

Council

Wednesday 3 April 2013

2.00 pm

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

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

COUNCIL

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The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

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 Clive Skelton Roy Munn	11	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Garry Weatherall Steve Wilson Joyce Wright	20	<i>Nether Edge Ward</i> Anders Hanson Qurban Hussain Nikki Bond
3	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Helen Mirfin-Boukouris Chris Rosling-Josephs Ian Saunders	12	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Roger Davison Diana Stimely Penny Baker	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> John Campbell Martin Lawton Lynn Rooney
4	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	13	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Alan Law Chris Weldon Shelia Constance	22	<i>Shiregreen & Brightside Ward</i> Sioned-Mair Richards Peter Price Peter Rippon
5	<i>Broomhill Ward</i> Shaffaq Mohammed Stuart Wattam Jayne Dunn	14	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Andrew Sangar Sue Alston	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> Cate McDonald Tim Rippon Steve Jones	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Vickie Priestley Katie Condliffe
7	<i>Central Ward</i> Jillian Creasy Mohammad Maroof Robert Murphy	16	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Denise Reaney Ian Auckland Bob McCann	25	<i>Stockbridge & Upper Don Ward</i> Alison Brelsford Philip Wood Richard Crowther
8	<i>Crookes Ward</i> Sylvia Anginotti Geoff Smith Rob Frost	17	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Janet Bragg Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond	26	<i>Walkley Ward</i> Ben Curran Nikki Sharpe Neale Gibson
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 Alf Meade Adam Hurst
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Mick Rooney Jackie Satur Ray Satur

John Mothersole

Chief Executive

Contact:

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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 Council 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
3 APRIL 2013**

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 MEETINGS

To receive the record of the proceedings of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 6th February, 2013 and the special meeting of the Council held on 1st March, 2013, and to approve the accuracy thereof.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

a) 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

b) *Petitions Requiring Debate*

The Council's Petitions Scheme requires that any petition containing over 5,000 signatures be the subject of debate at the Council meeting. The following qualifying petitions have been received:-

(i) *Petition regarding the former Sheffield City Airport site*

To debate a petition containing 5,289 signatures concerning the former Sheffield City Airport site. The wording of the petition is as follows:-

“A petition calling on Sheffield City Council to urgently ensure that any redevelopment of the site of the former Sheffield City Airport (including further destruction of its infrastructure) is proscribed until an independent public enquiry is held to look into the potential for its future use as a facility for commercial aviation.”

(ii) *Petition regarding Community Libraries*

To debate a petition containing 10,348 signatures concerning Community Libraries. The wording of the petition is as follows:-

“We the undersigned call upon Sheffield City Council to keep our libraries open.”

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 and Pensions - Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 – Council Procedure Rule 16.6(i).

(NB. Minutes of recent meetings of the three 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. SHEFFIELD LOCAL PLAN : PRE-SUBMISSION VERSION OF CITY POLICIES AND SITES DOCUMENT AND PROPOSALS MAP

Report of the Chief Executive on recommendations referred by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013.

8. SHEFFIELD CITY REGION AUTHORITY

Report of the Chief Executive on recommendations referred by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th March, 2013.

9. MODERNISATION OF PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS AND CABINET HIGHWAYS COMMITTEES

Report of the Chief Executive on recommendations referred by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th March, 2013.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPHAM

That this Council:

- (a) notes that the 'bedroom tax' is due to take effect from April this year;
- (b) condemns this policy which will affect anyone of working age (below 61 ½) on housing benefit deemed to be 'under-occupying' a social housing home, which equates to around 7500 homes across Sheffield;
- (c) deplores the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam for allowing the Government to implement this deeply unfair policy;
- (d) notes that the following are not exempt from the bedroom tax:
 - (i) those couples who need an extra bedroom because of one of them having a medical condition or disability;
 - (ii) non-resident parents who have their children to stay at weekends in the holidays;
 - (iii) families who offer regular respite support to other family members; and
 - (iv) people living in homes which have been substantially adapted at tax-payers' expense;
- (e) is committed to supporting all residents, both children and adults, including those with disabilities and medical needs;
- (f) regrets that the Discretionary Payments Fund that the Government has made available is completely inadequate and is estimated to cover only a fraction of people affected by the bedroom tax and notes that this Fund is also expected to cover other welfare changes;
- (g) notes that the Government's own Equality Impact Assessment estimates that two-thirds of households affected will have a member with a disability;
- (h) further notes that many independent analysts are predicting that households will move into the private rented sector, costing more, and that care needs for many disabled people will increase, again costing more;

- (i) further notes that there is not an excess supply of small properties available for households to move into in Sheffield;
- (j) further notes the bedroom tax will unfairly hit many people, including families with disabled children or adults, families who share the care of their children and families who offer respite care to other family members;
- (k) further notes that this policy may well end up costing the public purse more;
- (l) believes that disabled people – both adults and children – deserve respect and not to be penalised for their medical needs;
- (m) values the role of non-resident parents and believes they should be encouraged to play as full a part in the lives of their children as possible;
- (n) further values and appreciates the role of families who offer respite care – and not only because it saves the taxpayer billions of pounds;
- (o) notes that Housing Associations will have difficulty in keeping arrears down, damaging services for all tenants; and
- (p) therefore resolves to:
 - (i) ask the Leader to write to the Secretary of State outlining the Council's concerns and urgently requesting that the bedroom tax is scrapped; and
 - (ii) ask the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods to write to Sheffield MPs outlining the concerns and asking that they lobby for their affected constituents and push for the bedroom tax to be scrapped.

11. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JACK SCOTT

That this Council:

- (a) notes with alarm that average fuel bills have increased by £300 since the Coalition Government came to power;
- (b) further notes that funding for insulation and fuel poverty projects has been cut significantly by the Government, with the end of Warm Front and other grants;

- (c) further notes the extremely short-sighted Government decision not to invest in green technology projects, such as South Yorkshire's Carbon Capture Scheme in Hatfield;
- (d) further notes the Government's much-vaunted Green Deal could represent a positive approach, but has been appallingly mismanaged and subject to numerous unnecessary delays;
- (e) recalls the huge success of the Free Insulation Scheme, funded through investment from the previous Government and initiated by the previous Labour Administration, which delivered improvements to over 28,000 Sheffield homes, reduced carbon emissions by 22,000 tonnes and secured energy savings to Sheffield people worth over £3.9m per year;
- (f) celebrates that the current Administration has secured resources to undertake 100 - 150 physical improvements to heating (including insulation, central heating, replacement boilers and draught-proofing where this is still needed);
- (g) further celebrates that the Administration has secured a package of support and advice, targeted where it is needed, which will include information on how to use less energy, heating controls, cold weather payments, assistance with tackling any fuel debts and benefits advice and help with energy tariffs;
- (h) hopes that the positive outcomes the Administration will achieve will help to inform future schemes that further reduce fuel poverty in the City and calls on the Government to take significantly more action to tackle high energy bills;
- (i) notes the launch of the Big Sheffield Switch;
- (j) urges Sheffield residents to sign up to the scheme, which creates a mechanism for as many people as possible to register their interest in moving their energy provider through an auction held with energy supply companies;
- (k) recognises the strength in banding together to secure a much better energy deal;
- (l) understands that the people with most to gain are those who've never previously 'switched' (around 50% of the population), especially those on pre-payment meters or accounts that are just on standard tariffs;
- (m) celebrates that the significant public campaign for this scheme is at no direct cost to the Council;
- (n) believes that the "Big Sheffield Switch" further demonstrates the ability of the public sector to make lasting improvements to people's

lives and what can be achieved when people co-operate together;

- (o) recognises that the previous Administration utterly failed to undertake a collective energy scheme and warmly anticipates further Sheffield collective energy schemes in the future; and
- (p) concludes that the above actions, combined with reduced waste generation, significant increases in recycling and a clear commitment to bring forward Sheffield's first Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, highlight Sheffield's place as a leading environmental city.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SHAFFAQ MOHAMMED

That this Council:

- (a) recalls the campaign by the now Labour MP for Sheffield Central, Paul Blomfield, *No Ifs, No Buts, No Profits. Lower the Permit Prices*;
- (b) notes that as a result of this Administration's budgets, parking permit charges have been hiked by 260%;
- (c) confirms that this hike will not only hit struggling families but also damage small businesses across Sheffield; and
- (d) believes it is wrong for the Administration to fleece local motorists to pay for their political pet projects and calls upon the Administration to reverse this year's hike, with a view to returning to the lower price in future years.

13. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI BOND

That this Council:

- (a) is proud to have supported the One Billion Rising (Sheffield) campaign and its events on 14th / 15th February 2013 to raise awareness about violence against women and girls;
- (b) pledges to make this issue a priority for the next 12 months, through the following measures:
 - (i) to continue to provide support to the local Sheffield Rising 2013 movement through the Women's Network and other relevant areas of Council activity;
 - (ii) to promote the voice and influence of women and girls who are victims of violence and the local organisations which

work to support them;

- (iii) to support initiatives in schools and colleges promoting consciousness about - and zero tolerance to - violence in relationships among young people; and
 - (iv) to collaborate with other public bodies in seeking ways to address the problem and find solutions;
- (c) condemns the Coalition Government for the effect that their policies are having on women;
- (d) notes that there are more millionaires than women in the Coalition Cabinet and their misogynistic policies are having a massively disproportionate effect on women;
- (e) recalls that in April 2012 unemployment amongst women stood at 1.4 million, the highest level in 25 years;
- (f) knows that women make up a high proportion of public sector workers and are more likely to claim benefits such as working tax credits, etc;
- (g) notes that research by the GMB has shown that women account for 76% of the drop in the number of employees in the South East;
- (h) believes that the cuts are having a disproportionate effect on women; the cuts hit women harder because:
- (i) many women have pregnancy and maternity needs;
 - (ii) women are far more likely to be lone parents (92% of lone parents are women);
 - (iii) women are more likely to be the primary carers for children, frail older people, sick and disabled people;
 - (iv) women are more likely to be the victims of domestic and sexual violence;
 - (v) women live longer, often spending the final years of their lives alone; and
 - (vi) women are, on average, financially poorer than men – particularly so in later life;
- (i) recalls that the Home Secretary, The Rt. Hon Theresa May MP, has publically warned that the cuts could hit women hardest;
- (j) notes that the Fawcett Society have challenged the budget from last year claiming it failed in its duty to assess whether it would impact

on women unfairly; and

- (k) calls upon the Coalition Government to review benefit cuts and pension reforms that directly affect women disproportionately; women are entitled to a fair deal.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

That this Council:

- (a) fully supports the Star Walk which aims to raise £150,000 for a Women of Steel statue;
- (b) believes these women deserve a permanent memorial in recognition of the women who worked in the steel mills during two world wars;
- (c) recognises that these women are an inspiration - our city is extremely proud of their achievements;
- (d) notes that the statue designed by world renowned artist Martin Jennings would be a permanent reminder of the Women of Steel;
- (e) urges all Sheffield City Council councillors and members of the public to sign up to the Star Walk in Hillsborough Park on Sunday, 28 April 2013;
- (f) reminds people that the walk is only one mile and will be completed by many of the Women of Steel who are now in their 80s and 90s and that the walk is open to people of all ages and will be a great day out for all the family;
- (g) is aware that entry is £10 for adults and £5 for children, with all money raised going to the Women of Steel Statue Appeal;
- (h) would like to thank Kit Sollitt, Kathleen Roberts, Ruby Gasgoine and Dorothy Slingsby who have been the leading voices behind the campaign – taking the appeal for official recognition to Downing Street and the Ministry of Defence; and
- (i) notes that further fundraising activities are planned for the future and urges everyone to get behind this campaign to recognise these amazing women.

15. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DIANA STIMELY

That this Council:

- (a) believes thriving high streets across Sheffield's communities are

vital to both the City's economy and its wellbeing;

- (b) welcomes the actions taken by the previous Administration to support local high streets through the Thriving Local and District Centres programme;
- (c) furthermore, thanks the Government for allocating Sheffield £100,000 through the High Street Innovation Fund, alongside £10,000 for Banner Cross traders;
- (d) feels the current Administration have treated small retailers and local high streets with contempt, demonstrated by their failure to tackle parking problems in both Banner Cross and Millhouses;
- (e) recalls the main opposition group's budget amendment, which would have doubled investment for local centres, reversed parking permit hikes for small businesses and provided free parking on Saturdays at district centres; and
- (f) urges the Administration to address the issues facing local centres and high streets with an immediate Cabinet Report setting out steps to be taken.

16. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

That this Council:

- (a) notes that the Authority is projecting to spend £45m less than budgeted for in its Capital Programme for 2012-13 by the end of March 2013;
- (b) notes that this sum – comparable to the entire budget cut in 2012-13 – was budgeted for and remains unspent;
- (c) notes the unspent £3.903 million arising from “underspending on project estimates” and “other variations” within the Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) portfolio alone would more than pay for the entire cuts to Early Years services;
- (d) reiterates the finding in the report to Cabinet on 21st March 2012 - that the 0 to 5 Early Years are “the most important period in a child's growth and development and can make a significant difference to a child's future life chances. The quality of health, care and education that young children experience during these years is critical to ensure that they have the best start in life. As well as being welcoming of children, irrespective of need, parents said the most important feature they look for in a setting is one that shows they really care about the children in their care and take seriously the responsibilities that parents place on them to care for

their child.”; and

- (e) requests officers within CYPF and finance to explore ways of using at least part of this capital sum to help child care settings prepare themselves for the transition to providing Free Early Learning for two-year-olds.

17. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR GEOFF SMITH

That this Council:

- (a) welcomes the initiatives by Glasgow & Bristol City Councils in passing a motion highlighting concerns about refused asylum seekers and the lack of support for them in the UK;
- (b) commends the work with refused asylum seekers in Sheffield by organisations such as City of Sanctuary, Northern Refugee Centre, SYMAAG and ASSIST;
- (c) shares the concerns raised by groups working with refused asylum seekers about the levels of destitution in Sheffield and the associated problems this creates; and
- (d) asserts that if Sheffield’s proud declaration as the country’s first City of Sanctuary is to be meaningful and worthy of its fine words, we must act to improve this situation in the following ways:
 - (i) the Leader of the Council writes to the Home Secretary and Chief Executive of the UK Border Agency seeking changes to their policy toward refused asylum seekers; and
 - (ii) the Leader of the Council sends a copy of this letter to:
 1. The Home Affairs Select Committee for consideration during its inquiry into Asylum;
 2. Sheffield MPs to support the content of this motion and to raise the matter in the House of Commons; and
 3. The Local Government Association to encourage other councils in the UK to follow Sheffield’s lead.

18. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SUE ALSTON

That this Council:

- (a) highlights the important service provided by Mayfield

Environmental Education Centre;

- (b) expresses disappointment that the opposition group's budget amendment, which would have reversed an £8,000 cut to the Centre, was voted down by Labour Councillors;
- (c) believes that this cut, alongside the Administration's lack of support, poses a serious threat to the future of the Centre and outdoor education in Sheffield; and
- (d) calls upon the Administration to reconsider its reduction in funding for Mayfield Environmental Education Centre.

19. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SIMON CLEMENT-JONES

That this Council:

- (a) recalls the Liberal Democrat manifesto commitment in 2010 to raise the income tax threshold to £10,000;
- (b) notes that from April, as a result of Liberal Democrats in Government, the income tax paid by a full-time worker on the minimum wage will be almost halved thanks to the increase in the income tax threshold;
- (c) is pleased to see that the Coalition Government has gone further in the 2013 Budget by confirming the income tax threshold will increase by a further £560 to £10,000 from April 2014, one year earlier than planned;
- (d) welcomes that as a result of Liberal Democrat influence since 2010, 195,000 workers in Sheffield will see a £700 tax cut, while 21,280 low paid workers will have been lifted out of income tax altogether; and
- (e) furthermore, notes that the Coalition Government have ensured the super rich pay their fair share by cracking down on tax avoidance; putting a tax on private jets, increasing Capital Gains Tax for higher rate taxpayers, and blocking inheritance tax breaks.

20. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

That this Council:

- (a) believes that the Government's "Bedroom Tax" is unjust and misguided and congratulates those who organised and attended simultaneous demonstrations across the country on Saturday 16th March 2013;

- (b) regrets that the Government is persisting with the policy, causing distress to thousands of families struggling to cope with cuts to social support and a difficult economic environment;
- (c) is pleased that the Government has dropped its appeal against the court ruling granting some relief to very disabled children being forced to share a bedroom;
- (d) supports the Government's decision to change rules so that foster children, students and those in the armed forces, are now no longer considered to be under-occupying, although notes these ill-planned reversals are causing further confusion and cost;
- (e) calls on Government to fully fund cases where people are no longer considered to be under occupying due to policy changes, rather than top-slicing Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) funds;
- (f) notes that many so-called "spare bedrooms" in fact house medical equipment, or are used as a bedroom by spouses unable, due to illness, to sleep in the same room, or as a carer's room where a household member requires overnight care;
- (g) further notes that many separated parents with visiting rights need a spare room for the visits of their child(ren);
- (h) notes that Government funding for DHPs will fund around 1 in 16 households where under-occupancy applies, falling far short of supporting those in need;
- (i) notes that councillors are receiving a steady flow of casework around the legislation;
- (j) will therefore gather detailed case studies of those affected and submit these as evidence to Government on the effects of the under-occupancy measures and a case for more Government support for DHPs;
- (k) believes that costs arising from making decisions on discretionary payments will be substantial;
- (l) therefore, requests the Administration to do everything it can to inform and help residents affected by the bedroom tax and avoid eviction, for example through:
 - (i) encouraging tenants to claim the benefits they are entitled to, for example Disability Living Allowance; and
 - (ii) giving maximum practical support and choice to those tenants who do wish to move;

- (m) also requests the Administration to look into:
 - (i) whether it would be possible to reclassify bedrooms so as to avoid the tax; and
 - (ii) whether it would be feasible to ask Housing Associations and Sheffield Homes not to take eviction proceedings where arrears are solely due to unaffordability caused by the bedroom tax;
- (n) calls on the Government to abandon the Tax, and to address the housing shortage through bringing up to habitable, energy-efficient standard the approximately one million empty homes in the UK, and through an energy-efficient-house building programme, thereby providing three advantages, namely addressing the housing shortage, boosting the economy through increased employment, and providing the carbon reductions to which the Government is committed; and
- (o) directs that a copy of this motion is sent to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Netherland", with a horizontal line underneath it.

Chief Executive

Dated this 28 day of March 2013

The next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on 15 May 2013 at the Town Hall

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 6 February 2013, 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> 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	11	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Garry Weatherall Steve Wilson Joyce Wright	20	<i>Nether Edge Ward</i> Anders Hanson Qurban Hussain Nikki Bond
3	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Chris Rosling-Josephs Ian Saunders	12	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Roger Davison Diana Stimely Penny Baker	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> John Campbell Martin Lawton Lynn Rooney
4	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	13	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Alan Law Chris Weldon Shelia Constance	22	<i>Shiregreen & Brightside Ward</i> Sioned-Mair Richards Peter Price Peter Rippon
5	<i>Broomhill Ward</i> Shaffaq Mohammed Stuart Wattam Jayne Dunn	14	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Andrew Sangar	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> Cate McDonald Tim Rippon Steve Jones	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Vickie Priestley Katie Condliffe
7	<i>Central Ward</i> Mohammad Maroof Robert Murphy	16	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Ian Auckland Bob McCann	25	<i>Stockbridge & Upper Don Ward</i> Alison Brelford Philip Wood Richard Crowther
8	<i>Crookes Ward</i> Sylvia Anginotti Geoff Smith Rob Frost	17	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Janet Bragg Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond	26	<i>Walkey Ward</i> Ben Curran Nikki Sharpe Neale Gibson
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 Alf Meade Adam Hurst
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Mick Rooney Jackie Satur Ray Satur

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Denise Reaney, Jillian Creasy, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Janice Sidebottom and Clive Skelton.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Notice of Motion number 8 (concerning changes to Council Tax Discounts for Second Homes and Empty Properties)

Councillor Colin Ross – owner of a second property
Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed – owner of a second home
Councillor Leigh Bramall – owner of a second home
Councillor Mazher Iqbal – owner of a second home
Councillor Talib Hussain – owner of a second home
Councillor Ibrar Hussain – owner of an empty property

2.2 Notice of Motion number 11 (concerning Food Banks)

Councillor Ben Curran declared a personal interest because he is a Trustee of Ben's Centre.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23 January 2013 be approved as a correct record.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

4.1 Petitions

(a) Petition Opposing the Council's Budget Cuts

The Council received a petition containing 364 signatures opposing the Council's budget cuts.

On behalf of the petitioners, Richard Brown addressed the Council and made reference to a comment previously made by the Leader of the Council concerning the Council's future role and responsibilities, which might be reduced to delivering its statutory duties and waste collection. He asked, if the Council was acknowledging the affect of the funding reductions, why was it implementing them? He referred to the cuts to frontline services, which would have a real effect on people and to the likelihood of the budget reductions continuing until 2018. He asked the Council to oppose the funding cuts from Government, which he believed had a weak mandate and stated that he believed that authorities in the north of the Country might co-ordinate their opposition to the cuts in opposition to the

Government.

The Council referred the petition to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore). Councillor Dore stated that she would respond to some of the wide range of issues which Mr Brown had raised on behalf of the petitioners. She said that, as a Councillor elected to serve the people of Sheffield, it was her job to set a balanced budget for the Council. It was not possible for the Council to raise all of the income that it needed locally and the Council was dependent upon funding from central Government.

(b) Petition Requesting that the Council saves Highfield Adventure Playground

The Council received a petition containing 2446 signatures, requesting that the Council saves Highfield Adventure Playground.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Lucinda Wakefield. She stated that the playground was a very valuable resource in Sharrow and was used by many children, young people and parents and the proposal to cease provision at the playground would have consequences for children and young people and families. She asked for more support in helping to maintain the playground, which was a place of safety and of significant value to both young people and parents. Older children, many of whom were vulnerable, used the playground in the evenings and it protected and prevented young people from involvement in anti-social behaviour. She stated that she believed that Council had not properly consulted before reaching a decision on this issue and asked that other potential areas of financial savings be considered. She also made reference to the Fairness Commission guideline that those in greatest need should take priority.

The Council referred the petition to the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport (Councillor Isobel Bowler). Councillor Bowler stated that the Council had been consulting with the Friends of Adventures and other community groups in relation to the playground. There were two other facilities in Burngreave also affected by the proposals. The Council recognised the value of the playgrounds, but was required to make significant savings this year. Proposals had to be made that no one thought or hoped would need to be considered. Activity Sheffield was reducing its budget by 30 percent and the proposals affected the three staffed facilities and subsidised swimming and diving. It was proposed to retain investment in mobile teams so that a service for the areas of need could be maintained.

Councillor Bowler said that she respected, understood and agreed with much of what had been said by Lucinda Wakefield in presenting the petition and stated that a number of agencies worked with young people and discussions were taking place with them as to whether activities could continue to be delivered from the adventure playgrounds.

4.2 Public Questions

(a) Public Questions on Council policy on cuts to services, the use of the Council's Reserves

(i) Kristopher Barker asked whether the Council would stand up for the people of Sheffield and join a group of Labour Councillors from Hull, Southampton and other Authorities and named "Councillors Against Cuts" and whose members had promised to vote against cutting services?

(ii) Joe Daviney asked, under what circumstances would the Labour Council oppose cuts in public services?

(iii) Sam Morecroft asked why the Council was unwilling to use the £168 million in Council Reserves as a barrier to protect services, using borrowing powers, if necessary, and the forging of links with other Councils around the country to campaign to protect all services and oppose all cuts?

(iv) Peter Hartley asked, in light of the Council's unsuccessful attempts to secure more funding from the Government, whether Councillors would oppose and defy the Government along the lines of the action taken by Councillors at the former Clay Cross Urban District Council in the early 1970s?

(v) Emrana Khatun referred to the fact that she was a first year student at Sheffield Hallam University and asked, in light of the proposed cuts, how the Council expected students to find jobs at the end of their degree courses?

Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources) responded that the Council could not act as martyrs and set an illegal budget which would fail to meet legal requirements for the setting of a balanced budget, then the Government would intervene and set a budget on behalf of the Council with the effect that financial control of the Council's affairs would be taken out of the Council's control. He added that the Council faced very difficult choices in terms of resource allocation and its effects on those receiving and those delivering Council services and but nevertheless had to take such decisions. He challenged the questioners to identify how the Council might manage a situation in which it had set a budget that was inadequate for maintaining services at their current level.

Councillor Lodge stated that all Members of the Council had been elected by the public to represent them and were charged, therefore, with managing the public purse in the context of a further £50 million of cuts in 2013/14 in addition to approximately £140 million of cuts made over the previous two years. These were deep cuts and the Council was attempting to fight them wherever possible, but the Council had to set a balanced budget for 2013/14 in order to ensure that the funding of services that the Council had agreed would be provided, was adequate.

As far as the use of Council Reserves was concerned, Councillor Lodge indicated that it was correct that the Council had approximately £168 million of Reserves but that the vast majority of these had already been set aside for amongst other things, the Building Schools for the Future Programme and Highways Private Finance Initiative, leaving approximately £11 million of Reserves for dealing with unexpected emergencies, such as the flooding the City experienced in 2007. He added that if the option to borrow to fund services was available and provided a simple solution to the Council's problems, then the Council, like other Authorities, would take this course of action. However, this was not a sensible approach to managing the

Council's budget and one which the Council's Financial Officers would not support as a sustainable option.

In responding to the question raised concerning the availability of work for students following the completion of their degree courses, Councillor Lodge acknowledged the very difficult circumstances that students found themselves in when looking for work and that there needed to be a further Government drive to support business and enterprise to grow nationally and to create more employment opportunities. The Council had established the Keep Sheffield Working Fund under which the Council was working with the City's universities to find employment opportunities for graduates. The Council, amongst other things, was assisting local businesses to identify export markets, providing Business Start-Up loans to help young people start businesses and creating a 200 Apprenticeship Programme, which would seek to help, amongst others, those young people who were not in employment, education or training (NEETS).

Councillor Lodge stated that the Council recognised the importance of getting more people into jobs, but believed that the questions above should be directed to the Government and suggested that the main opposition group on the Council should take up the issues raised in the questions with Mr. Nick Clegg, M.P.

(b) Public Question relating to Public inquiry into NHS Hospitals

Adam Butcher asked, in light of the recent public inquiry, of the mid-Staffordshire Hospital and other hospitals, how did the Labour Administration plan to protect people in Sheffield so that similar situations referred to in the Inquiry's report did not occur in Sheffield.

Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living) responded that whilst she had not read the report she understood that it was pretty damning which showed that the care of vulnerable people in the mid-Staffordshire hospital had put patients' health and well-being at serious risk with patients being left without fluids and nutrition and where there were serious lessons to be learnt for the NHS and local authorities nationally.

Sheffield had experienced care problems in certain institutions in the past and the Council had examined the reports on the serious abuse experienced by patients at Winterbourne View and that the perpetrators of such abuse had received prison sentences. She believed that where institutions had a responsibility for the care of people there was a need for the utmost openness and transparency and adherence to a strictly enforced value system. Sheffield needed to examine the implications of the report for the delivery of health and care services in Sheffield, working closely with the NHS hospitals to ensure care for vulnerable people accords with what they need. She acknowledged that Sheffield's hospitals delivered hi-tech, excellent care for the most part but the Council and NHS needed to ensure that they worked together more effectively than ever to ensure that standards of care were maintained.

(c) Public Question on car parking restrictions on Argyle Road/Close

Trevor Eggington asked why there were no parking restrictions on Argyle Close, when there were full day parking restrictions on Argyle Road. Mr Eggington asked whether it would be possible to have temporary parking restriction signs on the Carfield School side on Argyle Close?

Councillor Leigh Bramall (Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development) responded that the City Council supported the South Yorkshire Police campaign in the south of the City to improve school safety by ensuring parking restrictions were complied with and enforced in the most appropriate way in order that it did not impact on residents disproportionately. The Cabinet Highways Committee would shortly receive a report on parking issues on Argyle Close/Road and he would be happy to speak to officers in order to see if a better solution could be found. Councillor Bramall indicated that he would also inform Mr Eggington of the progress made on the matter and the date when it would be discussed by the Cabinet Highways Committee, when Mr Eggington would be able to make further representations to the Council.

(d) Public Question relating to Community Assemblies

Mr Nigel Slack read out the following statement:-

“The Council’s budget plans for 2013/14 include the disbanding of the seven Community Assemblies (CAs), in order to save some £2M. Whilst I understand the need for savings in face of the savage cuts being imposed by the short sighted Con/Dem Government, I also believe that this destruction of community autonomy and democracy should be opposed on principle and on practicality.

During a recent ‘Meet the Cabinet’ event at the latest Central Community Assembly, it was stated by one of the Cabinet that CA’s were a failure. This is clearly not the case for the Central CA, a fact attested to by every councillor on it and according to it’s, for want of a better phrase, ‘Annual Spending Report’. In that report it showed that the CA had:-

- Supported 12 area events.
- Given grants to 36 local organisations, from faith groups to gay pride and from urban gardens to sports clubs.
- Supported the General Cemetery, a green space near the city centre accessed by many across the CA boundaries.
- Supported the employment of seven people, a worthy act in itself, but also one that benefits the communities for whom they work.
- Supported Youth activity across the year particularly over the dark nights period of Halloween and Bonfire Night.
- Supported activities and groups for the elderly
- Supported Tara’s and Community Forums across the area.
- Funded additional street cleaning and collections where Veolia seem unable to do so.

As Councillor Curran (Chair of the Central CA) commented, that is not a record of failure. These actions support all of the five key ambitions of the Council’s Sheffield City Strategy 2010-2020 and, though we didn’t know it at the time are in line with

several of the guidelines of the Sheffield Fairness Framework namely; those in greatest need should take priority, preventing inequalities is better than trying to cure them, to be seen to act in a fair way as well as acting fairly and fairness must be a matter of balance between different groups, communities and generations in the City.

