help families struggling to make ends meet and believes that their only answer so far has been to say that customers are to blame for not shopping around enough and, at the same time as energy bills are rocketing, the Government has cut back the support it is offering to help people heat their homes;
- (h) regrets that this Government is not prepared to stand up to powerful vested interests, noting that they have backed business-as-usual in the energy market and refused to challenge the practices, pricing and structure of the energy market, and the need for urgent reform;
- (i) believes that the Government should change course and make reforms that would benefit hard working families in the UK, and that they should open up the market to greater competition and transparency by following Labour's Real Energy Market Reform which:
 - (i) would force the energy companies to pool the power they generate and to make it available to any retailer, in an attempt to open the market and to put downward pressure on prices;
 - (ii) would abolish Ofgem and create a tough new energy watchdog with a statutory duty to monitor wholesale and retail energy prices, and the power to force energy suppliers to pass on price cuts when the cost of wholesale energy falls; and
 - (iii) would require energy companies to put all over-75s on their cheapest tariff, which could save as many as four million pensioners as much as £200 a year from their annual energy bills;
- (j) supports the Labour Party's Switch Together Scheme; and
- (k) welcomes that the current Administration is looking at options for a Council backed initiative on ways to support Sheffield residents to access cheaper energy tariffs through collective purchasing.

15. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR PETER PRICE

That this Council:-

- (a) congratulates the Sheffield Eagles on their magnificent victory over Featherstone Rovers in the Rugby League Championship Grand Final last month;
- (b) congratulates Mark Aston and his colleagues on their tireless efforts in rebuilding the new Eagles since 1999;
- (c) thanks the Sheffield Eagles for all the work done in promoting Sheffield nationally;
- (d) thanks the Sheffield Eagles for their rugby league development work done within Sheffield communities and particularly young people (boys and girls);
- (e) wishes them every success in their aim to return to the Super League; and
- (f) directs that copies of this resolution be sent to Mark Aston, the Chief Executive of the Sheffield Eagles and the Chief Executive of the Rugby Football League.

16. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR COLIN ROSS

That this Council:-

- (a) notes the recent announcement by the Prime Minister of a proposal to relax certain planning laws relating to housing for a three-year period;
- (b) notes that nearly 90% of all planning applications from householders are approved and believes the failure to proceed with housing developments is not a result of the current planning laws;
- (c) believes these proposals go against the principle of localism, will fail to protect local communities and fears the changes could lead to inappropriate developments, which will adversely impact communities in Sheffield;
- (d) recalls the motion agreed at the 2012 Liberal Democrat Conference, which set out opposition to these proposals;
- (e) echoes the sentiments of this motion and calls upon the Prime Minister to withdraw these proposals; and
- (f) directs that a copy of this motion is sent to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MOHAMMAD MAROOF

That this Council:-

- (a) is concerned that changes to the immigration policy will be hugely detrimental to the multicultural vitality of Sheffield and the UK, and believes that changes to the minimum income threshold, right of appeal and student immigration would cause damage to the culture and economy of our City;
- (b) disagrees with the decision of the Government to scrap the full right of appeal for more than 80,000 relatives of British families who are refused entry to visit them each year;
- (c) notes that from 9 July 2012, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces and first cousins will no longer be considered to be family visitors for appeal purposes;
- (d) is further concerned about Government intentions to remove completely the right of appeal against family visitor visa refusal decisions through a clause in the Crime and Courts Bill (House of Lords Bill 4 of 2012-13);
- (e) is worried that if this Bill is passed in 2013, the family members (spouses, parents, siblings, children, grandparents, grandchildren, in-laws) will also lose the right of appeal;
- (f) recognises the importance of right of appeal: principles of equality, and respect for the rule of law demand an appropriate mechanism to check the actions of the entry clearance officers through scrutinising their findings, decisions and all of the relevant evidence upon which they are based, and that appropriate mechanism is a right of appeal;
- (g) opposes the proposal by the Home Secretary to impose a minimum income threshold of £27,500 to allow a British Citizen to bring their non European Union partner/spouse and family to settle in the U.K;
- (h) condemns the Liberal Democrats in Government for supporting the measures and doing a u-turn in their support of Article 12 of the Human Rights Act 'the right to marry and found a family' ;
- (i) supports the right of people to choose their life partner from anywhere in the world and believes these proposals, if implemented, would have a detrimental effect on the vitality of multicultural life in Sheffield;
- (j) views these proposals as a back door attempt by the

Conservative party to bring back the Primary Purpose Rule which was abolished by the previous Government, thereby enabling families to be reunited who had been separated for more than 10 years by the rule;

- (k) supports the work of Paul Blomfield MP, in particular, his work on the Select Committee on Business Innovation and Skills towards taking students out of the net migration targets and reviewing the restrictive proposals on the new English test and the restrictive rules on post-study work, noting that overseas students contribute millions of pounds a year into the local economy and according to Professor Edward Acton (Vice-Chancellor of the University of East Anglia) the change could result in as many as 70% of these students being barred from entry to the U.K; and
- (l) resolves to write to the City's six MPs requesting that they write to the Home Secretary to raise the deep concerns of this Council and on behalf of the families living in our City, further requests the City's six MPs including Sheffield Hallam MP and Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, to oppose the Bill.

18. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR CHRIS ROSLING-JOSEPHS

That this Council:-

- (a) is dismayed by the recent unjust and vicious attack on Malala Yousafzai, a 14 year old girl who has campaigned for education for girls in Pakistan;
- (b) is pleased to hear that Malala is making progress while being treated at Queen Elizabeth's and Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham;
- (c) joins the international community in condemning this attack and stands shoulder to shoulder with Pakistan in its fight against terrorism;
- (d) is aware that 32 million girls worldwide do not have access to education;
- (e) calls on the international community and Pakistan to ensure that every girl like Malala has the chance to go to school;
- (f) supports Gordon Brown, UN Special Envoy for Global Education, in his calling for action on the second millennium goal for universal primary education; and
- (g) believes that by declaring 10 November - one month after the

attempted assassination - "Malala and the 32 million girls day", we can start to make Malala's dream come true.

19. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SHAFFAQ MOHAMMED

That this Council:-

- (a) notes the recent YouGov survey commissioned by the Resource Association, which demonstrated that 73 per cent of adults did not know where the waste ended up, with 68 per cent saying they would like more information;
- (b) therefore supports the Resource Association's End Destination of Recycling Charter, which encourages local authorities and companies to publish an annual register of the end point to its recyclables;
- (c) welcomes the hard work of Rebecca Taylor MEP to promote the Charter across Yorkshire and The Humber; and
- (d) calls upon the Council to sign up to the Charter with immediate effect.

20. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI SHARPE

That this Council:-

- (a) notes that a number of construction companies have been challenged about supporting the existence of and subscribing to construction industry 'blacklists';
- (b) believes that blacklisting is an unacceptable practice and cannot be condoned, and notes that the GMB union is leading a national campaign aimed at forcing those who have been involved in blacklisting to apologise to those who have been affected by it;
- (c) notes that it is understood that the construction industry blacklist was collated by the Consulting Association (a private consultancy) and was then provided at a cost to construction companies as they sought to recruit/avoid new workers;
- (d) notes that the Information Commissioner has investigated and taken action against the Consulting Association for this practice and the Information Commissioner has taken enforcement action against a number of construction companies based on the evidence recovered from the Consulting Association;

- (e) further notes that owing to the concentration of construction activity in and around large cities, many of those alleged to have been discriminated against live in the country's major cities; and
- (f) resolves to support the GMB campaign.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Rocker", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Chief Executive

Dated this 1 day of November 2012

The next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on 5 December 2012 at the Town Hall

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

New standards arrangements were introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The new regime made changes to the way that members' interests are registered and declared.

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.
- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) -
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Under the Council's Code of Conduct, members must act in accordance with the Seven Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership), including the principle of honesty, which says that 'holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest'.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life.

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously, and has been published on the Council's website as a downloadable document at [-http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests](http://councillors.sheffield.gov.uk/councillors/register-of-councillors-interests)

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Lynne Bird, Director of Legal Services on 0114 2734018 or email lynne.bird@sheffield.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 3

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of the City of Sheffield held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HH, on Wednesday 3 October 2012, at 2.00 pm, pursuant to notice duly given and Summonses duly served.