At the same Meet the Cabinet' event in a written answer to a similar question, the Cabinet stated. "...we are seeking to support the establishment of arrangements whereby Ward Members, service providers, local people, the VCF sector ...etc....can come together to address issues of common concern and be open to local challenge and scrutiny..."

Doesn't that sound like a CA to you? It does to me, because that is very unlikely to happen at ward level. Would senior management from outsourcing companies attend countless meetings across the City? Would the Police and Crime Commissioner? Would members of the Cabinet?

Even in the Council's own proposals it states. "Stop funding Community Assembly and Locality Management teams at a combined cost of £995,000. Use £280,000 of the remaining fund to provide our officers to support groupings of wards and area based structures." CA's by another name?

By comparison to the current system the proposals for a ward based system risks divisiveness and unrest between wards. The opportunity for accusations of bias in favour of wards wholly occupied by ruling administration councillors or wholly represented by Cabinet members would be rife. Unfounded or not, this would be detrimental to the surrounding communities and potentially damaging to the Fairness Framework and the democratic processes in the City.

Can I therefore ask the Council to take note that in a straw poll at the end of the last Central CA, over half those in attendance said they would continue to attend even if the CA had no spending facility?

Will the Council amend the proposals to allow for the possibility that CA's may survive, even if their funding is drastically reduced, rather than this apparently final decision that throws the baby out with the bathwater, and that they will undertake a fair consultation process more effective and extensive than the few days allowed so far?"

Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion) responded that he welcomed Mr Slack's recognition of the Council's budget difficulties and that he would be moving an amendment to a Motion submitted to today's Council meeting concerning the future of Community Assemblies which the Council would debate if possible. He added that Councillor David Baker, who had been one of the architects of the current Community Assembly system, had also indicated that Community Assemblies had not operated as they should have and had a number of flaws.

Councillor Iqbal added that he disagreed with Mr Slack's comments about Ward-level work being divisive and that Mr Slack was pre-empting proposals that were still

being developed, although he acknowledged that Councillors would have to do more at a local level as resources were limited. He added that many good ideas had been obtained from the Council's consultation exercise and the Council was working with the voluntary, community and faith sectors and service providers on the future including the possibility of co-locating services along Community Assembly boundaries. However, he suggested that it was not appropriate to continue to invest in a model that was not engaging with the public as the Council would like and where there were many other competing priorities for Council funding. However, he would take account of Mr Slack's comments and respond to him following the conclusion of the second round of consultation.

As regards the Fairness Commission, Councillor Iqbal indicated that the Council would respond, like any other public sector to the Commission's recommendations, which would be taken forward in the near future.

(e) Public Question relating to Multi-Agency Support Teams (MASTs)

Nigel Slack referred to the last full Council meeting when a question was asked about the funding of MASTs. The reply indicated that MASTs were multi agency and funded across those agencies. As a result no figures were given. He asked:-

What was the Council's contribution to the MAST budget for 2012/13 and what will it be for 2013/14?

If you are unable to answer this, can you tell me how you can ensure value for money from the Council's contribution and where this leaves transparency in these contributions?

Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families) responded that the total budget for MASTs for 2012/13 was £7.1 million of which the schools contribution was £3 million and the Council's £4.1 million. The 2013/14 budget will be considered by the Cabinet on 13th February, 2013 and full Council on 1st March, 2013 and, if approved, would mean a £1.3% efficiency reduction in the MAST budget (to cover information technology costs and national pay rise) totalling £94, 000 and an additional £69,000 to cover the cost of lost time due to sickness. The final budget figure for 2013/14 will require formal approval but is estimated at this time to be £6.936 million. She added that the Council would try to protect as far as it could breast feeding services and early intervention support for vulnerable families.

(f) Public Questions relating to Highfield Adventure Playground

(i) Berie Stott stated that the Highfield Adventure Playground was used by children between the ages of 8–16 in one of the most diverse communities in Sheffield. This view had been supported by a Police Inspector who welcomed the Playground as a safe, welcoming and inclusive play facility and had suggested that, the Playground helped a situation where many of the young people at risk of involvement in anti-social behaviour and criminality were able to use the Playground. The supervision of the Playground by trained staff helped in identifying those young people who's behaviour could be putting them at a higher risk of offending in the future.

She therefore asked how the Council could justify the cuts to such a vital community resource in light of the social problems and expense losing them will create?

(ii) Jo Taylor referred to recommendations produced by Sheffield's Fairness Commission framework which sought to promote fairness by, amongst other things, focussing on issues which communities could do for themselves. She therefore asked how was closing the Highfield Adventure Playground promoting these recommendations.

(iii) Maughan Pearce suggested that the Adventure Playground was an easy way for Activity Sheffield to make required cuts to their budget, but that the extent of the cuts were unfair that the local community were facing as outlined in the budget proposals. She asked, given that the Playground had been built up over 40 years and had such strong community support, did the Council feel that it was fair that the funding of the Playground was withdrawn in the way proposed, which would mean the end of the service it provided to the community over many years?

(iv) Kate West, referred to the petition opposing cuts in expenditure on the Adventure Playground which had now reached 2,500 signatures. She stated that the Playground had 25, 000 visits per year by children and parents from one of Sheffield's most diverse communities and that a recent Fun Day had attracted 300 people. She suggested that the Council's public consultation on the future of the Playground had been inadequate and asked whether the Council felt that the consultation was a reasonable effort?

Councillor Isobel Bowler (Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure) responded that she had personally met with the Friends of the Adventure Playground on more than three occasions and that the Council's officers had also met with users to discuss ways that services could continue at the Playgrounds. The Council had to consider all options to balance its budget whilst at the same time considering the needs of vulnerable young people. However, in the financial circumstances the Council found itself in, a number of leisure facilities were coming under pressure. The Council were currently examining options including working with community groups and professional agencies to deliver services but in a different way. Unfortunately, however, the Council could not continue to deliver services the way they had been in the past.

Councillor Mazher Iqbal stated that the Leader had instigated the Fairness Commission last year which operated on a non-partisan basis and whose with representation included representatives from all political parties. The Commission's report was only recently published and organisations would have an opportunity to respond to its recommendations.

- (g) Public Questions on Audio and Video Recording of Council meetings, the Fairness Commission, the Future of Council Housing, Area representation, Public Consultation and Council Tax Summonses.

Martin Brighton asked the following questions:-

- (i) As reported on 6 December 2010, Labour controlled Southwark Council agreed

to allow audio and video recording of its meetings. Why can't this Council follow Labour's Southwark's example?

(ii) Page 68 of the Fairness Commission Report, which has just been issued, lists participant Lee Adams as Deputy Chief Executive of Sheffield City Council. Why?

(iii) Future of Council Housing: There are currently 8 sub-set consultation groups, each distinct by subject. Will this Council please ensure that the minutes of each of these meetings are published online?

(iv) What criteria does this Council recognise for individuals to claim that they represent an area, or a community, or a Council service user group, and or for the same individual to claim to speak on behalf of an area, community or Council user group?

(v) In the news recently it has been reported that this Council is being challenged via litigation as to the legitimacy of its consultation processes with respect to decisions made that affect citizens. The Council has heard from this citizen for years how consultation processes are a sham, the creation and maintenance of an illusion falsely claiming meaningful engagement of citizens in the decision-making processes that affect their lives and their communities, whilst all the while imposing by stealth, secrecy or fait-accompli the original agenda.

What are the possibilities of this Council having genuine consultation with its citizens?

(vi) In The Star there is a report about a fiasco involving Capita and the issue of 5000 summonses on the same day, many if not all of which were invalid. The Cabinet Member for Finance is reported as saying that he wanted a report by yesterday, Tuesday. Will that report now be published and who creates, distributes and manages the rates summonses process?

Councillor Julie Dore (Leader) responded that, with regard to the audio and visual recording, the Council had heard today of the difficult financial circumstances that the Council finds itself in and, therefore, spending £100,000 for example on audio and video recording would be nowhere near any of the Council's financial priorities due to its cost. However, the Council has looked at the use of such equipment at Southwark and the take up rate was low.

In terms of consultation, Councillor Dore stated that Irwin Mitchell were holding the Council to account about alleged penalties implemented with respect to the Bedroom Tax and Council Tax Benefit in that they were not implemented legitimately. However, she was unable to comment any further on this as the Council was involved in a litigation process. The Chief Executive commented that there were a number of issues in relation to the Council Tax benefit changes as it was a live case and that the Council would defend its case robustly.

Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion) indicated

that the Council's former Deputy Chief Executive, Lee Adams, had participated in the Fairness Commission, However, she had now left the Authority but continued to be involved in the Commission's work in a voluntary capacity. In terms of the question about the criteria used by the Council for accreditation of community representatives, there were no such criteria. A number of people had attended the Council meeting today to present petitions or ask a public question, sometimes representing Friends groups for example, where members of the community came together due to their particular interest in a matter. Indeed, there a wide range of groups who the Council consulted with, such as the centre for Independent Living or the Access Liaison Group, but Councillor Iqbal re-iterated that there were no set criteria for community representative accreditation.

Councillor Harry Harpham (Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods) stated that it seemed sensible to publish the minutes of Future of Housing project Groups online. However, as the Groups had been established between the Council and Sheffield homes at the behest of tenants, he would have to consult with tenants and Sheffield Homes on the matter. He would raise the issue at the next meeting of the Future of Council Housing Project Group and, if possible, would ensure that the minutes are published.

With respect to the issue of Council Tax summonses, Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources) responded that he had asked for a report from Capita requesting that they explain what had happened as the situation that had occurred had been resulted in the totally unacceptable of the people of Sheffield. Councillor Lodge stated that there had been a serious problem with the delivery of the Council summons to individual addresses and this was being investigated. In order to provide a full explanation of the full circumstances of the case, Councillor Lodger read out the following statement:-

"There has been a serious problem with a 2 week delay in postage of court summons sent by our contractor Capita. This meant people did not receive their summons to the Court session last Friday in good time. On Monday I met with Capita's site director and received a full apology from him for the inconvenience and stress caused to people by this. I would like to add my own apologies and I can confirm that I am following up the causes. Capita are still investigating why the Royal Mail did not deliver on time and will report back as soon as possible. When the cause is found any compensation payable will be donated by Capita to a local charity.

What I can confirm, is that at the time the summons list was prepared, most of the people on the list did have outstanding council tax arrears and were correctly summonsed. A number of people have since paid. We do have evidence though that a small number of people were incorrectly summonsed. I'm investigating why this happened and I would encourage anyone else who thinks they are in this position to get in touch with Capita or me directly.

Where people were incorrectly summonsed, the £48 costs that are normally charged will be waived by Capita. Where people were summonsed correctly and still owe arrears, but were inconvenienced, we have extended the deadline for when they can pay their council tax to 22nd February, so that the 2 week delay is

compensated for. Everyone who pays by then will not be charged the normal £30 liability order. The cost of waiving these fees will be met by Capita in order to compensate people and the Council for the problem Capita have caused.

I must add that I am disappointed in the Liberal Democrats playing politics with this. There was a serious problem in Capita's process, but they have apologised and people will be compensated where they were incorrectly summonsed. The Liberal Democrats state that "hundreds" of people were incorrectly summonsed – I don't believe they have evidence of this, but if they do I would appreciate them forwarding it me and we can deal with their cases, instead of the Liberals playing political games with people's welfare. "

Councillor Lodge added that if anyone felt they had been unfairly summonsed then should either get in touch with Capita or himself.

(h) Public Questions on proposed Closure of the Stocksbridge Leisure Centre

(i) Suzy Senior asked the following questions :-

(A) if the Stocksbridge Leisure Centre closed in April what was the City Council intending to do with the land and buildings?

(B) if the Leisure Centre were to close, where would the children of Stocksbridge have swimming lessons and how would the City Council ensure that local schools comply with the legal requirements for swimming lessons and what arrangements would the Council put in place to help them to do so?

(C) in terms of the Olympic Legacy money allocated to Sheffield, was it possible that some of that funding be used for upgrading and renovating the Stocksbridge Leisure Centre?

(D) would the City Council work with local people with a view to the facility being run by local people financially and independently of the City Council?

(ii) Reginald Swift referred to the use of the Leisure centre by the Stocksbridge Bowling Club for six months during the winter and asked had any consideration been given to an alternative facility that the club could use together with approximately 250 independent bowlers that used the Centre each week. He commented that there was no comparative purpose-built facility in Sheffield and, as the majority of bowlers were retired, this facility promoted their physical and mental welfare.

(iii) Nigel Owen, Stocksbridge Town Councillor, asked in light of the statement made today by Rebecca Adlington that not enough children can swim 25 metres by the age of 11, what are the Council going to do to make provision for children attending school in Stocksbridge to be able to attend swimming lessons if the Stocksbridge Leisure Centre closes and furthermore, ensure that schools fulfil their duty in this respect? In asking his question, Mr Scott stated that Stocksbridge was surrounded by dams, with the River Don also close by and he feared that in this sort of environment and the difficulties some children might experience in accessing

swimming lessons should the Leisure Centre close, there could be an increase in fatalities in the absence of controlled facilities for swimming. He therefore asked the Council to reconsider its proposals and keep the Leisure centre open.

(iv) Jack Clarkson suggested that the Council should support the work being undertaken by the local community at Stocksbridge to keep the Centre open and asked if this would happen.

Councillor Isobel Bowler (Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure) responded that the land and buildings were in the ownership of the Oxley Park Trust and that the Council was a Trustee. Discussions were being held into the possibility that the Trusteeship could be passed to the Stocksbridge Town Council but the terms of the Trust stated that the land should be kept for the benefit of the people of Stocksbridge and, therefore, any transfer of land and property owned by the Trust had to be in keeping with the Trust's terms. Councillor Bowler stated that the Council, Trust and Town Council would continue to work together with the community to look for a solution.

As far as capital funding was concerned, the £10 million Olympic Legacy, would help to fund a National Centre for Sports and Exercise Medicine which would have, as its main hub, the Graves Centre. The capital funding was allocated by the Government and was attached to a specific range of responsibilities to improve health which was led by the National Health Service. Therefore, there was little, if any, scope for allocating funding to Stocksbridge from this source of funding as its purpose was specific and prescriptive. The national curriculum responsibility for ensuring that children could swim rested with schools. Should the Stocksbridge Pool cease to be available, the Council would work with local schools to book time to ensure that children had access to swimming lessons at other venues.

She stated that, with respect bowls, she acknowledged that Stocksbridge had a dedicated indoor bowling facility and accepted that there was no comparable indoor bowling provision. Council officers were working with bowlers to discuss their requirements in the winter months either at a Leisure Centre or some other facility.

(i) Public questions on Advice Centres, Newton Grange Residential Home, Socksbridge and the refurbishment of the Town Hall

Jack Clarkson asked whether it was the view of the Council that the people of Stocksbridge were being socially excluded as shown by the closure of the Stocksbridge Advice Centre, the closure of the Deepcar dumpsite and the closure of the Newton Grange Residential Home?

Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion) suggested that some local Councillors had been engaged in scaremongering about the Council's proposals and as Cabinet Member with responsibility for grant funding, he had had the responsibility, on behalf of the Council, to carry out a City-wide review of Advice services. The Council was attempting to streamline such services as far as it could but he had given assurances to the Manager of the Stocksbridge Advice Centre, that the Council would continue to provide Advice services in Stocksbridge.

Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living) responded that, in the case of the closure of the Newton Grange Home, this had been closed in accordance with best practice, with residents being offered care in Penistone, Sheffield or other parts of the country as they required. Fifty new homes would be built on the site and Sweeney House were delighted with the new development and the opportunity to move into purpose-built older peoples accommodation as were other Stocksbridge residents. She added that there would be wide consultation with the local community on the proposed new development which would greatly benefit older people when built.

Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources) also responded that there was a large degree of misinformation regarding the cost of repairs required to the Town Hall and that Mr. Clarkson had, when a City Councillor last year, supported £2 million of repairs. He added that the Town Hall was a Grade 1 listed building and essential repairs were required to the building as repairs had been deferred in previous years. Councillor Lodge added that many of the costs assigned by people to the refurbishment of the Town Hall's meeting rooms were inaccurate and that £170,000 had been set aside to upgrade office accommodation in the Town Hall. In general terms, if the repairs had not been carried out at this time, then the cost of such repairs would have cost an estimated £3 million.

(j) Public Questions on Early Years' Service

A number of questions were asked in relation to the Early Years' Service as follows:-

(i) Paula Jones commented that the questions asked within the Early Years consultation were unclear, that there were still a lot of people that did not know what children's centres offered and that the Council should stop wasting money on such consultations and start to listen more closely to local communities, who should be permitted to manage the buildings and activities involved in delivering the Early Years' Service. She therefore asked why the Council had asked questions that people did not fully understand the implications of and why the Council had failed to encourage people to use the centres?

(ii) Linda Edwards commented that, in order to justify the removal of financial support to nurseries, the Council has had to exclude childcare from Sheffield's vision for early identification and intervention services for young people. She stated that parents and workers had been informed that funding was available to support the delivery of quality childcare to support families and children in deprived areas of Sheffield, through the Big Lottery Fund for specific purposes in relation to children aged 0-3 years. A one-off bid for funding could be submitted by the Council in partnership with the community which had resulted in a meeting with invited parties to discuss the issue. However, no childcare providers were included in this invitation.

Ms. Edwards therefore asked why and how could groups with detailed knowledge of regeneration or adult health know better than childcare providers how to support child development, speech and language and social and emotional development.

(iii) Chrissy Meleady referred to the statements made by the Council that the sole cause of loss of funding from Early Years was the removal of Early Intervention Grant and to the funding for childcare funding available this year for childcare. She asked where the current funding for childcare had gone and whether the Council would recognise the reality of the current situation and acknowledge that the Council were taking decisions to reduce Early Years' funding notwithstanding Government policy and simply not blame the coalition Government for the current position?

(iv) Tracey Greene asked whether the final Cabinet decision had already been made notwithstanding the current consultation? She also asked had the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families originally intended to consult with every Children's Centre and interview every parent in order to encourage them to complete which, she alleged, was a misleading survey and, if so, how much did this exercise cost?

(v) Peter Davies stated that the GMB was one of the recognised trade unions with whom the Council consulted and negotiated with and that the GMB represented approximately one third of those employees who looked like losing their jobs as a result of the proposed cuts to Children's Centres. He therefore asked why the Council had not responded to the report submitted by the GMB submitted to the last meeting of the Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee requesting an extension to the consultation process?

(vi) Professor Pat Broadhead referred to the potential additional support that would be needed for children and families if children's centres closed as the private sector would not absorb the resulting extra demand arising from the closures. She added that the centres/nurseries provided support in developing young children and assisted mothers back into employment and were fundamental to a child's well being and chances in its future life. Professor Broadhead commented that, historically, the voluntary sector had been vital in supporting the viability of the City's childcare structure and that if the Council's proposals, as they stood, were implemented then this would place the centres/nurseries wider infra-structure in jeopardy.

Professor Broadhead asked therefore was the City Council intent on ignoring its own strong traditions and legacy of supported childcare for children and families in disadvantaged communities at a time when those communities were in greatest need and which would adversely affect the City in general?

(vii) Emma Chadwick referred to a number of questions which had been submitted to her by people who were not able to attend the meeting and Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families) responded that if she was supplied with their contact details she would respond to the questions submitted.

Ms. Chadwick asked why the Council had not submitted, in partnership with childcare providers, an application to the Big Lottery Fund to help support childcare in the City. She commented that the money made available under the scheme

would provide an ideal opportunity to help the current situation and assist local communities to support services and avoid putting children's futures at risk. Ms Chadwick also asked whether the Council would allow people who had not been trained to the required standard to look after children? She stated that this was a big concern for parents of children with learning difficulties such as Autism and that parents wanted to ensure that their children were cared for in a safe, relaxed environment where their happiness flourished.

(viii) Megan Beardsmore asked that, with respect to the Council's consultation, why did those Council staff, when visiting children's centres, not write down the comments that were made by parents and providers but indicate that they should put their comments on line?

She also asked how the Council's agency was going to ensure high quality, affordable childcare, particularly to ensure that there was no overcharging, the maintenance of flexibility of provision as well as high quality standards?

Finally, Ms. Beardsmore asked would Early Years Services be put out for tender for competition with voluntary groups and would they be inspected by Ofsted so that they could assess whether the services they provided were good, average or poor? She commented that there was a need to award contracts only to those providers who were delivering outstanding childcare already.

Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families) responded to the above questions and stated that the Council wanted to ensure that all families across the City wherever they had access to a range of services including childcare, health services, midwifery and breast feeding support within walking distance by a range of organisations. She stated that within the Council's proposals, the definition of "Area" reflected this aim of ensuring access to a range of services was close to where families lived and would not require parents and children to travel large distances to access these services.

Councillor Drayton added that the suggestions that the consultation process was not clear or open was misleading as she had attended many meetings to discuss the Council's proposals which had supplemented the formal consultation. She had requested officers to go out into communities and speak with parents and carers about the proposals as she felt the on-line consultation facility was insufficient as a means of securing all views. However, she stated that the recently held consultation was only a small part of the overall consultation on Early Years' Services which had been on-going over the past 18 months.

In terms of the report produced by the GMB for submission to the Children, Young People and family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, Councillor Drayton responded that she had not been aware that the report had been submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration and certainly did not receive a copy herself before the meeting. She would, however, seek to ensure that answers to the questions raised by the GMB in the report would be sent to them as soon as possible. She further reiterated she was aware that the Unions had a duty to represent their members and had at all times tried to keep them up to date with developments and, to that end, she had a meeting with the Trade Unions prior to

the Cabinet meeting at which Unite, Unison, NASUWT and the NUT were present but unfortunately there must have been a misunderstanding as no representative from the GMB attended.

With regard to a Lottery bid, Councillor Drayton stated that local authorities had been asked to submit Expressions of Interest for funding involving a 10 year bidding regime for services for 0-3 year olds. She had heard about the funding from Ms. Meleady. However, the Council had received information very late with a short timescale to get back an Expression of Interest. She added that any funding received would have to be delivered through voluntary/charity organisations, not the Council and it was vital that the bid was developed in partnership. Councillor Drayton stated she was aware that a meeting was being held and she was keen to ensure that all providers had the opportunity to attend so had asked officers to ensure everyone received an invite to it.

Councillor Drayton, in responding to questions raised on funding, stated that when, in 2009/10, the current Administration was in opposition and considering the then Administration's proposals to cut subsidy grant, the Labour Opposition had indicated that it would work with providers, parents and carers to create proposals that took account of the current financial situation but, however, the Council now had little room for manoeuvre due to the Government's policy of removing the ring fence from the Sure Start budget and the cuts were now deep and too soon.

Early Intervention Grant was now ring-fenced to youth activities and the Aiming High fund for families with disabilities. In future, the only Government funding would be for the Free Early Learning Programme with no available funding remaining for Early Intervention Services. However, the Council had attempted to protect Early Intervention and Protection Services through wrap around services for children and families and would continue to work with providers, carers and families to ensure that the money available was targeted on the services for children and families and do whatever possible to protect services to children and families.

Petitions Requiring Debate

Petition regarding proposed funding reductions in the Early Years Service

4.3

To debate a petition containing approximately 10,000 signatures objecting to proposed funding reductions in the Early Years Service. The wording of the petition is as follows:-

(a)

"We the undersigned recognise that Sheffield's Community Nurseries and Children's Centres provide universal, culturally sensitive, high quality education and care as well as preventative services for ALL families. They support parents on low incomes to gain access to employment. They support parents to access further education or gain basic skills. More importantly they give children from deprived backgrounds the important early year's experience that gives them the right start in life.

In 2011-12 seven nurseries in Sheffield got an "Outstanding" grade from Ofsted, five of these will be placed at risk if these proposals go forward, making a mockery of

the “Narrowing the Gap” and “Raising attainment” agenda as they are all in areas of deprivation. We believe that the Council has not fully understood the impact of these cuts. We the undersigned confirm our opposition to the Early Years Redesign and our opposition to Sheffield City Council’s decision to withdraw funding from community nurseries and remove the early education and care from Children’s Centres which will have a devastating effect in the deprived communities at a time when they need it most. We call on the Council to take immediate action and call on them to:

- *shelve these proposals*
- *consult with communities about the models of support they require*
- *look at alternative areas to reduce costs.*

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Emma Chadwick and Sally Pearce. They stated that the Council should work with the providers of childcare. Whilst it was recognised that the Council was in a difficult financial position due to Government cuts, Sheffield did have choices and it was important to collectively develop a strong vision for early years. Early years provision also supported women and families in relation to language, health and employment and made a positive contribution to community cohesion. The not for profit childcare providers also pulled in significant additional funding. Quality early years provision also had an important role in narrowing the gap for children in deprived areas and raising attainment much later in the child’s education.

At the Tinsley Green Centre, for example, the withdrawal of workers from the area would affect the sustainability services as a whole. The timescales for redesign of services were particularly tight and transformation funding was needed whilst the commissioning of services was taking place. People had to have faith that the process was still at the stage of consultation and that the Council would listen to people and ensure that an equitable approach was adopted. They proposed an honest round table discussion when the results of consultation are known.

Members of the City Council debated the issues raised by the petition, as summarised below.

- It was recognised that the early years were of great importance to a child’s development and their life chances.
- The childcare providers in the City were respected for their experience, and provided high quality services. The Council needed to find a way of continuing to provide support for childcare provision
- The funding provided to the Council was being directed to early learning and away from early intervention and prevention.
- The Council must listen carefully to the views of parents and providers of early years services as part of the consultation and in questions which were submitted at meetings at which the issue was discussed, such as Council.
- The Children Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy

Development Committee had requested Cabinet to consider what transitional arrangements were needed to ensure that good quality early years provision was sustained; further detail of provision within the 17 areas; and a communications plan to inform parents. The Committee would reconvene prior to the Cabinet meeting at which the redesign of early years services would be considered on 27 February 2013.

- The provision of quality childcare was an important factor in women with children finding employment.

After a right of reply from the petitioners, the City Council considered courses of action available in response to the petition. The following two proposals were moved in response to the petition received relating to Early Years services and the subsequent debate.

It was moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar, that this Council:

- Endorses the recommendations of the Scrutiny Board
- Further notes the representations made today and recognise the need for transitional arrangements to consider all support needed, including direct funding, to ensure the continuity of Early Years provision and that all partners involved in Early Years provision be included.
- Refers the petition, with these recommendations, to Cabinet.

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

It was then moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, that this Council:

- (a) thanks local people for bringing the petition and shares the strength of feeling about the importance of early years services;
- (b) agrees that all concerns that have been raised throughout this process and at this Council meeting about the early years proposals will feed into the consultation which will inform the Cabinet report and recommendations later this month; and
- (c) directs that the recommendations should be considered by the Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee meeting on the morning of 27th February 2013 and also directs that the Rt. Hon. Michael Gove, MP (Secretary of State for Education), Elizabeth Truss, MP (Under-Secretary of State for Education and Childcare) and the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg, MP (Deputy Prime Minister) be invited to attend the Scrutiny Committee and/or Cabinet meetings.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried, as follows:

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) thanks local people for bringing the petition and shares the strength of feeling about the importance of early years services;
- (b) agrees that all concerns that have been raised throughout this process and at this Council meeting about the early years proposals will feed into the consultation which will inform the Cabinet report and recommendations later this month; and
- (c) directs that the recommendations should be considered by the Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee meeting on the morning of 27th February 2013 and also directs that the Rt. Hon. Michael Gove, MP (Secretary of State for Education), Elizabeth Truss, MP (Under-Secretary of State for Education and Childcare) and the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg, MP (Deputy Prime Minister) be invited to attend the Scrutiny Committee and/or Cabinet meetings.

Petition regarding the proposed closure of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre

To debate a petition containing approximately 7,500 signatures expressing concern over the proposals to close Stocksbridge Leisure Centre. The wording of the petition is as follows:-

(b)

“We the undersigned are very concerned citizens of Stocksbridge, Deepcar and surrounding areas over the proposals to close Stocksbridge Leisure Centre. We urge Sheffield City Council to seriously consider an alternative to closure of this important and much needed community facility.”

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Emma Gregory, who stated that she was speaking on behalf of Mary Kay, who had started the petition. She questioned the fairness of the decision to close the Leisure Centre, which was based on footfall and did not consider the catchment area of people using the facilities. She asserted that Stocksbridge Leisure Centre was well utilised when compared to other facilities such as Hillsborough or Concord. There was great community support for the campaign to retain the Leisure Centre.

She asked the Council to consider the effect that closure of Leisure would have, for example on public swimming and swimming lessons. Every week, more than 500 children had swimming lessons and paraolympians used the pool to train. The Leisure Centre also facilitated gymnastics, indoor bowls, GP referrals, senior sessions, junior football, martial arts, fitness classes, trampoline and racket sports. The facilities were also used by local schools. Stocksbridge was 10 miles away from Sheffield and there was not transport available to travel to alternative Leisure facilities.

Emma Gregory read a poem concerning Alice, a child of six who was inspired by the Olympics and who was learning to swim at the Leisure Centre. She stated that there had been little time to look at alternatives and opportunity to put together a sustainable facility which meets the needs of the community. She proposed that twelve months would be needed for this to happen, and the Council's continued

support was required.

Members of the City Council debated the issues raised by the petition, as summarised below.

Members were appreciative and impressed at the way people in Stocksbridge and Deepcar had come together to look for solutions to the matter, showing their knowledge, passion and commitment. There was joint work being undertaken with the Stocksbridge Town Council to explore options for a sustainable future for the Leisure Centre and Sport England had commissioned a study regarding the feasibility of keeping the facilities open. Funding had been identified to keep the Leisure Centre open for an additional month. However, it was also argued that a longer period might be needed to create a viable plan for a sustainable facility.