PRESENT

THE LORD MAYOR (Councillor John Campbell)
THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR (Councillor Vickie Priestley)

1	<i>Arbourthorne Ward</i> Julie Dore John Robson Jack Scott	10	<i>Dore & Totley Ward</i> Joe Otten	19	<i>Mosborough Ward</i> David Barker Isobel Bowler Tony Downing
2	<i>Beauchief Greenhill Ward</i> Simon Clement-Jones Roy Munn Clive Skelton	11	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Garry Weatherall Joyce Wright	20	<i>Nether Edge Ward</i> Nikki Bond Anders Hanson Qurban Hussain
3	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Helen Mirfin-Boukouris Chris Rosling-Josephs Ian Saunders	12	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Penny Baker Roger Davison Diana Stimely	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> Martin Lawton Lynn Rooney
4	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	13	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Shelia Constance Alan Law Chris Weldon	22	<i>Shiregreen & Brightside Ward</i> Peter Price Sioned-Mair Richards Peter Rippon
5	<i>Broomhill Ward</i> Jayne Dunn Shaffaq Mohammed Stuart Wattam	14	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Sue Alston Andrew Sangar Janice Sidebottom	23	<i>Southey Ward</i> Leigh Bramall Tony Damms Gill Furniss
6	<i>Burngreave Ward</i> Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain	15	<i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i> Steve Jones Cate McDonald Tim Rippon	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Katie Condliffe
7	<i>Central Ward</i> Jillian Creasy Mohammad Maroof Robert Murphy	16	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Ian Auckland Bob McCann Denise Reaney	25	<i>Stockbridge & Upper Don Ward</i> Alison Brelsford Richard Crowther Philip Wood
8	<i>Crookes Ward</i> Sylvia Anginotti Rob Frost Geoff Smith	17	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Janet Bragg Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond	26	<i>Walkey Ward</i> Ben Curran Neale Gibson Nikki Sharpe
9	<i>Darnall Ward</i> Harry Harpham Mazher Iqbal Mary Lea	18	<i>Manor Castle Ward</i> Jenny Armstrong Terry Fox Pat Midgley	27	<i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i> Trevor Bagshaw Adam Hurst Alf Meade
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Mick Rooney Jackie Satur

1. STATEMENT CONCERNING HILLSBOROUGH

Prior to the commencement of the business of the meeting, the Lord Mayor (Councillor John Campbell) made the following statement concerning the release of the Hillsborough Independent Panel report:

“As this is the first Full Council meeting since the release of the Hillsborough Independent Panel report, I wish to make a short statement before we move on to the business of this meeting.

I am sure that I speak on behalf of everyone in the Council Chamber and in our City in saying that we welcome the release of this information, it is right that the truth has finally been revealed. The findings have vindicated the families in their 23-year struggle to establish the truth; that Liverpool fans were not responsible for the terrible tragedy that occurred in 1989. We hope that this will now enable the families of those who lost loved ones to finally find truth and justice.

The Council has pledged its continued co-operation with any further inquiries and investigations and has apologised for the failings of this Council at the time. I would like to reiterate this apology today.

We will continue to extend the arm of friendship to the bereaved families and the people of Liverpool and will now observe a minute’s silence to pay our respects to the people who lost their lives on that fateful day and their families who have struggled to find the truth for so many years.”

2. FORMER COUNCILLOR FRANK TAYLOR

The Lord Mayor stated that, in observing a minute’s silence, Members of the City Council would also acknowledge the recent sad death of former Councillor Frank Taylor. Members of the Council would have the opportunity later during the meeting to pay tribute to him.

The Council observed a minute’s silence.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ray Satur, Keith Hill and Colin Ross.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Karen McGowan declared a personal interest in Notice of Motion numbered 8 on the Council Summons as she is employed at the University of Sheffield. Councillor Jackie Drayton declared a personal interest in

Notice of Motion numbered 15 on the agenda as she is appointed to the University Technical College Board.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the special meeting of Council held on 5th September 2012 and the ordinary meeting held on 5th September 2012 were both approved as a correct record.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Petitions

Petition requesting pedestrian crossing facilities at Fitzwilliam Street

The Council received a petition containing 55 signatures, requesting pedestrian crossing facilities at Fitzwilliam Street, near the exit from the Headford and Egerton Estates.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Gareth Slater, who stated that, whilst there had been few accidents so far, there was concern about pedestrian safety and the addition of crossing facilities would improve both access and public safety.

The Council referred the petition to the Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development (Councillor Leigh Bramall) who stated that the Council received a large number of requests for pedestrian crossings. These were assessed according to several factors, including the danger to pedestrian safety at the particular location. The petition would be forwarded to the Council's Highways officers so that work could be undertaken and a judgement made concerning the proposal. He commented that the amount of money available for safety improvement schemes under the Local Transport Plan had been reduced by the Government by 50 percent.

6.2 Public Questions

(a) Public Question in relation to Abbeyfield Park House

Mr Tim Neal, Chair of the Friends of Abbeyfield Park, referred to the threat of closure of the Abbeyfield Park House, a Grade 2 listed building, in view of its extreme state of disrepair. He felt that the building had, in the past, been a valuable community asset and was an integral part of the Park and its closure would be an unacceptable loss of facility to the local community. He referred to the need to prevent the boarding up of the House as this would be detrimental to the appearance of the Park as was evidenced by the derelict appearance of other buildings nearby such as Osborne House and the former Burngreave Working Mens' Club.

He stated that the Burngreave Messenger local newspaper and other voluntary and community groups used the House. Mr Neal asked, in light of the Localism Bill and its requirement to consult with residents on the use of community assets, (a) would the Council assure the local community in Burngreave that it would maintain Abbeyfield Park House in order to keep it open for community use until such time that a sustainable plan for the House is developed (b) what consultation would the Council enter into on the use of the House and, in particular, who would be involved in the consultation (c) was their a timetable for a decision on the future of the House and (d) could the Council provide further information on the potential for the work required to the House being undertaken by a company other than Kier, the outcome of the recent audit of Council community assets and the extent to which their would be community input into future plans for the House?

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Councillor Bryan Lodge) responded that there was great concern about the condition of some of the Council's community assets and Council officers were examining the condition and use of these assets and the cost of bringing them up to a satisfactory state of repair on a value for money basis. In terms of identifying where investment in assets could be best utilised in Burngreave, Abbeyfield House had been identified as being under used and that there was capacity elsewhere in the area to accommodate the requirements of local groups for meeting space.

He added that there was a need to identify users of these facilities and for Friend's Groups to help lead the restoration of these facilities. As far as the Audit of Assets was concerned, it was early in the process and he was reluctant to specify a timescale for the repair of any facility as this could raise hopes and expectations which might not be realised. However, Councillor Lodge assured Mr Neal that the Council were required to undertake the necessary repairs through Kier Property Services and, therefore, were unable to ask others to do the work.

He knew that Councillors from the Burngreave ward had had been involved in discussions with Properties and Facilities officers, who would, in the near future, be exploring options for the future of the House. However, he cautioned that the roof of the building was in a poor state of repair and would cost approximately £150,000 and, in the current climate it would be difficult to identify funding in the Council's Capital Programme, although officers would continue to investigate sources of funding. Currently, there were no proposals to board up the House but a sustainable plan would be sought with tenants', residents and Ward Councillors with whom he would raise the issues included in Mr Neal's question.

(b) Accreditation, procurement and mismanagement

Karen Greenhalgh asked how the Council intended to respond to the following points relating to the insulation scheme on the Hanover/Lansdowne estate.

1. There is a plethora of information about British Board of Agreement (BBA) and ETA accredited systems with regard to insulated solid wall installation. The scheme on Hanover/Lansdowne is a hybrid of BBA accredited products allegedly installed by Inca accredited sub-contractors. Can the Council provide the certificate of accreditation for the project?
2. All systems are accredited to be put on a masonry wall, not class 3-high fire risk Smartply, as the wall. Is it acceptable to increase the fire risk?
3. Smartply is now being called a 'bracing' product when in fact it is being used as the wall. Would you please ensure the technical specification is sent to me?
4. It appears that building control played a large role to engineer the scheme being delivered in this manner. Why was I never told who to ask when I began questioning about this overpriced scheme?
5. In light of Sir Richard Branson successfully challenging a £15 million per bidder procurement process successfully, what remedial action is this Council going to take with their outdated procurement process which has delivered:
 - (i) inefficient management i.e. a scheme begun on an estate eligible for only 50% CESP (Community Energy Saving Programme) funding in preference to the 100% funded estate. (We have it in writing 2 contractors could work on the estate simultaneously.)
 - (ii) The Cabinet Minister for housing appears to think being in the 5% for the entire country is Not poor enough and redistributed CESP funding to the 'more needy.'
 - (iii) The 'Green Deal' officially began October 1st 2012. Many leaseholders qualify for ECO i.e. funding from the energy companies for expensive solid wall insulation, gratis to low income households. What is the Council going to do to ensure this is accessed for this Hanover/Lansdowne project?

Does the Council still think it is still acceptable to do nothing to assist 78 'working poor' to access vital funding?

In response, the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods (Councillor Harry Harpham) stated that the questions which had been asked were quite technical ones and he did not have the information to answer all of them at the Council meeting. He requested that Karen Greenhalgh leave details of her questions with an officer. If an answer to a question had not been previously provided to her, he would answer it in writing.

Councillor Harpham stated that, for clarity, there had been considerable investment of £5 million in the Hanover and Lansdowne estates which did not present a fire risk. The questioners' comparison with the difficulties concerning the West Coast Mainline was not a useful one. The Council had consulted with residents, tenants and leaseholders before starting the programme of work on Lansdowne/Hanover. Additionally, there had been discussions with those leaseholders who had not been satisfied with the scope of the work.

In relation to help for people who were finding it difficult to pay their bills, the Council sent information to help people to understand the help that was available from the Council and other organisations. The Council was also helping as many people as possible to avoid fuel poverty and as the Cabinet Member, it was his responsibility to help keep as many people out of fuel poverty as possible, given the current economic circumstances.

He would answer the remaining questions in writing, as stated previously.