There was apprehension about the effect of a closure of the Leisure Centre on local schools' duty to provide swimming lessons. Stocksbridge was an isolated community and there was concern about the withdrawal of the sports and leisure facilities, which the Leisure Centre provided, on public health. Stocksbridge Leisure Centre was a long standing and well loved facility. In terms of visitor numbers per head of population, the Leisure Centre represented one of the highest. The Leisure Centre did require a higher than average level of subsidy although might also be due to its location.

With regard to investment in other City leisure centres, Sheffield International Venues had identified a need for health and safety works to be carried out at Graves Leisure Centre.

In her right of reply, Emma Gregory referred to the increase in footfall at the Leisure Centre in the previous 12 months and stated that the venue with the highest subsidy in Sheffield was Ponds Forge. It was difficult for people in Stocksbridge to access other facilities and there was going to be an increase in housing in the area and she asked what facilities would be there for people. She asked for more time to complete a business plan whereby the community might look after the Leisure Centre themselves.

The City Council then considered courses of action available in response to the petition. The following two proposals were moved in response to the petition received relating to Stocksbridge Leisure Centre and the subsequent debate.

It was moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, that this Council:-

- Thanks the petitioners and congratulates them on a strong campaign
- Resolves to refer the matter to cabinet with the recommendation that they extend funding to Stocksbridge Leisure Centre to give sufficient time for a business plan to be developed by the community and interested parties, as requested in the petition

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

It was then moved by Councillor Isobel Bowler, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, that this Council:-

- (a) thanks local people for bringing the petition and recognises the strength of feeling about the impact that the closure of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre would have on the local community;
- (b) confirms that the Council is looking for a long term sustainable leisure strategy for the whole city in an environment of diminishing revenue support;
- (c) welcomes Sheffield City Council and Sport England's commissioning of an independent study to help identify the feasibility of keeping the Leisure Centre open and any other options which might be able to deliver a sustainable leisure offer in Stocksbridge;
- (d) welcomes the partnership working between the Council and Stocksbridge Town Council to look at options for the future provision of leisure services for Stocksbridge; and
- (e) however, regretfully accepts that due to the level of cuts that the Government is making to the Council, the proposal to remove the £400,000 subsidy can not be removed from the Council's budget proposals.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried, as follows:
RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) thanks local people for bringing the petition and recognises the strength of feeling about the impact that the closure of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre would have on the local community;
- (b) confirms that the Council is looking for a long term sustainable leisure strategy for the whole city in an environment of diminishing revenue support;
- (c) welcomes Sheffield City Council and Sport England's commissioning of an independent study to help identify the feasibility of keeping the Leisure Centre open and any other options which might be able to deliver a sustainable leisure offer in Stocksbridge;
- (d) welcomes the partnership working between the Council and Stocksbridge Town Council to look at options for the future provision of leisure services for Stocksbridge; and
- (e) however, regretfully accepts that due to the level of cuts that the Government is making to the Council, the proposal to remove the £400,000 subsidy can not be removed from the Council's budget proposals.

5. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 5.5 relating to the time limit for meetings of the Council, Item No. 5 on the Summons, relating to Members' Questions, was not considered.

(At 6.45pm, the Lord Mayor vacated the Chair and left the meeting and the Deputy Lord Mayor took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.)

6. REPRESENTATION, DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND RELATED ISSUES

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that this Council:-

(a) (i) notes that the Director of Modern Governance, in consultation with the Chief Executive, has undertaken a review of the composition of the Authority's Independent Remuneration Panel (established under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003) and conducted a targeted recruitment exercise which sought to secure sector representation and diversity in appointments and;

(ii) endorses the under-mentioned appointments to the Panel, to serve up to a maximum of four years:-

- Mr David Baldwin, retired Health Service Executive (public sector)
- Mr Mark Power, Head of Internal Audit, SIG plc (private sector)
- Ms. Abtisam Mohammed, Programme Director, Yemeni Community Association (VCF Sector)
- Ms. Lynda Hinxman, Sheffield Hallam University (academic sector);

(b) (i) approves the following changes to the memberships of Committees, Panels, Groups, etc:

Allotments and Leisure Gardens Advisory Group:
Councillor Ibrar Hussain to replace Councillor Steve Wilson

School Admissions Forum:
Councillors Ian Saunders and Ibrar Hussain to fill vacancies; and

(ii) appoints representatives to serve on other bodies as follows:-

Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust:
Vivian Kenneth Lockwood to replace Stuart Bennett (non-Council representative)

Yorkshire and the Humber Tobacco Governance Board:
Councillor Clive Skelton to fill a vacancy

7. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Julie Dore, seconded by Councillor Pat Midgley, that this Council:-

- (a) adopts the changes to the following Parts of the Constitution, as set out in the report and appendices:-
- (i) Part 2 - Articles 4, 7, 9, 11,12 and 16
 - (ii) Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions
 - (iii) Part 4 - Council Procedure Rules and Miscellaneous Matters
 - (iv) Part 4 - Contracts Standing Orders
 - (v) Part 4 - Access to Information Rules
 - (vi) Part 4 - Executive Procedure Rules
 - (vii) Part 5 - Officers' Code of Conduct
 - (viii) Part 5 - Protocol for Member/Officer Relations
 - (ix) Part 7 - Management Structure and Proper Officers; and
- (b) notes that the changes relating to creating the statutory post of Director of Public Health and setting up a statutory Health and Well Being Board will take effect from 1 April 2013.

8. CHANGES TO COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS FOR SECOND HOMES AND EMPTY PROPERTIES

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Bryan Lodge, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, that this Council approves the proposals relating to Council Tax discounts and the Empty Homes Premium detailed in this report and set out in Appendix 1 to come into force on 1st April 2013.

9. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUSINESS PLAN 2012-17 UPDATE AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET AND RENT INCREASE 2013

It was moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, that the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting on 16th January 2013, concerning the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan 2012-17 Update and Housing Revenue Account Budget and Rent Increase 2013-14 be confirmed.

“RESOLVED: That this Cabinet recommends to the meeting of the City Council on 6th February, 2013 that :-

- (a) the HRA Business Plan update report for 2013/14 be approved;
- (b) the HRA Revenue Budget for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix B of the Cabinet report be approved;
- (c) an increase in rents for Council dwellings by an average of 4.8% from April 2013 be approved;

- (d) an increase in annual rents for garages and garage sites by an average of 4.8% from April 2013 be approved;
- (e) an increase in community heating charges by 5% in 2013/14 be approved;
- (f) the Director of Commissioning, Communities, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, be granted delegated authority to increase the sheltered housing service charge in the event of the City Wide Care Alarms charge being increased in 2013/14;
- (g) charges for furnished accommodation, interim accommodation, and burglar alarms be not increased; and
- (h) the Director of Commissioning, Communities and the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, be granted delegated authority to authorise prudential borrowing as allowed under current government guidelines.”

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, that the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting on 16th January, 2013, concerning the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2012-17 and Housing Revenue Account Budget and Rent Increase 2013/14, be approved with the following amendments:-

- (a) reduces the rise in heating charges from 5% to 1% in line with benefit increases, which will mean that a further £136k will be required from the community heating reserves;
- (b) notes that the reported 2012/13 surplus has increased to £7m and recommends the additional £300k, if achieved at the year-end, is allocated to repairing and replacing heating systems and boilers;
- (c) welcomes the decision not to implement the unfair practice of charging new tenants a higher rent than existing tenants, as recommended by the largest opposition group; and
- (d) regrets that the Administration refused to approach the private developer of the Park Hill project to request that they meet the associated costs of the project, currently funded by this Council.

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:-

- (a) the HRA Business Plan update report for 2013/14 be approved;

- (b) the HRA Revenue Budget for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix B of the Cabinet report be approved;
- (c) an increase in rents for Council dwellings by an average of 4.8% from April 2013 be approved;
- (d) an increase in annual rents for garages and garage sites by an average of 4.8% from April 2013 be approved;
- (e) an increase in community heating charges by 5% in 2013/14 be approved;
- (f) the Director of Commissioning, Communities, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, be granted delegated authority to increase the sheltered housing service charge in the event of the City Wide Care Alarms charge being increased in 2013/14;
- (g) charges for furnished accommodation, interim accommodation, and burglar alarms be not increased; and
- (h) the Director of Commissioning, Communities and the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods, be granted delegated authority to authorise prudential borrowing as allowed under current government guidelines.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JULIE DORE

Council Budget Position

It was moved by Councillor Julie Dore, seconded by Councillor Harry Harpham, that this Council:-

- (a) reconfirms 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 unprecedented level of cuts, which will have a massive impact on Council services in Sheffield;
- (b) notes that the Council has a £50 million budget gap for 2013/14 and 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;
- (c) is appalled that despite the Council having to set its budget on 1st March, 2013, the Local Government Finance Settlement was not given until the week before Christmas and believes that this demonstrates a complete disregard for local government;

- (d) regrets that the Government provided inaccurate figures to the Council and the public on the Settlement which were used to create an inaccurate and grossly misleading representation of the reductions facing local authorities and believes that this demonstrates their incompetence;
- (e) 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;
- (f) notes recent research from Newcastle City Council which indicates that Sheffield will receive a cut of nearly £200 per person between 2010/11 and 2014/15, wealthy areas are receiving significantly less cuts with Guildford receiving a cut of just £24.14 per person, Wokingham £26.53 and Epsom and Ewell just £15.18;
- (g) believes that the Deputy Prime Minister continues to betray and fail the people of Sheffield and is shocked that the main opposition group continue to support the unfair cuts that the Government are making to Sheffield;
- (h) regrets that due to the Deputy Prime Minister's complete inability to offer any plausible defence for the decisions his Government is making to impose unprecedented cuts to Sheffield City Council at the same time as wealthier councils receive just a fraction of the cuts, the Deputy Prime Minister and main opposition group have resorted to spouting factually inaccurate untruths about Council spending;
- (i) instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the Main Opposition Group to explain recent inaccuracies and misrepresentations recently propagated by the Deputy Prime Minister and main opposition group;
- (j) expects that in the future these inaccuracies will not be included in any statement or material issued by the party of the Deputy Prime Minister and the main opposition group;
- (k) notes that unfortunately many other councils across the country are facing significant reductions in services and this is reflected in the letters written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by all Core City Leaders explaining the impact that the cuts will have on their cities;
- (l) further notes that in the past two years, the Council has made £140 million of budget reductions and as far as possible has done so limiting the impact on front line visible Council services, however, recognises that the Government have continued to cut to a level that will mean it is no longer possible to avoid significant reductions to front line services;
- (m) further notes that proposals to balance the 2013/14 budget are now subject to consultation and impact upon areas across the Council,

including sports and leisure, health and care, youth services, early years, and Community Assemblies, acknowledging that, with the exception of child protection, no area of the Council will be unaffected by the cuts;

- (n) further notes that the proposals are still subject to consultation and the budget will be approved at Full Council on 1st March, 2013; and
- (o) confirms the present Administration's determination to protect services as far as possible, focusing on the long term and recognises the Administration's focus on protecting services for the vulnerable.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones, 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 therefore:-

- (a) laments the previous Government's inability to handle public finances, increasing the national deficit year-on-year from 2001 onwards, reaching a total of £43bn prior to the economic crash;
- (b) notes that the previous Government built up a record national deficit, where £1 in every £4 the Government spent was borrowed, leaving the current Government to clean up the mess they had created;
- (c) reminds Members of the commitment of the previous Government to halve the deficit by 2014, by pledging £82bn worth of cuts;
- (d) deplores Her Majesty's Opposition, who despite making this pledge, have refused to provide any credible plans of how they would have cut the national deficit in Government;
- (e) however, notes the comments of the Leader of the Opposition and the Shadow Chancellor who have refused to commit to reinstate funding for local government if elected;
- (f) regrets that the Administration continue to hypocritically scare-monger about Council budgets, in a desperate attempt to deflect blame for their own decisions and incompetence;
- (g) notes that while Sheffield will see a 3.9% reduction in its adjusted Formula Grant (including Early Intervention Grant and other funds), Wokingham will see a reduction of 5.6%, while Epsom & Ewell and Guildford will see reductions of 9.4% and 7.8% respectively;
- (h) further confirms that Sheffield City Council will have a spending power of £2,273 per dwelling next year compared to £1,845 for Wokingham, £306 for Epsom & Ewell and £284 for Guildford;
- (i) furthermore, thanks the Government for the overwhelming investment in Sheffield including the commitment to a High Speed Rail Station, £1.2bn

for the Streets Ahead programme, £9.9m for a University Technical College, over £100m through the Regional Growth Fund and millions of pounds in Sheffield's trains, trams, buses and cycle routes;

- (j) believes it is a shame that the current Administration continue to use Sheffield as a pawn in a political game, instead of working constructively with the Government;
- (k) in particular, regrets that the current Administration have taken an axe to front-line services, while they continue to waste money on vanity schemes and pet projects;
- (l) confirms the following facts:
 - (i) the Council's Statement of Accounts, signed off by the Chair of the Audit Committee, reported "usable reserves" of £167m;
 - (ii) the Council's 2012/13 Capital Programme earmarked £2.2m for "Town Hall Meeting Rooms" in the 2013/14 financial year;
 - (iii) the Council spent £475,000 a year on full time trade union officials, in addition to 61 members of staff performing trade union duties on a part time basis;
 - (iv) from December 2011 to November 2012, the Council recorded £4.7m of "consultancy" fees in payment to supplier documents;
 - (v) the Administration approved £2.5m to be spent at Park Hill; and
 - (vi) that a Cabinet Advisor twice proposed a pilot investigating i-pads for councillors;
- (m) is not surprised, that having attempted to silence opposition voices in this Council Chamber, the Administration are now attempting to use the Council as a tool to silence opposition voices outside of the Council;
- (n) believes also, that it is ironic for the Administration to talk of "factually inaccurate untruths" given their "6-month budget" claim in 2011, which was in no way justified by the facts;
- (o) furthermore, notes the Fair Deal for Sheffield campaign, launched by the local Labour Party, contains false claims about NHS funding, which Labour councillors were forced to retract in this Chamber due to their inaccuracy;
- (p) is pleased to see that the Fair Deal for Sheffield was boycotted by all opposition parties on this Council, who truly recognised the ploy as nothing more than a party-political stunt;
- (q) sincerely hopes that not a single penny of taxpayers' money is wasted on this party-political stunt; and
- (r) believes that if the Administration were serious about standing up for Sheffield, they would stop their petty party political games, eliminate the excessive waste within the Council and ensure much needed funds were

directed towards front-line services.

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

It was then moved by Councillor Robert Murphy, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (p) to (s) as follows:-

- (p) notes the proposed reduction of over £2m to the 2013/14 levy for the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority;
- (q) understands that any decision to reduce the levy is made by the Integrated Transport Authority which includes 5 elected members from Sheffield;
- (r) believes that at a time of economic hardship and rising fuel prices, public transport is vitally important to prevent social exclusion and allow access to opportunities for all members of our communities; and
- (s) calls on all Sheffield members of the Integrated Transport Authority to oppose any reduction to the levy for 2013/14 and invest any budget savings in improvements to South Yorkshire's public transport network.