(c) Public questions concerning outsourcing of public services

Nigel Slack referred to the extent of profits made by private companies which ran public services on behalf of public sector organisations; the proportion of public funds which represented private company profit and dividends paid to shareholders; and the level of public oversight in how public money was spent.

Mr Slack asked the Council to undertake a root and branch re-evaluation of its attitude to outsourcing and put firm policies in place to limit its scope and to extend its transparency and accountability. He referred to suggestions which he could contribute.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Councillor Bryan Lodge) stated that he was aware that Mr Slack had discussed matters with Council Officers and had received details of how the Council outsourced services to companies in the private sector and the ways in which it holds such companies to account.

There was analysis concerning average level of profit represented in contracts, which in some cases was 7 percent, but only 2 to 3 percent in others. The City Council benchmarked to make sure that it achieved best value in relation to contracts which were outsourced. The benefits of outsourced services included modernising and improvements to services and the involvement of third sector partners.

In house or partnering service models were used where they provided the best value for money. It was also not assumed that services, once outsourced, would remain so. The Council had in place robust procedures in terms of objectives, performance measures, quality standards, contract management processes and governance and was viewed as a role model for other local authorities.

Accountability was provided for by the Chief Executive and Executive Directors and elected Members who held services and the Directors to account through the Council's Scrutiny Committees.

Some information was commercially confidential and could only be made public with the consent of the companies concerned.

The City Council was interested in improving efficiency and Councillor Lodge asked Mr Slack to share the suggestions, which he had referred to in his question.

(d) Public Question concerning prostitution in the Kelham Island area

Gareth Slater asked what was being done about the increasing incidence of prostitution in the Kelham Island area. He referred to the partnership approach which had been taken in relation to the issue previously and to comments by a local business which was concerned about opening beyond normal daytime hours.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods (Councillor Harry Harpham) stated that he thought that prostitution was under control in the Kelham Island area. He would ask the police to investigate Mr Slater's concerns and particularly to look at the fear and anti social behaviour caused by men who cruised around the area.

(e) Public question concerning flood defences at Kelham Island

Gareth Slater asked what was being done in relation to flood defences in the Kelham Island area and he referred to dredging which had been undertaken previously and improvements to the flood wall.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene (Councillor Jack Scott) thanked those who worked as flood wardens in the City. He stated that he would respond to Mr Slater separately, in writing, in relation to dredging in the Kelham Island area.

Councillor Scott referred to the Nursery Street Pocket Park development, which included design elements that would contribute to the mitigation of flooding in the Lower Don. He also referred to the role of the Riverside Stewardship Company.

The Council would complete its River Strategy later this year, which would look at de-culverting some of the City's rivers, thereby not forcing water through narrow channels.

The Lower Don Valley Action Plan, which Councillor Scott said he could make available to Mr Slater, outlined some options which might be pursued jointly with other organisations such as the Chamber of Commerce, including the creation of a business improvement district. Businesses were

an important part of a future solution to mitigate against flooding.

The South Yorkshire Forest Partnership was examining improvement to the catchment of water in the Peak District moorland around Sheffield, including the contribution of woodland. Discussions were also being held with Yorkshire Water and the City's Streets Ahead programme included the maintenance of gullies to ensure these were regularly emptied and that debris did not build up, to improve water drainage. However, in the case of a 1 in 200 year flood event, there was still a risk of flooding.

(f) Public Questions concerning documents sent to the Information Commissioner

Martin Brighton referred to statements made to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) by the Council. He asked if elected Members of the Council thought it acceptable that documents created by the Council's Legal department and released to the Commissioner contained lies? He also referred to statements saying that he had a history of multiple questions on a subject and prevented other people from asking public questions. He asked what the Council would do to right the wrongs he now outlined and ensure that the ICO was told the truth and that such behaviour is not repeated.

In response, the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore) stated that Mr Brighton's questions referred to specific instances of where information was sent to the Information Commissioner, the accuracy of which she could not comment upon. Councillor Dore stated that if Mr Brighton pointed out to her what information he believed to be false or incorrect, then she would look into the matter. Some of the matters raised might be down to interpretation.

Councillor Dore referred to the time limits for public questions at the Council's public meetings, and Members of the public who asked questions were asked to be mindful that other people should also have their opportunity to ask a question. She stated that she recognised that Mr Brighton was indeed mindful of other people's right to speak on most occasions.

7. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

7.1 Urgent Business

There were no questions relating to urgent business under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.6(ii).

7.2 Questions

A schedule of questions to Cabinet Members, submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16, and which contained written answers, was

circulated and supplementary questions under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.4 were asked and were answered by the appropriate Cabinet Members.

7.3 South Yorkshire Joint Authorities

There were no questions relating to the discharge of the functions of the South Yorkshire Joint Authorities for Fire and Rescue, Integrated Transport, Pensions or Police under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.6(i).

8. REPRESENTATION, DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND RELATED ISSUES

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that (a) approval be given to the following changes to the memberships of Committees, Panels, Groups, etc:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Planning and Highways Committee Substitute Members | - Remove Councillor Denise Reaney to create a vacancy |
| Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education | - Councillor Alison Brelsford to fill a vacancy |
| Corporate Parenting Panel | - Councillor Penny Baker to fill a vacancy |
| Cycle Forum | - Councillor Ian Auckland to fill a vacancy |
| East End Strategy Group | - Councillor Ian Auckland to fill a vacancy |
| Environmental Performance Working Party | - Councillor Joe Otten to fill a vacancy |
| Fairer Charging Commission | - Councillor Denise Reaney to fill a vacancy |
| Monitoring and Advisory Board (Adult Services) | - Councillor Denise Reaney to fill a vacancy |
| Motorists Forum | - Councillor Ian Auckland to fill a vacancy |
| Pedestrians Forum | - Councillor Ian Auckland to fill a vacancy |
| Walking Forum | - Councillor Trevor Bagshaw to fill a vacancy |

Allotments and Leisure Gardens Advisory Group - Councillor Garry Weatherall to replace Councillor Steve Wilson

(b) approval be given to appoint representatives to serve on other bodies as follows:-

Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust - Councillor Geoff Smith to replace Councillor Ben Curran

South Yorkshire Forest Partnership Steering Group - Councillor Leigh Bramall to replace Councillor Isobel Bowler

Learning Disabilities Partnership Board - Councillor Diana Stimely to fill a vacancy

Mental Health Partnership Board - Councillor Diana Stimely to fill a vacancy

Parkwood Landfill Liaison Group - Councillor Trevor Bagshaw to fill a vacancy

Sheffield First for Health and Wellbeing - Councillor Roger Davison to fill a vacancy

Sheffield Health and Social Care Foundation Trust – Council of Governors - Councillor Roger Davison to fill a vacancy

Sheffield Tobacco Control Programme Accountable Board - Councillor Andrew Sangar to fill a vacancy

South Yorkshire Trading Standards Joint Committee - Councillor Trevor Bagshaw to fill a vacancy

(c) it be noted that, in accordance with the authority given by the City Council at its annual meeting held on 16th May 2012, the Chief Executive had authorised the following appointment on 13th September, 2012:-

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority - Councillor Mazher Iqbal to replace Councillor Harry Harpham

9. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING ECONOMIC RECOVERY

It was moved by Councillor Adam Hurst, seconded by Councillor Tony Downing, that this Council:-

- (a) acknowledges that the Government public sector net borrowing was £14.4bn in August, the biggest deficit for the month since records began with borrowing currently 22% more than last year;
- (b) notes we are experiencing the slowest economic recovery in modern memory due to this Government's mis-management of economic policy;
- (c) regrets that for August 2012, corporation tax receipts fell by 2.1% and benefits payments rose by 4.9% showing that Government cuts are forcing more people into the welfare system and stifling the success of businesses;
- (d) believes these figures make it more likely that the Government will fail to achieve its aim of wiping out the structural budget deficit by 2015;
- (e) is dismayed at the failure of the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) to boost growth in the economy; in a report from The Commons Public Accounts Committee the RGF was called "nothing short of scandalous" criticising the Government's management of the Fund after finding that only £60m of the £1.4bn fund had reached front-line projects;
- (f) holds the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills responsible for the failings;
- (g) recognises that quantitative easing is not enough to stimulate the economy, the Government must do more to stimulate growth;
- (h) regrets that because of the Government's mis-management of the economy, with slower growth and higher unemployment, spending reductions are now set to continue beyond the current Parliament;
- (i) believes that the Government should now change course and take action to secure growth and supports Labour's five-point growth plan for jobs and growth which includes:
 - (i) repealing the bank bonus tax and using the money to build 25,000 affordable homes and guarantee a job for 100,000 young people;
 - (ii) bringing forward long term investment projects, such as schools, roads and transport, to create jobs;
 - (iii) reversing the Government's VAT rise now for a temporary period;
 - (iv) an immediate one-year cut in VAT to 5% on home

improvements, repairs and maintenance; and

- (v) a one-year national insurance tax break for every small firm which takes on extra workers;
- (j) is aware that child poverty is rising as a result of the failure of this Government to manage the economy; more than one in four children in the UK lives in poverty, many in working families; under current Government policies, child poverty is projected to rise from 2012/13 with an expected 300,000 more children living in poverty by 2015/16 and this upward trend is expected to continue with 4.2 million children projected to be living in poverty by 2020;
- (k) notes the irony of the Liberal Democrat Party, who's Leader has backed a cut in the top rate of tax resulting in a £3 billion tax cut for millionaires in the Budget while asking millions of pensioners and families to pay more, holding their annual conference around the theme "fair tax in tough times";
- (l) believes there is nothing fair about a family with children paying an average £511 extra from changes the Government has brought in this year, while millionaires will get a £40,000 tax cut next year and believes that the Liberal Democrats will be judged on what they do, not what they say;
- (m) calls on the Government, which has created a double dip recession and is continuing to borrow more, missing its own targets while continuing to hit hard working families through tax rises and spending cuts, at the same time as they are cutting taxes for millionaires, to change course; and
- (n) directs that a copy of this motion is sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Rob Frost, seconded by Councillor Ian Auckland, as an amendment, 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) believes no-one should underestimate the economic mess left by the last Government as a result of the light touch banking regulation masterminded by Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP and Rt Hon Ed Balls MP;
- (b) notes the previous Government's questionable ability to handle public finances, increasing the national deficit year-on-year from 2001 onwards, reaching a total of £43bn prior to the economic crash;