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

It was then moved by Councillor Bryan Lodge, seconded by Councillor Stuart Wattam, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (p) to (r) as follows:-

- (p) notes that whilst the present Administration have taken full responsibility for their budget proposals whilst dealing with an unprecedented level of Government cuts, regrets that the main opposition group have opposed numerous proposals without presenting the full details of their budget outlining the alternative cuts that they would make;
- (q) believes that the main opposition group have acted irresponsibly through presenting factually inaccurate untruths about Council spending in an attempt to suggest that the Government's cuts can be made without impacting upon local services and believes that this is an attempt to mislead local people; and
- (r) therefore calls on all opposition groups to present details of their budget to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 13th February, 2013, remembering that when they were the ruling group, the main opposition group stated "it would not be open or honest for any political group to present their proposed budget on the morning of Budget Council day".

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

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

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) reconfirms 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 unprecedented level of cuts, which will have a massive impact on Council services in Sheffield;
- (b) notes that the Council has a £50 million budget gap for 2013/14 and 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;
- (c) is appalled that despite the Council having to set its budget on 1st March, 2013, the Local Government Finance Settlement was not given until the week before Christmas and believes that this demonstrates a complete disregard for local government;
- (d) regrets that the Government provided inaccurate figures to the Council and the public on the Settlement which were used to create an inaccurate and grossly misleading representation of the reductions facing local authorities and believes that this demonstrates their incompetence;
- (e) 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;
- (f) notes recent research from Newcastle City Council which indicates that Sheffield will receive a cut of nearly £200 per person between 2010/11 and 2014/15, wealthy areas are receiving significantly less cuts with Guildford receiving a cut of just £24.14 per person, Wokingham £26.53 and Epsom and Ewell just £15.18;
- (g) believes that the Deputy Prime Minister continues to betray and fail the people of Sheffield and is shocked that the main opposition group continue to support the unfair cuts that the Government are making to Sheffield;
- (h) regrets that due to the Deputy Prime Minister's complete inability to offer any plausible defence for the decisions his Government is making to impose unprecedented cuts to Sheffield City Council at the same time as wealthier councils receive just a fraction of the cuts, the Deputy Prime Minister and main opposition group have resorted to spouting factually inaccurate untruths about Council spending;
- (i) instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Deputy Prime Minister and

- Leader of the Main Opposition Group to explain recent inaccuracies and misrepresentations recently propagated by the Deputy Prime Minister and main opposition group;
- (j) expects that in the future these inaccuracies will not be included in any statement or material issued by the party of the Deputy Prime Minister and the main opposition group;
 - (k) notes that unfortunately many other councils across the country are facing significant reductions in services and this is reflected in the letters written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by all Core City Leaders explaining the impact that the cuts will have on their cities;
 - (l) further notes that in the past two years, the Council has made £140 million of budget reductions and as far as possible has done so limiting the impact on front line visible Council services, however, recognises that the Government have continued to cut to a level that will mean it is no longer possible to avoid significant reductions to front line services;
 - (m) further notes that proposals to balance the 2013/14 budget are now subject to consultation and impact upon areas across the Council, including sports and leisure, health and care, youth services, early years, and Community Assemblies, acknowledging that, with the exception of child protection, no area of the Council will be unaffected by the cuts;
 - (n) further notes that the proposals are still subject to consultation and the budget will be approved at Full Council on 1st March, 2013;
 - (o) confirms the present Administration's determination to protect services as far as possible, focusing on the long term and recognises the Administration's focus on protecting services for the vulnerable;
 - (p) notes that whilst the present Administration have taken full responsibility for their budget proposals whilst dealing with an unprecedented level of Government cuts, regrets that the main opposition group have opposed numerous proposals without presenting the full details of their budget outlining the alternative cuts that they would make;
 - (q) believes that the main opposition group have acted irresponsibly through presenting factually inaccurate untruths about Council spending in an attempt to suggest that the Government's cuts can be made without impacting upon local services and believes that this is an attempt to

mislead local people; and

- (r) therefore calls on all opposition groups to present details of their budget to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 13th February, 2013, remembering that when they were the ruling group, the main opposition group stated “it would not be open or honest for any political group to present their proposed budget on the morning of Budget Council day”.

(Note: Councillor Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (a) to (o) and abstained on paragraphs (p) – (r) of the Substantive Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SHEILA CONSTANCE

Food Banks in Sheffield

It was moved by Councillor Shelia Constance, seconded by Councillor Sioned Mair Richards, that this Council:-

- (a) regrets that since this Government came to power there are more homeless people and people visiting food banks in Sheffield than ever before;
- (b) notes that the need for people to visit food banks has increased drastically over the past two years;
- (c) further notes that The Trussell Trust said its food bank network had fed almost 110,000 people since April 2012, compared with a total of 128,697 in the whole of 2011-12;
- (d) is aware that there are now seven food banks in Sheffield, which has more than doubled since the Coalition came to power;
- (e) is concerned about the disproportionate impact of homelessness on young people, who are more financially vulnerable and have less accommodation options open to them;
- (f) is doing what it can to help prevent homelessness in Sheffield but is faced with budget cuts which will mean less people will receive support when there is greater need;
- (g) believes that this need for emergency shelter and food supplies has increased due to tough economic pressures;
- (h) is aware that many families who need emergency food are working families that are struggling to pay bills as well as feed their families;

- (i) is also aware that the majority of people who need emergency food need help due to disruptions in benefit payments;
- (j) expects this situation to get worse with the introduction of universal benefits; and
- (k) is thankful that the churches and volunteer groups in Sheffield give up their time and resources to help people who need emergency support and hopes they will continue to do this.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion in paragraph (a) of the words “this current Government came to power” and their substitution by the words “this economic downturn”;
2. the deletion of paragraphs (f) and (h) to (j);
3. the re-lettering of paragraphs (a) to (e) as new paragraphs (b) to (f), and the addition of a new paragraph (a) as follows:-
 - (a) reminds Members that the previous Government oversaw the most severe economic collapse in post-war British history and left this country on the brink of economic abyss;
4. the addition of new paragraphs (h) to (m) as follows:-
 - (h) recognises that despite 13 years in power, Labour politicians failed to tackle the root causes of homelessness, with 1.75 million people on social housing waiting lists and an estimated additional 380,000 ‘hidden homeless’ people in the UK;
 - (i) notes with concern, that under the previous Government, the building of social housing declined to the lowest figure since the Second World War, with seven times more prison cells being built than Council homes;
 - (j) furthermore, acknowledges the Council have so far spent less than 10% of the New Homes Bonus, a fund specifically targeted at encouraging more home building;
 - (k) welcomes moves by the Coalition Government to increase the building of social housing, and action taken by the last Council administration to build the first new Council homes in Sheffield for two decades;
 - (l) acknowledges specific moves by the Coalition Government to tackle homelessness, such as the recent £264,000 awarded to Sheffield charities, the Archer Project and ASSIST, and measures

in the Localism Act, which will allow homeless families to find a suitable home in the private rented sector and avoid the uncertainty of long waits in temporary accommodation;

- (m) supports broader Government initiatives, which have been welcomed by homeless charities, such as a cross-departmental Homelessness Working Group and the Health Inclusion Board, which will tackle chronic health problems among the homeless, and the new mental health strategy, *No Health without Mental Health*, which focuses on the needs of homeless people;

5. the re-lettering of original paragraph (k) as a new paragraph (n).

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

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

RESOLVED: that this Council:-

- (a) regrets that since this Government came to power there are more homeless people and people visiting food banks in Sheffield than ever before;
- (b) notes that the need for people to visit food banks has increased drastically over the past two years;
- (c) further notes that The Trussell Trust said its food bank network had fed almost 110,000 people since April 2012, compared with a total of 128,697 in the whole of 2011-12;
- (d) is aware that there are now seven food banks in Sheffield, which has more than doubled since the Coalition came to power;
- (e) is concerned about the disproportionate impact of homelessness on young people, who are more financially vulnerable and have less accommodation options open to them;
- (f) is doing what it can to help prevent homelessness in Sheffield but is faced with budget cuts which will mean less people will receive support when there is greater need;
- (g) believes that this need for emergency shelter and food supplies has increased due to tough economic pressures;
- (h) is aware that many families who need emergency food are working families that are struggling to pay bills as well as feed their families;
- (i) is also aware that the majority of people who need emergency food need help due to disruptions in benefit payments;

- | | |
|-----|---|
| (j) | expects this situation to get worse with the introduction of universal benefits; and |
| (k) | is thankful that the churches and volunteer groups in Sheffield give up their time and resources to help people who need emergency support and hopes they will continue to do this. |

(Note: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Vickie Priestley) and Councillors Simon Clement Jones, Shaffaq Mohammed, Rob Frost, Sylvia Anginotti, Colin Ross, Joe Otten, Keith Hill, Penny Baker, Diana Stimely, Roger Davison, Andrew Sangar, Ian Auckland, Bob McCann, Anders Hanson, Katie Condliffe, David Baker, Alison Brelsford and Trevor Bagshaw voted for paragraphs (b), (c), (e), (g), (h) and (k), against paragraph (j) and abstained on paragraphs (a), (d) and (f) of the above motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

12. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW SANGAR

Local Engagement and Community Empowerment

It was moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor David Baker, that this Council:-

- (a) notes with regret the proposal of the current Administration to abolish Community Assemblies;
- (b) believes Community Assemblies have been a wholly positive step for the Council in encouraging local engagement, strengthening local accountability, and empowering local councillors and communities;
- (c) furthermore, confirms that, despite the claims of the current Administration, the work of Community Assemblies and the number of residents engaged extends far beyond the formal meetings;
- (d) in addition, notes that a number a public sector organisations have aligned their structures to Community Assemblies to ensure better partnership working;
- (e) believes that the end of Community Assemblies would spell a return to the Town-Hall-knows-best attitude, where local concerns are increasingly ignored by Town Hall bureaucrats;
- (f) furthermore, regrets that the demise of Community Assemblies will lead to a further entrenchment of what is believed to be a 'favoured areas' policy and that, as a result, thousands of Sheffielders will not get a fair deal from the Council;
- (g) notes the comments of the Labour Chair of the Northern Community Assembly in The Sheffield Star that plans to cut Community Assemblies

were “regrettable”, “appalling”, “not an easy move” and “not something we wanted to do” and furthermore that the Assemblies have been “extremely valuable”;

- (h) feels that some funding should be retained to ensure Community Assemblies can continue to operate and support their communities;
- (i) however, believes that even if funding is withdrawn, the formal structures and branding of Community Assemblies should be retained; and
- (j) therefore, calls upon the Administration, regardless of the outcomes of the Budget Council meeting on 1st March, 2013, to maintain the broad structure of Community Assemblies with some officer support from the Council.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Mazher Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Geoff Smith Councillor, 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 this Government is making unprecedented and unfair cuts to Sheffield City Council and that the Council has had to reduce spending by £140 million over the past two years with a further £50 million for 2013/14;
- (b) is committed to local engagement and community empowerment, but believes that the unprecedented level of cuts that the Council is facing means that spending £2.4 million per year on locality engagement to the detriment of other services cannot be justified;
- (c) acknowledges that if this level of saving was not found from the locality engagement budget, it would need to be found by making cuts to other parts of the Council’s budget and believes it is disingenuous of the main opposition group to call upon the Council to protect Community Assemblies without offering any explanation as to which budgets they would cut;
- (d) will continue to encourage local engagement and community empowerment, however accepts that this will be with significantly reduced resources due to the unfair Government cuts that the Council is facing;
- (e) believes that the current Community Assembly system is flawed as it has failed to engage communities sufficiently and has as its main focus formal Assembly meetings which have often failed to attract the public or convince them that they were influencing decisions;
- (f) notes that Councillor David Baker, one of the Lib Dem architects of Community Assemblies, is reported within the write-up of a Sheffield for Democracy meeting, called to discuss Community Assemblies, on 23rd October, 2012, as offering the perspective that “Community Assemblies (other than the North East Community Assembly) have not operated as

intended”;

- (g) acknowledges that despite the flaws in the system, some good local work has been achieved by Community Assembly staff, local members and community groups;
- (h) believes that more of a focus on working at a ward level will encourage community engagement and participation;
- (i) notes that the initial consultation resulted in a wide range of views, with many constructive suggestions which will be considered carefully;
- (j) confirms that the work to develop the future model for local engagement and community empowerment is continuing and that there will be a second round of consultation with the intention of producing a system which maximises, as far as resources allow, local engagement and community empowerment, and supports partnership working in the City; and
- (k) further confirms that at first the new system will have to operate within a limited and reduced budget, but notes that in future, if more resources become available, it will be possible to enhance the new system through additional funding.

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) regrets that this Government is making unprecedented and unfair cuts to Sheffield City Council and that the Council has had to reduce spending by £140 million over the past two years with a further £50 million for 2013/14;
- (b) is committed to local engagement and community empowerment, but believes that the unprecedented level of cuts that the Council is facing means that spending £2.4 million per year on locality engagement to the detriment of other services cannot be justified;
- (c) acknowledges that if this level of saving was not found from the locality engagement budget, it would need to be found by making cuts to other parts of the Council’s budget and believes it is disingenuous of the main opposition group to call upon the Council to protect Community Assemblies without offering any explanation as to which budgets they would cut;
- (d) will continue to encourage local engagement and community empowerment, however accepts that this will be with significantly reduced resources due to the unfair Government cuts that the Council is facing;

- (e) believes that the current Community Assembly system is flawed as it has failed to engage communities sufficiently and has as its main focus formal Assembly meetings which have often failed to attract the public or convince them that they were influencing decisions;
- (f) notes that Councillor David Baker, one of the Lib Dem architects of Community Assemblies, is reported within the write-up of a Sheffield for Democracy meeting, called to discuss Community Assemblies, on 23rd October, 2012, as offering the perspective that “Community Assemblies (other than the North East Community Assembly) have not operated as intended”;
- (g) acknowledges that despite the flaws in the system, some good local work has been achieved by Community Assembly staff, local members and community groups;
- (h) believes that more of a focus on working at a ward level will encourage community engagement and participation;
- (i) notes that the initial consultation resulted in a wide range of views, with many constructive suggestions which will be considered carefully;
- (j) confirms that the work to develop the future model for local engagement and community empowerment is continuing and that there will be a second round of consultation with the intention of producing a system which maximises, as far as resources allow, local engagement and community empowerment, and supports partnership working in the City; and
- (k) further confirms that at first the new system will have to operate within a limited and reduced budget, but notes that in future, if more resources become available, it will be possible to enhance the new system through additional funding.