- (c) however, notes the commitment of the last Government to halve the deficit by 2014, by pledging £82bn worth of cuts, alongside recent statements by the Rt Hon Ed Balls MP, confirming a Labour Government would be “ruthless” about cutting public spending if Labour wins the next election;
- (d) supports the decisive action taken by the Coalition Government, which has seen the structural deficit cut by a quarter since 2010, allowing the United Kingdom to avoid a loss of confidence experienced in Greece, Ireland and Italy;
- (e) welcomes the Sheffield City Region Deal, which has the potential to deliver 4,000 new apprenticeships, 2,000 employees with new training, and 12,000 new jobs at the City’s enterprise zone, which has been named the most attractive for businesses in the United Kingdom;
- (f) further welcomes the hundreds of millions of pounds of investment in the region’s infrastructure, including the recent announcement of the electrification of the Midland Main Line, the start of the Streets Ahead project, and the financial backing for a Sheffield University Technical College;
- (g) furthermore, commends the Government’s commitment to increase the income tax threshold to £10,000, cutting the tax bill of 24 million people and taking 2 million low paid workers out of income tax;
- (h) contrasts this to the last Government, who scrapped the 10p tax rate, doubling the tax bill for some of the lowest paid in the country and allowed hedge fund managers to pay less tax than their cleaners;
- (i) embraces recent comments made by the Deputy Prime Minister at the Liberal Democrat Conference, which encourage moves towards additional taxes on the very wealthy;
- (j) furthermore, welcomes the vote of representatives at the Liberal Democrat Conference, which endorsed the Government’s deficit reduction strategy; and
- (k) however, would still like to see the Coalition go further in promoting a more Liberal economy and therefore supports proposals discussed at the Conference including:
 - (i) developing a more sustainable banking industry;
 - (ii) further rebalancing the economy from the City of London to Northern cities like Sheffield;
 - (iii) increasing the powers of the Green Investment Bank;
 - (iv) increasing the numbers of mutuals, co-operatives and

- (v) employee owned businesses; and ring fencing the Government's science budget.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negatived.

Motion to move to next business

During the debate, it was moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, that the Council does now proceed to next business.

On being put to the vote, the motion was negatived.

It was then moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (i) and the addition of a new paragraph (i) as follows:-
 - (i) acknowledges that Labour's five point plan, whilst well intentioned, is a sticking plaster for a national economy that needs real reform for social and economic benefit and therefore believes the Government should implement a package of measures including:
 - (i) setting up a people's bank that is locally managed, which offers a sustainable local service to small businesses and residents;
 - (ii) investing massively in a Green New Deal, creating a million new jobs and turning Britain into a world leader in sustainable industries;
 - (iii) abolishing the upper limit for national insurance contributions and cutting tax avoidance and evasion, gaining £20 billion each year and making sure that those who are able to pay do so;
 - (iv) abolishing VAT relief on financial services, aviation fuel and gambling, gaining £12 billion each year and removing Government subsidies to socially and environmentally damaging activities; and
 - (v) re-investing in public services, recognising that austerity only leads to lost tax revenue, lost vital services, lost demand for private and third sector contracts, and a social blight of poverty and unemployment;
2. the deletion of paragraph (n) and the addition of new paragraphs (n) to (r) as follows:-

- (n) directs that a copy of this Motion is sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills;
- (o) notes that there is currently a consultation on the economic future of Sheffield;
- (p) believes it is important that all communities are engaged and involved in the economic future of Sheffield;
- (q) believes that there needs to be a sustainable approach to business and enterprise that concentrates on the vital role of the local economy in providing employment and routes to social well-being; and
- (r) recognises the important role Sheffield City Council can play in encouraging fairly paid, secure employment that is the desire of those most in need in the City.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negated.

(Note: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Vickie Priestley) and Councillors Simon Clement Jones, Shaffaq Mohammed, Rob Frost, Sylvia Anginotti, Joe Otten, Penny Baker, Diana Stimely, Roger Davison, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Janice Sidebottom, Denise Reaney, Ian Auckland, Anders Hanson, Katie Condliffe, David Baker, Alison Brelsford and Trevor Bagshaw voted for Paragraph 2 and against Paragraph 1 of amendment and asked for this to be recorded.)

After a right of reply from Councillor Adam Hurst, the original Motion was put to the vote and carried, as follows:

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) acknowledges that the Government public sector net borrowing was £14.4bn in August, the biggest deficit for the month since records began with borrowing currently 22% more than last year;
- (b) notes we are experiencing the slowest economic recovery in modern memory due to this Government's mis-management of economic policy;
- (c) regrets that for August 2012, corporation tax receipts fell by 2.1% and benefits payments rose by 4.9% showing that Government cuts are forcing more people into the welfare system and stifling the success of businesses;
- (d) believes these figures make it more likely that the Government will fail to achieve its aim of wiping out the structural budget deficit by

2015;

- (e) is dismayed at the failure of the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) to boost growth in the economy; in a report from The Commons Public Accounts Committee the RGF was called “nothing short of scandalous” criticising the Government’s management of the Fund after finding that only £60m of the £1.4bn fund had reached front-line projects;
- (f) holds the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills responsible for the failings;
- (g) recognises that quantitative easing is not enough to stimulate the economy, the Government must do more to stimulate growth;
- (h) regrets that because of the Government’s mis-management of the economy, with slower growth and higher unemployment, spending reductions are now set to continue beyond the current Parliament;
- (i) believes that the Government should now change course and take action to secure growth and supports Labour’s five-point growth plan for jobs and growth which includes:
 - (i) repeating the bank bonus tax and using the money to build 25,000 affordable homes and guarantee a job for 100,000 young people;
 - (ii) bringing forward long term investment projects, such as schools, roads and transport, to create jobs;
 - (iii) reversing the Government’s VAT rise now for a temporary period;
 - (iv) an immediate one-year cut in VAT to 5% on home improvements, repairs and maintenance; and
 - (v) a one-year national insurance tax break for every small firm which takes on extra workers;
- (j) is aware that child poverty is rising as a result of the failure of this Government to manage the economy; more than one in four children in the UK lives in poverty, many in working families; under current Government policies, child poverty is projected to rise from 2012/13 with an expected 300,000 more children living in poverty by 2015/16 and this upward trend is expected to continue with 4.2 million children projected to be living in poverty by 2020;
- (k) notes the irony of the Liberal Democrat Party, who’s Leader has backed a cut in the top rate of tax resulting in a £3 billion tax cut for

millionaires in the Budget while asking millions of pensioners and families to pay more, holding their annual conference around the theme “fair tax in tough times”;

- (l) believes there is nothing fair about a family with children paying an average £511 extra from changes the Government has brought in this year, while millionaires will get a £40,000 tax cut next year and believes that the Liberal Democrats will be judged on what they do, not what they say;
- (m) calls on the Government, which has created a double dip recession and is continuing to borrow more, missing its own targets while continuing to hit hard working families through tax rises and spending cuts, at the same time as they are cutting taxes for millionaires, to change course; and
- (n) directs that a copy of this motion is sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills

(Note: Councillors Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for Paragraphs (a) to (h) and (j) to (n) and abstained on Paragraph (i) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

10. FORMER COUNCILLOR FRANK TAYLOR

Members of the Council paid tribute to former Councillor Frank Taylor, who had recently died. He was a City Council Member for both the Intake Ward and Gleadless Valley Ward.

11. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING EDUCATION REFORM

It was moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Jenny Armstrong, that this Council:

- (a) believes this Government is making a shambles of education reform;
- (b) is disappointed that the new English Baccalaureate Certificate seems to have been thought up without proper consultation with unions, teachers or school leaders and are not based on evidence or on expert opinion from education professionals or businesses and that the Secretary of State for Education (the Rt. Hon. Michael Gove, MP), should have engaged with experts and companies to ensure young people get the skills for jobs of the future;
- (c) is concerned that the new system will create a two tier system that

will see many leave school with no or inferior qualifications and notes a source quoted in the Mail on Sunday suggesting that the long term objective is to bring back a two tier system: "Schools will be given time to raise their game and adjust to that. If they can't, or decide their pupils simply aren't up to taking the new exam they may be forced to find a different option. That could reopen the debate about having another, less difficult exam.'

- (d) worries that students with learning difficulties have been overlooked in these proposals; the British Dyslexia Association said a renewed emphasis on exams rather than coursework and the breaking of two-year studies into smaller units and the extra stress associated with once-and-for-all exams could disadvantage candidates with some learning difficulties; the changes would also damage their chances of going on to higher education;
- (e) is concerned that the over emphasis on academic subjects will marginalise sport and arts and this approach has already been demonstrated through changing focus away from vocational education, cuts to support for vocational education services and cuts to funding to support work experience placements;
- (f) believes that these changes are out of date, from a Conservative-led Government totally out of touch with modern Britain and will produce an elitist system;
- (g) thinks that GCSE English exam papers should be remarked in England as they were in Wales; many students will struggle to go on to further education due to receiving lower than expected grades in English;
- (h) notes a recent report from Ofsted indicating that the Pupil Premium is not working in the way it was intended, because it fails to offset the cuts the Government has made to the schools budget, the report highlights that only 1 in 10 head teachers say the Pupil Premium is having a significant effect on supporting pupils from less well-off backgrounds, and that the funding is being used to plug holes in schools budgets, created by the biggest cuts in education spending since the 1950s; and
- (i) believes that this Government is making it difficult for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to get the education they deserve and directs that a copy of this motion be sent to the Secretary of State for Education to relay these concerns to Government.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Joe Otten, as an amendment, 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 plans to reform Key Stage 4 examination, which have been backed by a number of experts including Sir Mike Tomlinson, the former Chief Inspector of Schools;
- (b) however, reiterates its opposition to a two-tier system of examination;
- (c) therefore, lauds the notable policy changes secured by Liberal Democrats in Government, as set out in a report of The Financial Times on September 17th 2012, which include:
 - (i) avoiding the re-introduction of a two-tier system, by ensuring weaker pupils will not be entered into simpler exams; and
 - (ii) no return to “norm-referencing”, a process whereby grades are awarded to a fixed number of pupils;
- (d) further commends Liberal Democrats in Government for securing the Pupil Premium, which has seen £11.4 million invested into Sheffield schools this academic year, a figure which will continue to grow year-on-year;
- (e) notes recent comments by Lord Andrew Adonis, Minister of State for Education during the last Government, in which he stated, “I wish we had introduced the Pupil Premium”;
- (f) supports the moves by the Coalition Government to boost vocational education, including:
 - (i) increasing spending on apprenticeships in its first year by £250 million – a 50% increase on the previous Government’s commitments;
 - (ii) implementing a £1 billion Youth Contract, to tackle unemployment among 16-24 year-olds; and
 - (iii) providing financial backing for a Sheffield University Technical College, which will deliver vital skills and training to the next generation of Sheffielders; and
- (g) also welcomes announcements made at the recent Liberal Democrat Conference, which will help support disadvantaged children and young people, including:
 - (i) a further £100m to repeat the successful Summer Schools programme in 2013 and 2014;
 - (ii) an increase in the Pupil Premium entitlement to £900 a year for each disadvantaged child; and
 - (iii) an additional £50 million a year to provide extra tuition to 11-year-olds who are struggling with poor maths and reading skills.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negatived.

It was then moved by Councillor Karen McGowan, seconded by Councillor Martin Lawton, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (i) and (j) as follows and the relettering of original paragraph (i) as a new paragraph (k):-

- (i) is disappointed at the news that there were almost 30,000 fewer applications for university places this year due to the increase in tuition fees to £9000 per year, making further education unaffordable and undesirable for many students;
- (j) regrets that the Government's decision to treble fees has clearly deterred people from applying to university;

Motion to move to next business

During the debate, it was moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, that the Council does now proceed to next business.

On being put to the vote, the motion was negated.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

After a right of reply from Councillor Jackie Drayton, the original Motion, as amended, was put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) believes this Government is making a shambles of education reform;
- (b) is disappointed that the new English Baccalaureate Certificate seems to have been thought up without proper consultation with unions, teachers or school leaders and are not based on evidence or on expert opinion from education professionals or businesses and that the Secretary of State for Education (the Rt. Hon. Michael Gove, MP), should have engaged with experts and companies to ensure young people get the skills for jobs of the future;
- (c) is concerned that the new system will create a two tier system that will see many leave school with no or inferior qualifications and notes a source quoted in the Mail on Sunday suggesting that the long term objective is to bring back a two tier system: "Schools will be given time to raise their game and adjust to that. If they can't, or decide their pupils simply aren't up to taking the new exam they may be forced to find a different option. That could reopen the debate about having another, less difficult exam";

- (d) worries that students with learning difficulties have been overlooked in these proposals; the British Dyslexia Association said a renewed emphasis on exams rather than coursework and the breaking of two-year studies into smaller units and the extra stress associated with once-and-for-all exams could disadvantage candidates with some learning difficulties; the changes would also damage their chances of going on to higher education;
- (e) is concerned that the over emphasis on academic subjects will marginalise sport and arts and this approach has already been demonstrated through changing focus away from vocational education, cuts to support for vocational education services and cuts to funding to support work experience placements;
- (f) believes that these changes are out of date, from a Conservative-led Government totally out of touch with modern Britain and will produce an elitist system;
- (g) thinks that GCSE English exam papers should be remarked in England as they were in Wales; many students will struggle to go on to further education due to receiving lower than expected grades in English;
- (h) notes a recent report from Ofsted indicating that the Pupil Premium is not working in the way it was intended, because it fails to offset the cuts the Government has made to the schools budget, the report highlights that only 1 in 10 head teachers say the Pupil Premium is having a significant effect on supporting pupils from less well-off backgrounds, and that the funding is being used to plug holes in schools' budgets, created by the biggest cuts in education spending since the 1950s;
- (i) is disappointed at the news that there were almost 30,000 fewer applications for university places this year due to the increase in tuition fees to £9000 per year, making further education unaffordable and undesirable for many students;
- (j) regrets that the Government's decision to treble fees has clearly deterred people from applying to university; and
- (k) believes that this Government is making it difficult for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds to get the education they deserve and directs that a copy of this motion be sent to the Secretary of State for Education to relay these concerns to Government.

(Councillors Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for Paragraphs (b) (d) (e) (h) (i) (j) and (k) and abstained on Paragraphs (a), (c), (f) and (g) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

12. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING BROADBAND SERVICES

It was moved by Councillor Alison Brelsford, seconded by Councillor Trevor Bagshaw, that this Council:-

- (a) believes a superfast broadband network will be the foundation of a new British economic dynamism, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs and adding billions to our Gross Domestic Product;
- (b) supports the commitment of the Coalition Government to ensure the UK has the best broadband network in Europe by 2015;
- (c) however, notes the recent report of The Country Land and Business Association, which claims that up to a fifth of people in rural areas still do not have adequate broadband services and that economic development in rural areas is being put at risk because of failures to provide adequate access to the internet;
- (d) recalls the Council's Rural Communities Strategy 2010-13, which commits to finding solutions for rural communities that did not have adequate broadband access;
- (e) understands that many rural communities in Sheffield still do not have adequate broadband access; and
- (f) therefore, directs the Chief Executive to bring a report to the Council's Cabinet detailing progress in delivering broadband for rural communities and setting out future steps the Council can take to ensure access is fully rolled-out.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Ian Saunders, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the addition of the words “, however, regrets that this has not been matched by the necessary resources to deliver this commitment” at the end of paragraph (b);
- 2. the addition of new paragraphs (c) and (d) as follows and the relettering of original paragraphs (c) to (f) as new paragraphs (e) to (h);
- (c) notes research from the London School of Economics indicating that Government targets on broadband are unlikely to be met due to a £1.1 billion funding gap;
- (d) regrets that in the Government's recent announcement to award broadband funding to Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol,

Cardiff, Edinburgh, Leeds, Bradford, London, Manchester and Newcastle, Sheffield received nothing despite bidding into the scheme and believes that Sheffield should have received this funding;

3. the deletion in new paragraph (f) of all the words after the words “recalls the” and their substitution by the words “Digital Region project which has built a 350 mile fibre optic network across the entire region, including rural communities”;
4. the deletion in new paragraph (g) of the word “rural” and the addition of the words “including in rural communities, despite the progression of the Digital Region Project” at the end of that paragraph; and
5. the insertion between the words “broadband” and “for” in new paragraph (h), of the words “through the Digital Region Project, including implications”.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

After a right of reply from Councillor Alison Brelsford, the original Motion, as amended, was put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) believes a superfast broadband network will be the foundation of a new British economic dynamism, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs and adding billions to our Gross Domestic Product;
- (b) supports the commitment of the Coalition Government to ensure the UK has the best broadband network in Europe by 2015, however, regrets that this has not been matched by the necessary resources to deliver this commitment;
- (c) notes research from the London School of Economics indicating that Government targets on broadband are unlikely to be met due to a £1.1 billion funding gap;
- (d) regrets that in the Government’s recent announcement to award broadband funding to Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Leeds, Bradford, London, Manchester and Newcastle, Sheffield received nothing despite bidding into the scheme and believes that Sheffield should have received this funding;
- (e) however, notes the recent report of The Country Land and Business Association, which claims that up to a fifth of people in

rural areas still do not have adequate broadband services and that economic development in rural areas is being put at risk because of failures to provide adequate access to the internet;

- (f) recalls the Digital Region project which has built a 350 mile fibre optic network across the entire region, including rural communities;
- (g) understands that many communities in Sheffield still do not have adequate broadband access, including in rural communities, despite the progression of the Digital Region Project; and
- (h) therefore, directs the Chief Executive to bring a report to the Council's Cabinet detailing progress in delivering broadband through the Digital Region Project, including implications for rural communities and setting out future steps the Council can take to ensure access is fully rolled-out.