(Note: Councillor Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (b), (d), (g) (h) (j) and (k) and abstained on paragraphs (a), (c), (e), (f) and (i) of the substantive motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

13. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPHAM

Local Government Funding

It was moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Tony Damms, that this Council:-

- (a) believes that northern cities are being unfairly cut by this Government;

- (b) feels it is wrong, unfair and divisive that less affluent areas and cities are facing much bigger cuts than more affluent ones;
- (c) believes that this is demonstrated by recent research from Newcastle City Council which indicates that Sheffield will receive a cut of nearly £200 per person between 2010/11 and 2014/15, wealthy areas are receiving significantly less cuts with Guildford receiving a cut of just £24.14 per person, Wokingham £26.53 and Epsom and Ewell just £15.18;
- (d) is pleased to be working with the Core Cities group to represent England's eight largest city economies outside London to drive campaigns for a fair settlement;
- (e) supports the letter sent to Rt. Hon. Eric Pickles, MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, outlining the unfair nature of cuts that are hitting the Core Cities and notes that the letter was signed by all Core City Leaders who all articulated concerns about the impact that the level of cuts that the Government are imposing on their budgets will have on Council services in all Core Cities;
- (f) welcomes the Come Together conference hosted in Liverpool on 18th January, 2013 attended by both political and faith leaders from cities across the country and supports the Sheffield representation at the event; and
- (g) resolves to continue to work constructively in partnership with other cities to stand up for the interests of our cities and hopes that the overwhelming objection to the Government's unfair policy of targeting cuts at areas of higher deprivation will lead to a reconsideration of this policy.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones, seconded by Shaffaq Mohammed, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion of paragraphs (a) to (c) and (e) to (g);
- 2. the re-lettering of paragraph (d) as a new paragraph (a); and
- 3. the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (h) as follows:-
 - (b) regrets that the previous Government chose to dedicate their time sucking up to hedge-fund managers in the City of London, ignoring the needs and potential of the Core Cities;
 - (c) notes the quotes of Polly Toynbee, specifically, "you can only be flabbergasted all over again at how Labour kowtowed to wealth, glorified the City and put all the nation's economic eggs into one dangerous basket";
 - (d) believes the previous Government failed to address the North/South

divide, leaving Northern cities overly dependent on the public sector and particularly vulnerable in a downturn;

- (e) supports the steps this Government has taken to rebalance the British economy, such as the recent announcement of the High Speed 2 rail line, alongside such policies as the Regional Growth Fund, Local Enterprise Partnerships, Enterprise Zones and University Technical Colleges;
- (f) believes contrasting the funding of a metropolitan borough with that of a shire district is a false analogy but – for the avoidance of doubt – notes that Sheffield will see a 3.9% reduction in its adjusted Formula Grant (including Early Intervention Grant and other funds), while Wokingham will see a reduction of 5.6%, Epsom & Ewell of 9.4% and Guildford of 7.8%;
- (g) further confirms that Sheffield City Council will have a spending power of £2,273 per dwelling next year compared to £1,845 for Wokingham, £306 for Epsom & Ewell and £284 for Guildford; and
- (h) resolves to continue working in partnership with other cities to ensure the Core Cities are the drivers of economic growth in our nation.

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

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

- RESOLVED:** that this Council
- (a) believes that northern cities are being unfairly cut by this Government;
 - (b) feels it is wrong, unfair and divisive that less affluent areas and cities are facing much bigger cuts than more affluent ones;
 - (c) believes that this is demonstrated by recent research from Newcastle City Council which indicates that Sheffield will receive a cut of nearly £200 per person between 2010/11 and 2014/15, wealthy areas are receiving significantly less cuts with Guildford receiving a cut of just £24.14 per person, Wokingham £26.53 and Epsom and Ewell just £15.18;
 - (d) is pleased to be working with the Core Cities group to represent England's eight largest city economies outside London to drive campaigns for a fair settlement;
 - (e) supports the letter sent to Rt. Hon. Eric Pickles, MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, outlining the unfair nature of cuts that are hitting the Core Cities and notes that the letter was signed by all Core City Leaders who all articulated concerns about the impact that the level of cuts that the Government are imposing on their budgets will have on Council services in all Core Cities;

- (f) welcomes the Come Together conference hosted in Liverpool on 18th January, 2013 attended by both political and faith leaders from cities across the country and supports the Sheffield representation at the event; and
- (g) resolves to continue to work constructively in partnership with other cities to stand up for the interests of our cities and hopes that the overwhelming objection to the Government's unfair policy of targeting cuts at areas of higher deprivation will lead to a reconsideration of this policy.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JACKIE DRAYTON

Early Years Review

It was moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Denise Fox, that this Council:-

- (a) regrets that a further £6.8 million reduction to the Early Intervention Grant in the coming financial year, in addition to significant reductions to funding in previous years, indicates that Government cuts are being targeted directly at services to give children, young people and families the opportunity to fulfil their potential;
- (b) completely condemns the cuts to Early Intervention Grant and recalls warnings by sector leaders that these cuts would have a significant impact on services provided by local authorities;
- (c) supports the letter by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister objecting to cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
- (d) regrets that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister refused to listen to warnings about cuts to Early Intervention Grant and included heavy reductions in the Local Government Finance Settlement;
- (e) acknowledges that proposals in the Early Years review include measures to deliver some of the savings necessitated by the Government's cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
- (f) further acknowledges that due to the level of the cuts to the Early Intervention Grant and the subsequent expansion of Free Early Learning, funding can no longer be identified for childcare sustainability and the Early Years Review therefore includes proposals to end grants to 16 childcare providers which is a continuation of the policy adopted by the previous Administration and notes comments by the previous Cabinet

Member for Children, Young People and Families and current Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group in The Star newspaper on 7th January 2011 "We will have significantly less money than we previously had so we have to ensure we are putting it to the best possible use, supporting the most disadvantaged families, ... Tough economic times can give new opportunities to review how services are provided and to question if they are being provided in the most efficient way. It is about getting better value for money. Our funding needs to be redirected so those most in need are benefiting directly. ... Centres will have to charge market rates for their services if their parents can afford them."

- (g) regrets the potential impact that the removal of grants from the 16 childcare providers will have on their organisations, however acknowledges that this is ultimately a consequence of the Government's decision to cut the Early Intervention Grant so heavily, as stated by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families that "we will have significantly less money than we previously had";
- (h) is committed to making sure childcare is available in all areas across the City and understands that whilst changes in Government policy direct a change in the Council's role towards a market facilitator, the Early Years Review identifies that temporary arrangements need to be put in place to ensure that early years provision can continue in the transitional period in between the ending of current arrangements and the expansion of Free Early Learning and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January, 2013;
- (i) notes that the Early Years Review indicates longer term proposals to ensure that all providers are given the help they need to develop a sustainable business model and maximise the funding opportunities available following changes in Government policy and the development of Free Early Learning;
- (j) further notes that proposals in the Early Years Review also include changes to the organisation and management of Sheffield's Children's Centres, however, acknowledges that proposals in this area are to make savings to management, administration and premises costs and not to reduce the number of outlets in which services are provided, noting the statement in the Cabinet Report that there will be little impact on current service delivery to parents, however, understands that the locations of where this support is provided may change;
- (k) further notes that details of service provision following the organisational changes will be made available and any changes to locations of support will be effectively communicated to parents and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January; and
- (l) further notes that any future proposals agreed following the consultation period will be subject to further scrutiny.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar, 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) notes the Redesign of Early Years Services agreed by the Cabinet on 12th December, 2012;
- (b) highlights that thanks to Liberal Democrat policy of 15 hours Free Early Learning for disadvantaged 2-year-olds, £3.8 million of new funding will be invested in Sheffield next year;
- (c) yet recognises that, given funding reforms, changes have to be made to the way early years services are provided in the City;
- (d) believes the relevant Cabinet Member should not have dithered for over a year on the Early Years Review, and should have come forward earlier with concrete proposals, so that providers and parents would have longer to adapt;
- (e) is dismayed that the Cabinet are still yet to publish key details of the future model, such as how the 17 Children's Centre Areas will work in practice, with just weeks to go until the implementation of a new system;
- (f) furthermore, highlights the threats facing voluntary and community sector organisations in adapting to the new funding system and regrets the complete lack of support that has been provided to centres who are facing a potential cliff-edge in funding;
- (g) believes local parents and providers are simply not getting a fair deal from this Council;
- (h) therefore, understands the local anger at the Cabinet, given the pitiful consultation process, which amount to an insult to parents and providers across the City;
- (i) thanks campaigners for fighting with dignity and determination to protect local services;
- (j) regrets that the work of campaigners has been subject, in the words of one campaigner, to a "flippant and derogatory reference" by the Leader of the Council and hopes the Leader of the Council will apologise;
- (k) is not surprised, given this context, that the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, voted unanimously to return this proposal to Cabinet for further consideration of the details of the proposals;
- (l) believes this vote, which contained members of the Administration's group, serves as a damning assessment of the Cabinet Member for

Children, Young People and Families; and

- (m) urges the Cabinet to immediately adopt the recommendations of the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, specifically that the Cabinet:
- (i) considers what transitional arrangements are needed to be put in place to ensure that good quality early years provision is able to be sustained; and
 - (ii) provides further details of provision within the 17 areas, and gives assurances that a comprehensive communications plan is developed to inform parents of the locations of support, and the type of support available, in the 17 new areas.

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

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

1. the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (k) and the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (f) as follows:-
 - (c) notes increasing evidence that the environment of children in their early years is crucial to their development into contented and rounded adults;
 - (d) believes that the provisional decision to cut funding to the voluntary sector providers was made without consultation with either the providers or their service users;
 - (e) believes that placing early years providers at risk, many of whom have received an "outstanding" grade from Ofsted, is unacceptable given the potential for disruption of many vital services to communities in real need;
 - (f) therefore requests the Cabinet to set aside the current proposals and properly consult with communities about the models of support they require;
2. the re-lettering of paragraph (l) as a new paragraph (g).

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

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

RESOLVED: that this Council

- (a) regrets that a further £6.8 million reduction to the Early Intervention Grant in the coming financial year, in addition to significant reductions to funding

- in previous years, indicates that Government cuts are being targeted directly at services to give children, young people and families the opportunity to fulfil their potential;
- (b) completely condemns the cuts to Early Intervention Grant and recalls warnings by sector leaders that these cuts would have a significant impact on services provided by local authorities;
 - (c) supports the letter by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister objecting to cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
 - (d) regrets that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister refused to listen to warnings about cuts to Early Intervention Grant and included heavy reductions in the Local Government Finance Settlement;
 - (e) acknowledges that proposals in the Early Years review include measures to deliver some of the savings necessitated by the Government's cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
 - (f) further acknowledges that due to the level of the cuts to the Early Intervention Grant and the subsequent expansion of Free Early Learning, funding can no longer be identified for childcare sustainability and the Early Years Review therefore includes proposals to end grants to 16 childcare providers which is a continuation of the policy adopted by the previous Administration and notes comments by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families and current Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group in The Star newspaper on 7th January 2011 "We will have significantly less money than we previously had so we have to ensure we are putting it to the best possible use, supporting the most disadvantaged families, ... Tough economic times can give new opportunities to review how services are provided and to question if they are being provided in the most efficient way. It is about getting better value for money. Our funding needs to be redirected so those most in need are benefiting directly. ... Centres will have to charge market rates for their services if their parents can afford them."
 - (g) regrets the potential impact that the removal of grants from the 16 childcare providers will have on their organisations, however acknowledges that this is ultimately a consequence of the Government's decision to cut the Early Intervention Grant so heavily, as stated by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families that "we will have significantly less money than we previously had";
 - (h) is committed to making sure childcare is available in all areas across the City and understands that whilst changes in Government policy direct a change in the Council's role towards a market facilitator, the Early Years Review identifies that temporary arrangements need to be put in place to

ensure that early years provision can continue in the transitional period in between the ending of current arrangements and the expansion of Free Early Learning and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January, 2013;

- (i) notes that the Early Years Review indicates longer term proposals to ensure that all providers are given the help they need to develop a sustainable business model and maximise the funding opportunities available following changes in Government policy and the development of Free Early Learning;
- (j) further notes that proposals in the Early Years Review also include changes to the organisation and management of Sheffield's Children's Centres, however, acknowledges that proposals in this area are to make savings to management, administration and premises costs and not to reduce the number of outlets in which services are provided, noting the statement in the Cabinet Report that there will be little impact on current service delivery to parents, however, understands that the locations of where this support is provided may change;
- (k) further notes that details of service provision following the organisational changes will be made available and any changes to locations of support will be effectively communicated to parents and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January; and
- (l) further notes that any future proposals agreed following the consultation period will be subject to further scrutiny.

(Note: Councillor Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (a), (b) and (l) and against all of the remaining paragraphs of the above motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

15. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR COLIN ROSS

Early Years Review (2)

It was moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar, that this Council:-

- (a) notes the Redesign of Early Years Services agreed by the Cabinet on 12th December, 2012;
- (b) understands the anger from parents and providers at the proposals, given the pitiful consultation process and the ongoing lack of detail regarding the future model;
- (c) is dismayed that the Cabinet are still yet to publish details of how the future 17 Children's Centre Areas will work in practice, with just weeks to

go until the implementation of a new system;

- (d) highlights that thanks to Liberal Democrat policy of 15 hours Free Early Learning for disadvantaged 2-year-olds, £3.8 million of new funding will be invested in Sheffield next year;
- (e) however, regrets the lack of support that has been provided to voluntary and community sector organisations to adapt to the new funding system, leaving many facing a potential cliff-edge in funding;
- (f) believes local parents and providers are not getting a fair deal from this Council;
- (g) notes the recommendations of the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee, agreed by all Labour members, specifically that the Cabinet:
 - (i) considers what transitional arrangements are needed to be put in place to ensure that good quality early years provision is able to be sustained; and
 - (ii) provides further details of provision within the 17 areas, and gives assurances that a comprehensive communications plan is developed to inform parents of the locations of support, and the type of support available, in the 17 new areas; and
- (h) calls upon the Cabinet to seriously reconsider their proposals for local children's centres in line with the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, 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 a further £6.8 million reduction to the Early Intervention Grant in the coming financial year, in addition to significant reductions to funding in previous years, indicates that Government cuts are being targeted directly at services to give children, young people and families the opportunity to fulfil their potential;
- (b) completely condemns the cuts to Early Intervention Grant and recalls warnings by sector leaders that these cuts would have a significant impact on services provided by local authorities;
- (c) supports the letter by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister objecting to cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
- (d) regrets that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local

Government and the Deputy Prime Minister refused to listen to warnings about cuts to Early Intervention Grant and included heavy reductions in the Local Government Finance Settlement;

- (e) acknowledges that proposals in the Early Years review include measures to deliver some of the savings necessitated by the Government's cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
- (f) further acknowledges that due to the level of the cuts to the Early Intervention Grant and the subsequent expansion of Free Early Learning, funding can no longer be identified for childcare sustainability and the Early Years Review therefore includes proposals to end grants to 16 childcare providers which is a continuation of the policy adopted by the previous Administration and notes comments by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families and current Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group in The Star newspaper on 7th January 2011 "We will have significantly less money than we previously had so we have to ensure we are putting it to the best possible use, supporting the most disadvantaged families, ... Tough economic times can give new opportunities to review how services are provided and to question if they are being provided in the most efficient way. It is about getting better value for money. Our funding needs to be redirected so those most in need are benefiting directly. ... Centres will have to charge market rates for their services if their parents can afford them."
- (g) regrets the potential impact that the removal of grants from the 16 childcare providers will have on their organisations, however acknowledges that this is ultimately a consequence of the Government's decision to cut the Early Intervention Grant so heavily, as stated by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families that "we will have significantly less money than we previously had";
- (h) is committed to making sure childcare is available in all areas across the City and understands that whilst changes in Government policy direct a change in the Council's role towards a market facilitator, the Early Years Review identifies that temporary arrangements need to be put in place to ensure that early years provision can continue in the transitional period in between the ending of current arrangements and the expansion of Free Early Learning and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January, 2013;
- (i) notes that the Early Years Review indicates longer term proposals to ensure that all providers are given the help they need to develop a sustainable business model and maximise the funding opportunities available following changes in Government policy and the development of Free Early Learning;
- (j) further notes that proposals in the Early Years Review also include changes to the organisation and management of Sheffield's Children's Centres, however, acknowledges that proposals in this area are to make

savings to management, administration and premises costs and not to reduce the number of outlets in which services are provided, noting the statement in the Cabinet Report that there will be little impact on current service delivery to parents, however, understands that the locations of where this support is provided may change;

- (k) further notes that details of service provision following the organisational changes will be made available and any changes to locations of support will be effectively communicated to parents and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January; and
- (l) further notes that any future proposals agreed following the consultation period will be subject to further scrutiny.