(Note: 1. The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Vickie Priestley) and Councillors Simon Clement Jones, Shaffaq Mohammed, Rob Frost, Sylvia Anginotti, Joe Otten, Penny Baker, Diana Stimely, Roger Davison, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Janice Sidebottom, Denise Reaney, Ian Auckland, Anders Hanson, Katie Condliffe, David Baker, Alison Brelsford and Trevor Bagshaw voted for Paragraphs (a) and (e) to (h) and against Paragraphs (b) (c) and (d) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillors Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for Paragraphs (b) to (h) and abstained on Paragraph (a) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

13. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE CREDIT

It was moved by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Cate McDonald, that this Council:-

- (a) welcomes the UK-wide campaign to end 'legal loan sharking';
- (b) believes that the lack of access to affordable credit is socially and economically damaging; unaffordable credit is causing a myriad of unwanted effects such as poorer diets, colder homes, rent, council tax and utility arrears, depression (which impacts on job seeking behaviour) and poor health;
- (c) is aware that some loan and credit companies are charging annual interest rates equivalent to over 2500% (despite the Bank of England base rate being just 0.5%); borrowing at these rates repeatedly tips customers into inescapable cycles of debt and poverty;

- (d) further notes that unaffordable credit is extracting wealth from the most deprived communities;
- (e) anticipates that the situation is likely to get worse as wages are not increasing at the rate of inflation and an increasing number on low incomes are accessing 'pay day' loans and at the same time people will struggle to adjust to universal credit payments which will be paid monthly, resulting in thousands of residents struggling to balance their personal finances;
- (f) believes it is the responsibility of all levels of government to try to ensure affordable credit for all, and therefore pledges to use best practice to promote financial literacy and affordable lending; this will help to ensure that wealth stays in the local economy;
- (g) pledges to help promote credit unions which are community based organisations offering access to affordable credit and promoting saving in Sheffield;
- (h) calls on the Government to introduce caps on the total lending rates that can be charged for providing credit; and
- (i) believes that cleaning up the finance industry is essential to a sustainable economic recovery.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Alison Brelsford, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (g) as follows and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (g) to (i) as new paragraphs (h) to (j):-

- (g) welcomes the Government's commitment to investing £38m in helping Credit Unions to modernise and expand;

On being put to the vote, the amendment was negatived.

The original Motion was then put to the vote and carried, as follows:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) welcomes the UK-wide campaign to end 'legal loan sharking';
- (b) believes that the lack of access to affordable credit is socially and economically damaging; unaffordable credit is causing a myriad of unwanted effects such as poorer diets, colder homes, rent, council tax and utility arrears, depression (which impacts on job seeking behaviour) and poor health;
- (c) is aware that some loan and credit companies are charging

- annual interest rates equivalent to over 2500% (despite the Bank of England base rate being just 0.5%); borrowing at these rates repeatedly tips customers into inescapable cycles of debt and poverty;
- (d) further notes that unaffordable credit is extracting wealth from the most deprived communities;
 - (e) anticipates that the situation is likely to get worse as wages are not increasing at the rate of inflation and an increasing number on low incomes are accessing 'pay day' loans and at the same time people will struggle to adjust to universal credit payments which will be paid monthly, resulting in thousands of residents struggling to balance their personal finances;
 - (f) believes it is the responsibility of all levels of government to try to ensure affordable credit for all, and therefore pledges to use best practice to promote financial literacy and affordable lending; this will help to ensure that wealth stays in the local economy;
 - (g) pledges to help promote credit unions which are community based organisations offering access to affordable credit and promoting saving in Sheffield;
 - (h) calls on the Government to introduce caps on the total lending rates that can be charged for providing credit; and
 - (i) believes that cleaning up the finance industry is essential to a sustainable economic recovery.

Councillors Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for Paragraphs (a) to (g) and (i) and abstained on Paragraph (h) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

14. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING CARRIAGE OF BICYCLES ON TRAMS AND TRAINS

It was moved by Councillor Peter Price, seconded by Councillor Ben Curran, that this Council: recognises the fact that many European cities allow bicycles on their trams and also local trains using the rail network, all without any reported problems, and therefore supports 'The Sheffield Cycle Forum' campaign to call upon the partners on the Tram Train pilot project which is to be trialed on the new proposed link between Sheffield and Rotherham, to allow the carrying of bicycles as part of that pilot and requests that the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority make representations to Stagecoach indicating support for this campaign.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by

Councillor Robert Murphy, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the insertion of the "(a)" after the words "That this Council" and the deletion of all the words after the words "to allow the carrying of bicycles as part of that pilot" at the end of that paragraph; and
2. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (i) as follows:-
 - (b) recalls that in a motion passed unanimously in June 2012, which welcomed investment in a tram/train pilot for Sheffield and Rotherham, the Council also resolved to make efforts to ensure that bicycles would be carried on the new tram/trains;
 - (c) is disappointed to learn that, due to Stagecoach's conditions of carriage, it is now anticipated that bicycles will not be carried;
 - (d) notes that heavy rail franchises are expected, as a general principle, to carry bicycles;
 - (e) believes that, as this is a national pilot, it is vital that the feasibility of carrying bicycles on tram/trains is tested and that Sheffield leads the way in terms of integrated transport;
 - (f) notes that chairs and buggies needed by vulnerable travellers such as disabled people and young children would have priority over bicycles in the same way as they do on trains;
 - (g) calls on Stagecoach to amend the conditions of carriage to accommodate the carriage of bicycles on the trial tram-trains;
 - (h) calls on the Department for Transport, which is promoting the pilot, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive which is leading on delivery, and the other partners, namely Network Rail and Northern Rail, to also bring pressure to bear on Stagecoach to resolve this issue; and
 - (i) requests that copies of this motion be sent to the Chief Executives of Stagecoach, all the bodies named in paragraph (g) above, the Leader of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and all MPs representing Rotherham and Sheffield.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) recognises the fact that many European cities allow bicycles on their

trams and also local trains using the rail network, all without any reported problems, and therefore supports 'The Sheffield Cycle Forum' campaign to call upon the partners on the Tram Train pilot project which is to be trialed on the new proposed link between Sheffield and Rotherham, to allow the carrying of bicycles as part of that pilot ;

- (b) recalls that in a motion passed unanimously in June 2012, which welcomed investment in a tram/train pilot for Sheffield and Rotherham, the Council also resolved to make efforts to ensure that bicycles would be carried on the new tram/trains;
- (c) is disappointed to learn that, due to Stagecoach's conditions of carriage, it is now anticipated that bicycles will not be carried;
- (d) notes that heavy rail franchises are expected, as a general principle, to carry bicycles;
- (e) believes that, as this is a national pilot, it is vital that the feasibility of carrying bicycles on tram/trains is tested and that Sheffield leads the way in terms of integrated transport;
- (f) notes that chairs and buggies needed by vulnerable travellers such as disabled people and young children would have priority over bicycles in the same way as they do on trains;
- (g) calls on Stagecoach to amend the conditions of carriage to accommodate the carriage of bicycles on the trial tram-trains;
- (h) calls on the Department for Transport, which is promoting the pilot, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive which is leading on delivery, and the other partners, namely Network Rail and Northern Rail, to also bring pressure to bear on Stagecoach to resolve this issue; and
- (i) requests that copies of this motion be sent to the Chief Executives of Stagecoach, all the bodies named in paragraph (h) above, the Leader of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and all MPs representing Rotherham and Sheffield.

15. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES

It was moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones, that this Council:-

- (a) recalls the decision of the incoming Administration in May 2012 to reduce the budget for Household Waste Recycling Centres by a further £204,000;

- (b) understands that Blackstock Road has the highest tonnage of any recycling centre, and is therefore dismayed at the Administration's decision to close Blackstock Road three days a week, while another centre remains open seven days a week;
- (c) notes reports of queues of more than 100 cars, which have formed outside Blackstock Road Recycling Centre, causing serious concerns for road safety;
- (d) furthermore, believes the introduction of fortnightly black bin collections, the ceasing of other recycling services, and the failure to avoid repeated strikes, has only served to exacerbate the situation;
- (e) regrets the Administration's treatment of residents in the south and south-west of the City who use the Blackstock Road Recycling Centre, and believes the Administration has made insufficient effort to mitigate the effects of this unfair decision; and
- (f) challenges the Administration to reconsider the unfair reduction in hours at Blackstock Road and provide the service that local people deserve.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jack Scott, seconded by Councillor Bryan Lodge, as an amendment, 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 Council has had to reduce spending by £55 million in the 2012/13 budget and that by 2015/16 the Council will have £170m less to spend than it did in 2011/12 and regrets that the main opposition group continue to fully support the level of cuts imposed on the Council by the Conservative-led Government;
- (b) further regrets that to meet this unprecedented financial gap in the budget, the Council has had to reduce the opening hours of the five Household Waste Recycling Centres, however acknowledges that the previous Administration made the majority of the cuts to these Centres in the 2011/12 budget;
- (c) notes that the Council makes every effort to provide the best possible waste service, including sufficient opening hours at the Household Waste Recycling Centres to offer a sustainable service, working within the severe financial constraints imposed by the Government;
- (d) recognises that the present Administration have made several improvements to original proposals to manage the reductions in opening hours and under the revised opening hours, Sheffield's five Household Waste Recycling Centres will be open a total of 29 days

every week, with all sites open on the peak days of Friday to Monday, sites open every day of the week and summer opening times until 6pm which better suits the needs of users;

- (e) notes that in their 2012/13 budget amendments, neither opposition group proposed to reverse any savings to Household Waste Recycling Centres which would be required to re-consider reductions in opening hours and believes that the late involvement of the main opposition group after the revised opening hours have already been implemented is nothing more than blatant political opportunism;
- (f) deplores the outrageously misleading and factually inaccurate accusations made in the press by the Leader of the main opposition group that the distribution of reductions in opening hours across Household Waste Recycling Centres have been politically motivated;
- (g) confirms for the record that there is absolutely no truth in the claims that the distribution of reductions in opening hours across Household Waste Recycling Centres have been politically motivated and notes the following statement by the Director of Finance and Corporate Services at SOVA - "SOVA Recycling Ltd were asked, as were all those organisations who submitted a tender to run the sites in 2011, how they proposed to allow commercial waste to be accepted at the sites. Due to the licenses under which the sites operate, household waste and commercial waste must be kept separate. This meant that a site had to be chosen which would need be closed to the public during the periods it would be accepting commercial waste. SOVA specifically chose Blackstock for this purpose, with the decision being based on its more central location, with Douglas Road being deemed unsuitable due to its layout and the fact the buildings on the site were needed to process recycling materials.";
- (h) further confirms that the only favoured area of the present Administration is the whole of Sheffield;
- (i) calls upon the Leader of the main opposition group to apologise to the people of Sheffield for what this Council regards as an attempt to mislead them by claiming that the distribution of reductions in opening hours were politically motivated;
- (j) further remembers that the Leader of the main opposition group was previously the Cabinet Member who oversaw the most shambolic mismanagement of the waste service the City has known through the introduction of blue boxes to recycle paper which angered many local people and welcomes that the present Administration are now resolving this issue across the City;

- (k) reiterates its regret for all cuts to waste services, however, recognises that they are ultimately a consequence of the Liberal Democrat Party's, led by the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam, decision to support a Conservative-led Government which is heavily cutting Sheffield's budget at the same time as some of the wealthiest Councils in the Conservative heartlands receive almost no cuts at all and regrets that the Liberal Democrat Party both locally and nationally continue to refuse to stand up for Sheffield; and
- (l) regrets that when Sheffield is facing one of the most challenging periods in its history, the main opposition group continue to resort to making petty and factually inaccurate accusations in an attempt to deflect the responsibility from the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam and the Liberal Democrats who are part of a Government that is imposing unprecedented cuts to the Council's services, which is inevitably impacting on the services that are provided for Sheffield people.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

(Note: Councillors Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for Paragraphs (a) and (d) and abstained on Paragraphs (b), (c) and (e) to (l) of the amendment and asked for this to be recorded.)

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried, as follows:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) regrets that the Council has had to reduce spending by £55 million in the 2012/13 budget and that by 2015/16 the Council will have £170m less to spend than it did in 2011/12 and regrets that the main opposition group continue to fully support the level of cuts imposed on the Council by the Conservative-led Government;
- (b) further regrets that to meet this unprecedented financial gap in the budget, the Council has had to reduce the opening hours of the five Household Waste Recycling Centres, however acknowledges that the previous Administration made the majority of the cuts to these Centres in the 2011/12 budget;
- (c) notes that the Council makes every effort to provide the best possible waste service, including sufficient opening hours at the Household Waste Recycling Centres to offer a sustainable service, working within the severe financial constraints imposed by the Government;
- (d) recognises that the present Administration have made several improvements to original proposals to manage the reductions in opening hours and under the revised opening hours, Sheffield's five

Household Waste Recycling Centres will be open a total of 29 days every week, with all sites open on the peak days of Friday to Monday, sites open every day of the week and summer opening times until 6pm which better suits the needs of users;

- (e) notes that in their 2012/13 budget amendments, neither opposition group proposed to reverse any savings to Household Waste Recycling Centres which would be required to re-consider reductions in opening hours and believes that the late involvement of the main opposition group after the revised opening hours have already been implemented is nothing more than blatant political opportunism;
- (f) deplores the outrageously misleading and factually inaccurate accusations made in the press by the Leader of the main opposition group that the distribution of reductions in opening hours across Household Waste Recycling Centres have been politically motivated;
- (g) confirms for the record that there is absolutely no truth in the claims that the distribution of reductions in opening hours across Household Waste Recycling Centres have been politically motivated and notes the following statement by the Director of Finance and Corporate Services at SOVA - "SOVA Recycling Ltd were asked, as were all those organisations who submitted a tender to run the sites in 2011, how they proposed to allow commercial waste to be accepted at the sites. Due to the licenses under which the sites operate, household waste and commercial waste must be kept separate. This meant that a site had to be chosen which would need be closed to the public during the periods it would be accepting commercial waste. SOVA specifically chose Blackstock for this purpose, with the decision being based on its more central location, with Douglas Road being deemed unsuitable due to its layout and the fact the buildings on the site were needed to process recycling materials.";
- (h) further confirms that the only favoured area of the present Administration is the whole of Sheffield;
- (i) calls upon the Leader of the main opposition group to apologise to the people of Sheffield for what this Council regards as an attempt to mislead them by claiming that the distribution of reductions in opening hours were politically motivated;
- (j) further remembers that the Leader of the main opposition group was previously the Cabinet Member who oversaw the most shambolic mismanagement of the waste service the City has known through the introduction of blue boxes to recycle paper which angered many local people and welcomes that the present Administration are now resolving this issue across the City;

- (k) reiterates its regret for all cuts to waste services, however, recognises that they are ultimately a consequence of the Liberal Democrat Party's, led by the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam, decision to support a Conservative-led Government which is heavily cutting Sheffield's budget at the same time as some of the wealthiest Councils in the Conservative heartlands receive almost no cuts at all and regrets that the Liberal Democrat Party both locally and nationally continue to refuse to stand up for Sheffield; and
- (l) regrets that when Sheffield is facing one of the most challenging periods in its history, the main opposition group continue to resort to making petty and factually inaccurate accusations in an attempt to deflect the responsibility from the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam and the Liberal Democrats who are part of a Government that is imposing unprecedented cuts to the Council's services, which is inevitably impacting on the services that are provided for Sheffield people.

(Note: Councillors Jillian Creasy and Robert Murphy voted for Paragraphs (a) and (d) and abstained on Paragraphs (b) (c) and (e) to (l) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

16. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING CARRIAGE OF BICYCLES ON TRAMS AND TRAINS (2)

At the request of Councillor Jillian Creasy and with the consent of the Council, the Notice of Motion Numbered 13 on the Summons for this meeting was withdrawn.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING CARNAGE UK

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Jayne Dunn, that this Council:-

- (a) recalls the 'Carnage UK' commercially organised bar crawls that have taken place in Sheffield in recent years which have provoked controversy, particularly noting an incident in October 2009;
- (b) notes with great concern the planned event in Sheffield on October 8th which is being advertised with the theme 'Pimps and Hoes' and believes that such a title is completely inappropriate and has caused offence;
- (c) supports comments by the Women's Officer at Sheffield University Student Union "As a representative of women students, and having worked in a refuge for women trafficked in to sexual slavery, I feel

that this theme utterly trivialises violence against women - specifically violence against women in the sex industry. Just to be clear - the definition of a 'pimp' is a man who uses manipulation and or violence to coerce women (and sometimes men) in to prostitution in order to take their earnings. I am angry and disappointed that Carnage has chosen such a flagrantly sexist marketing strategy. I urge [them] to reconsider [their] theme."

- (d) notes that similar concerns have been expressed by the President of Sheffield Hallam University Student Union and Sheffield Central MP, Paul Blomfield;
- (e) continues to support the vibrant nightlife in Sheffield's many excellent bars, pubs and clubs, noting that this provides a boost to the local economy; and
- (f) welcomes the work undertaken by both Sheffield University and Sheffield Hallam University Student Unions to promote responsible drinking and encourages Carnage to refocus their approach based on this more responsible model and to take into account local feeling about their events both in the student community and amongst Sheffield people as a whole.

18. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

It was moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar, that this Council:-

- (a) welcomes news that construction has begun on a University Technical College for Sheffield, one of only 18 across the country;
- (b) believes the University Technical College will provide vital training and skills for the next generation of Sheffielders, helping to tackle the chronic long-term problems of youth unemployment;
- (c) thanks the Coalition Government for providing the financial backing for the College, delivering a grant of £9.9 million;
- (d) praises companies such as Siemens Metals Technologies who have thrown their support behind the important project; and
- (e) recommends a joint meeting of the Children, Young People and Family Support and the Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny Committees to undertake a detailed examination to understand what further support the Council can provide to the development of the College.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by

Councillor Leigh Bramall, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (c) and the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows:-
 - (c) however regrets that wider Government policy is changing focus away from vocational education, which is demonstrated through cutting the value of more than 3,100 vocational qualifications, cuts to support for vocational education services and cuts to funding to support work experience placements;
2. the addition of a new paragraph (e) as follows and the relettering of the original paragraph (e) as a new paragraph (f):-
 - (e) welcomes the work of all local partners to secure the University Technical College and supports the present Administration's continued focus on skills through creating the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme and 4,000 apprentices through the City Deal;

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) welcomes news that construction has begun on a University Technical College for Sheffield, one of only 18 across the country;
- (b) believes the University Technical College will provide vital training and skills for the next generation of Sheffielders, helping to tackle the chronic long-term problems of youth unemployment;
- (c) however regrets that wider Government policy is changing focus away from vocational education, which is demonstrated through cutting the value of more than 3,100 vocational qualifications, cuts to support for vocational education services and cuts to funding to support work experience placements;
- (d) praises companies such as Siemens Metals Technologies who have thrown their support behind the important project;
- (e) welcomes the work of all local partners to secure the University Technical College and supports the present Administration's continued focus on skills through creating the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme and 4,000 apprentices through the City Deal; and

- (f) recommends a joint meeting of the Children, Young People and Family Support and the Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny Committees to undertake a detailed examination to understand what further support the Council can provide to the development of the College.

(Note: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Vickie Priestley) and Councillors Simon Clement Jones, Shaffaq Mohammed, Rob Frost, Sylvia Anginotti, Joe Otten, Penny Baker, Diana Stimely, Roger Davison, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Janice Sidebottom, Denise Reaney, Ian Auckland, Anders Hanson, Katie Condliffe, David Baker, Alison Brelsford and Trevor Bagshaw voted for Paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e) and (f) and against Paragraph (c) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

19. NOTICE OF MOTION CONCERNING THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

It was moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, that this Council:-

- (a) supports the bottom up process in the Sustainable Communities Act that encourages Councils and their communities to drive the action and assistance that central Government gives to promote thriving local economies and sustainable communities;
- (b) notes that the Act enables Councils to make proposals to Government including requests for new powers or a transfer of powers or public money and function from central control to local control;
- (c) notes that Sheffield City Council was the first Council to opt in to the Act and that Government agreed to implement one of the Council's proposals, namely allowing the Council to help plan and run the Post Office network in the City, leading to a 5% growth in Post Office revenue in the City;
- (d) notes that Sheffield City Council's engagement of residents under the Act has been recognised as "excellent" and an example of best practice in Local Works' Best Practice Guide;
- (e) notes that new regulations for the Act made in June 2012 improve the process and make it more favourable for Councils in the following ways :
 - (i) Councils' proposals are submitted directly to the Government;
 - (ii) there will no longer be short listing;
 - (iii) Councils can submit proposals whenever they are ready as

the process is now ongoing;

- (iv) there will be a time limit of six months on the Government to consult and try to reach agreement with the Selector (currently the Local Government Association) regarding Councils' proposals and to then respond to those proposals; and
- (v) Councils that choose to submit proposals may now decide how to consult and try to reach agreement with representatives of communities in their areas on what proposals to submit;
- (f) notes that the Government has formally invited all Local Authorities to use the Act by submitting proposals;
- (g) resolves to request the Cabinet to use the Act by responding to this invitation, engaging in some form of public consultation and submitting proposals for action and assistance from central Government each year for the next three years and to then review the outcome of this activity and consider whether to continue to use the Act; and
- (h) further resolves to:
 - (i) inform the local media of this decision;
 - (ii) write to local MPs, informing them of this decision; and
 - (iii) write to Local Works informing them of this resolution to use the Act.

Whereupon it was moved by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Jack Scott, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the substitution in paragraph (g) of the words "the Cabinet to use" by the words "that officers bring forward a report to Cabinet detailing the resource implications and benefits of using"

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) supports the bottom up process in the Sustainable Communities Act that encourages Councils and their communities to drive the action and assistance that central Government gives to promote thriving local economies and sustainable communities;

- (b) notes that the Act enables Councils to make proposals to Government including requests for new powers or a transfer of powers or public money and function from central control to local control;
- (c) notes that Sheffield City Council was the first Council to opt in to the Act and that Government agreed to implement one of the Council's proposals, namely allowing the Council to help plan and run the Post Office network in the City, leading to a 5% growth in Post Office revenue in the City;
- (d) notes that Sheffield City Council's engagement of residents under the Act has been recognised as "excellent" and an example of best practice in Local Works' Best Practice Guide;
- (e) notes that new regulations for the Act made in June 2012 improve the process and make it more favourable for Councils in the following ways :
 - (i) Councils' proposals are submitted directly to the Government;
 - (ii) there will no longer be short listing;
 - (iii) Councils can submit proposals whenever they are ready as the process is now ongoing;
 - (iv) there will be a time limit of six months on the Government to consult and try to reach agreement with the Selector (currently the Local Government Association) regarding Councils' proposals and to then respond to those proposals; and
 - (v) Councils that choose to submit proposals may now decide how to consult and try to reach agreement with representatives of communities in their areas on what proposals to submit;
- (f) notes that the Government has formally invited all Local Authorities to use the Act by submitting proposals;
- (g) resolves to request that officers bring forward a report to Cabinet detailing the resource implications and benefits of using the Act by responding to this invitation, engaging in some form of public consultation and submitting proposals for action and assistance from central Government each year for the next three years and to then review the outcome of this activity and consider whether to continue to use the Act; and
- (h) further resolves to:

- (i) inform the local media of this decision;
- (ii) write to local MPs, informing them of this decision; and
- (iii) write to Local Works informing them of this resolution to use the Act.



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Report to Council

Report of: Lynne Bird - Director of Legal Services

Date: 7 November 2012

Subject: Appointment of Independent Person in accordance with the Localism Act, 2011

Author of Report: Lynne Bird

Summary:

This report proposes that members appoint three Independent Persons for Sheffield City Council, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and the Localism Act. The appointment to be made jointly with Barnsley MBC and the South Yorkshire Joint Authority

Recommendations:

That the Council resolves:

1. To appoint Stuart Carvell, Marvyn Moore and David Waxman as Independent Persons as defined by the Localism Act 2011:

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial implications
NO
Legal implications
YES
Equality of Opportunity implications
NO
Tackling Health Inequalities implications
NO
Human rights implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
NO
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
ALL
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
NOT APPLICABLE
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council? YES
Press release
NO

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report proposes the appointment of three Independent Persons in accordance with statute, the Council's Code of Conduct and procedure for investigating Standards complaints.

2 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE PEOPLE OF SHEFFIELD?

- 2.1 The Independent Person role is required by the procedure for upholding the Council's Code of Conduct. The role is an important part of the Council's regulatory procedures. It provides an assurance to the public that their elected Members comply with the highest standards of ethical conduct.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a new statutory framework for dealing with Standards Issues. In July 2012 the Council adopted a new Code of Conduct, created a Standards Committee and adopted a procedure for investigating Standards Complaints
- 3.2 The Localism Act created the new role of Independent Person which must be appointed by a Council. The new role is reflected in the procedures adopted by the Council.
- 3.3 It was decided to appoint three Independent Persons jointly with Barnsley MBC and South Yorkshire Joint Fire and Rescue and Integrated Transport Authorities. The remuneration of the posts will be shared between the three authorities. This creates a pool of Independent Persons allowing flexibility, a wide range of skills, better accessibility and avoids problems with potential conflicts of interests. It also allows an Independent Person to be available to the complainant or elected member who is different to the Independent Member advising the Monitoring Officer and Standards Committee.
- 3.4 The Independent Person must be appointed through a process of public advertisement which has now taken place. Seven applicants have been interviewed by Members and officers and three have been recommended for appointment. The Monitoring Officer has established that the three recommended candidates are Independent as defined by the Act.

4 FUNCTIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT PERSON

- 4.1 The Independent Person(s):-

- Must be consulted by the Authority before it makes a decision whether to investigate an allegation.
- May be consulted by a Member who is subject to an allegation.
- May be consulted by a Parish Member who is subject to an allegation.

4.2 The role of the Independent Person in Sheffield is set out in the procedure for investigating complaints which has been approved by Council. It is intended that the role will evolve in consultation with the Standards Committee, Whips and the Monitoring Officer as the new procedure is put into practice.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There will be an annual Allowance of £707.98 paid for one Independent Member (this is equivalent to the allowance paid to co-optees of committees of the Council). The allowance for the other two Independent Persons will be paid by Barnsley and the South Yorkshire Joint Fire and Rescue and Integrated Transport Authorities.

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Legal Implications are incorporated into this report.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no environmental or sustainability implications from this report.

8 EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no equality of opportunity implications from this report.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council resolves:

1 To appoint Stuart Carvell, Marvyn Moore and David Waxman as Independent Persons as defined by the Localism Act, 2011.