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) regrets that a further £6.8 million reduction to the Early Intervention Grant in the coming financial year, in addition to significant reductions to funding in previous years, indicates that Government cuts are being targeted directly at services to give children, young people and families the opportunity to fulfil their potential;
- (b) completely condemns the cuts to Early Intervention Grant and recalls warnings by sector leaders that these cuts would have a significant impact on services provided by local authorities;
- (c) supports the letter by the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister objecting to cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
- (d) regrets that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Deputy Prime Minister refused to listen to warnings about cuts to Early Intervention Grant and included heavy reductions in the Local Government Finance Settlement;
- (e) acknowledges that proposals in the Early Years review include measures to deliver some of the savings necessitated by the Government's cuts to the Early Intervention Grant;
- (f) further acknowledges that due to the level of the cuts to the Early Intervention Grant and the subsequent expansion of Free Early Learning, funding can no longer be identified for childcare sustainability and the Early Years Review therefore includes proposals to end grants to 16 childcare providers which is a continuation of the policy adopted by the

previous Administration and notes comments by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families and current Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group in The Star newspaper on 7th January 2011 "We will have significantly less money than we previously had so we have to ensure we are putting it to the best possible use, supporting the most disadvantaged families, ... Tough economic times can give new opportunities to review how services are provided and to question if they are being provided in the most efficient way. It is about getting better value for money. Our funding needs to be redirected so those most in need are benefiting directly. ... Centres will have to charge market rates for their services if their parents can afford them."

- (g) regrets the potential impact that the removal of grants from the 16 childcare providers will have on their organisations, however acknowledges that this is ultimately a consequence of the Government's decision to cut the Early Intervention Grant so heavily, as stated by the previous Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families that "we will have significantly less money than we previously had";
- (h) is committed to making sure childcare is available in all areas across the City and understands that whilst changes in Government policy direct a change in the Council's role towards a market facilitator, the Early Years Review identifies that temporary arrangements need to be put in place to ensure that early years provision can continue in the transitional period in between the ending of current arrangements and the expansion of Free Early Learning and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January, 2013;
- (i) notes that the Early Years Review indicates longer term proposals to ensure that all providers are given the help they need to develop a sustainable business model and maximise the funding opportunities available following changes in Government policy and the development of Free Early Learning;
- (j) further notes that proposals in the Early Years Review also include changes to the organisation and management of Sheffield's Children's Centres, however, acknowledges that proposals in this area are to make savings to management, administration and premises costs and not to reduce the number of outlets in which services are provided, noting the statement in the Cabinet Report that there will be little impact on current service delivery to parents, however, understands that the locations of where this support is provided may change;
- (k) further notes that details of service provision following the organisational changes will be made available and any changes to locations of support will be effectively communicated to parents and welcomes that this was reconfirmed at the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th January; and
- (l) further notes that any future proposals agreed following the consultation period will be subject to further scrutiny.

16. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JACK SCOTT

Gritters and Snow Wardens

It was moved by Councillor Jack Scott, seconded by Councillor Ibrar Hussain, that this Council:-

- (a) would like to thank the Gritters and Snow Wardens on behalf of the Council and the people of Sheffield for all their hard work keeping Sheffield's roads safe through the bad weather;
- (b) appreciates that Community Snow Wardens are unpaid volunteers who give up their time to help their local communities;
- (c) acknowledges the unprecedented bad weather we have had and would like to reassure residents we will do our best to combat any further snow in the City;
- (d) is pleased there have been no major incidents throughout the bad weather; and
- (e) urges this Government to look seriously at climate change which has led to this unprecedented cold spell in the UK.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Ian Auckland, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (e);
2. the re-lettering of paragraphs (c) and (d) as new paragraphs (d) and (e) and the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows:-
 - (c) praises the previous Administration for introducing the Snow Warden Scheme and regrets the repeated refusals of this Administration to expand the Scheme at minimal cost;
3. the addition of new paragraphs (f) to (h) as follows:-
 - (f) notes that, while individual extreme weather events cannot be attributed to climate change with any confidence, climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of such events;
 - (g) regrets that previous Governments refused to take warnings of climate change seriously; and
 - (h) commends the influence of Liberal Democrats in Government in addressing climate change, through measures such as the ground-

breaking Green Deal, which the Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene described as "fantastic news for Sheffield".

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

(Note: Councillor Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (g) and (f), against paragraph (h) and abstained on paragraph (a) of the amendment and asked for this to be recorded.)

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

RESOLVED: that this Council:-

- (a) would like to thank the Gritters and Snow Wardens on behalf of the Council and the people of Sheffield for all their hard work keeping Sheffield's roads safe through the bad weather;
- (b) appreciates that Community Snow Wardens are unpaid volunteers who give up their time to help their local communities;
- (c) acknowledges the unprecedented bad weather we have had and would like to reassure residents we will do our best to combat any further snow in the City;
- (d) is pleased there have been no major incidents throughout the bad weather; and
- (e) urges this Government to look seriously at climate change which has led to this unprecedented cold spell in the UK.

(Note: 1. The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Vickie Priestley) and Councillors Simon Clement Jones, Shaffaq Mohammed, Rob Frost, Sylvia Anginotti, Colin Ross, Joe Otten, Keith Hill, Penny Baker, Diana Stimely, Roger Davison, Andrew Sangar, Ian Auckland, Bob McCann, Anders Hanson, Katie Condliffe, David Baker, Alison Brelsford and Trevor Bagshaw voted for paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) and abstained on paragraphs (d) and (e) of the above Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillor Robert Murphy voted for paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) and abstained on paragraph (e) of the motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

17. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOHN ROBSON

Badger Culling

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

- (a) opposes the Government's decision to cull badgers in England;

- (b) is aware of strong objections to badger culling in the UK which resulted in a petition of over 150,000 people;
- (c) notes that Parliament voted against the cull in October 2012 with a huge majority of 147 votes to 28;
- (d) regrets the u-turn taken by Government to cull between 70-95% of the country's badgers with over 7,500 condemned in pilot studies in West Gloucestershire and West Somerset set to go ahead this summer;
- (e) acknowledges that despite contradicting statements there is strong scientific evidence that culling badgers will not make a difference to the numbers of bovine TB;
- (f) notes that leading scientists in this field agree that a cull will make little or no difference and that free shooting has not been scientifically tested anywhere and could even spread bovine TB in the short term as badgers move around more;
- (g) reminds the Government that badgers are a legally protected species and to kill them without knowing the full facts is a disgrace;
- (h) will not voluntarily allow badger culling on land in its ownership if the cull is extended after the pilot scheme; and
- (i) urges the Government to reconsider the decision as there is no scientific, economic or moral basis for culling.

18. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR ALISON BRELSFORD

Stocksbridge Leisure Centre

It was moved by Councillor Alison Brelsford, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar, that this Council:-

- (a) recalls the decision of the Cabinet in October 2011 to remove £200,000 of refurbishment funding from Stocksbridge Leisure Centre;
- (b) believes this decision formed part of a long-term plan by the Administration to deny the people of Stocksbridge their leisure centre;
- (c) highlights that Stocksbridge is unique in its isolated location and its lack of public transport links to other leisure sites;
- (d) notes that while the Administration are proposing to close leisure facilities in Sheffield, the Coalition Government is investing £10million Olympic Legacy funding in leisure facilities across the City;

- (e) feels that Stocksbridge is not getting a fair deal from this Council; and
- (f) calls upon the Administration to reconsider their proposals for Stocksbridge Leisure Centre.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Bryan Lodge, seconded by Councillor Harry Harpham, 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 propose removing the subsidy from Stocksbridge Leisure Centre in order to balance its budget in 2013/14;
- (b) welcomes the development of a partnership between Sheffield City Council and Stocksbridge Town Council to look at options for the future provision of leisure services for Stocksbridge;
- (c) thanks Sport England for their support for a short independent study to help us look at all options;
- (d) welcomes the Council's decision to provide additional funding for Stocksbridge Leisure Centre into 2013/14 to allow three months for options to be developed;
- (e) deeply regrets that this Government is making unprecedented and unfair cuts to Sheffield City Council and that the Council has had to reduce spending by £140 million over the past two years with a further £50 million for 2013/14; and
- (f) recognises that the present Administration is acting responsibly to protect services as far as possible, however, due to the scale of the cuts the Council is facing, it will have to make some difficult decisions and unfortunately the proposed withdrawal of subsidy and possible closure of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre is one of these.

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

It was then moved by Councillor Colin Ross, seconded by Councillor Roger Davison, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (g) and (h) as follows:-

- (g) notes the minutes of Stocksbridge Town Council on 10th November, 2011 that Councillor Philip Wood "gave assurances that [Stocksbridge Leisure Centre] would stay open";
- (h) believes that these remarks were misleading prior to a local election and hopes Councillor Wood will apologise for his remarks

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

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

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) regrets that the Council has had to propose removing the subsidy from Stocksbridge Leisure Centre in order to balance its budget in 2013/14;
- (b) welcomes the development of a partnership between Sheffield City Council and Stocksbridge Town Council to look at options for the future provision of leisure services for Stocksbridge;
- (c) thanks Sport England for their support for a short independent study to help us look at all options;
- (d) welcomes the Council's decision to provide additional funding for Stocksbridge Leisure Centre into 2013/14 to allow three months for options to be developed;
- (e) deeply regrets that this Government is making unprecedented and unfair cuts to Sheffield City Council and that the Council has had to reduce spending by £140 million over the past two years with a further £50 million for 2013/14; and
- (f) recognises that the present Administration is acting responsibly to protect services as far as possible, however, due to the scale of the cuts the Council is facing, it will have to make some difficult decisions and unfortunately the proposed withdrawal of subsidy and possible closure of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre is one of these.

19. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI SHARPE

Mary Seacole and the National Curriculum

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Nikki Sharpe, seconded by Councillor Mary Lea, that this Council:-

- (a) supports the Early Day Motion proposed by Alan Meale MP to Keep Mary Seacole on the national curriculum;
- (b) is aware of history which records the many heroic and compassionate acts carried out unselfishly by renowned war nursing heroine Mary Seacole for innumerable wounded soldiers injured on the Crimean War's bloody battlefields;
- (c) notes her efforts have rightly become part of the nation's schools educational curriculum with further recognition of her contribution shortly to be revealed by the unveiling of a large bronze statue in her memory to be erected in the grounds of St Thomas' Hospital facing the Houses of

Parliament;

- (d) is therefore greatly alarmed by reports that the Secretary of State for Education has announced plans to overhaul the core history content taught to our nation's schoolchildren which won't include the story of her exploits on behalf of others;
- (e) further notes that the teaching of Black historical figures is widely recognised to be beneficial to the success of Black pupils and in closing the GCSE achievement gap and indeed it is to the advantage of pupils from all backgrounds in our increasingly diverse schools and society, and that Mary Seacole, as a Jamaican/Scottish figure, is a positive role model and is well-respected in NHS circles;
- (f) is also aware that Mary Seacole is the only Black figure to feature in the national curriculum not connected to civil rights or enslavement and removing someone who was voted by the public the Greatest Black Briton (100greatblackbritons.com) sends out the wrong signals, and believes we should be taught more Black history not less;
- (g) believes the children of Sheffield, and indeed the nation, are best served by being reminded of such unselfishness and hopes the Secretary of State will desist in his attempt to undermine her memory; and
- (h) calls upon our local Members of Parliament to support the campaign to lobby the Government to retain inclusion of Mary Seacole in the national curriculum.

Minutes of the Special (Budget) Meeting of the Council of the City of Sheffield held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HH, on 1 March 2013, at 2.00 pm, pursuant to notice duly given and Summonses duly served.

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anders Hanson, Colin Ross, Janice Sidebottom, Stuart Wattam and Joyce Wright.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Martin Lawton and Pat Midgley declared personal interests in the item concerning the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/2014 as Directors of the Manor Castle Development Trust.

Councillor Sylvia Anginotti declared a personal interest in the item concerning the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/2014 as a Director of the Northern Refugee Centre.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

3.1 Petitions

(a) Petition Objecting to Council Spending Cuts

The Council received a petition, containing 27 signatures, objecting to Council spending cuts.

On behalf of the petitioners Mr K Filleul addressed the Council. He stated that the petition was not directed at any particular service, although the petitioners were interested in protecting the library service as far as was possible. Topley Library was well supported and it was difficult for people with no car to travel distance to alternative locations.

The petitioners recommended an ethical approach to the issue of Council spending reductions, protecting services and spreading the effects brought about changes or reductions in services across a wide number of people, to mitigate the effect on the people directly affected. It was proposed that the Council raise the level of Council Tax to off-set the reductions in funding from the Government. Mr Filleul stated that people realised that this would not completely compensate or bridge the gap in loss of Government funding to the Council, but hoped that the Council could reflect on a willingness by many people to pay more to help preserve services which enhanced the quality of life for people in Sheffield.

In response to the petition, the Cabinet member for Finance and Resources (Councillor Bryan Lodge) stated that in relation to the level of Council Tax it was important to realise that some people were able to afford and pay more. The Government had restricted the amount by which Councils could raise Council Tax and authorities were required to conduct a referendum if they sought to increase the level of Council Tax by 2 percent or more. The cost of such a referendum in Sheffield would

be £500K and it was not thought that people would support a proposal to raise Council Tax in any referendum. Therefore, the Council had reluctantly looked to freeze the level of Council tax for 2013/14. Councillor Lodge thanked the petitioners for their comments, which suggested that some people felt they could support services across the City.

3.2 Public Questions

(a) Public Question Concerning the Castle Market and other Development Sites

Peter Hartley asked what plans the Council had for the site of the Castle Market when the market relocated to the Moor. He commented on other sites including the site of the former Fire Station and Skinnerthorpe Road which, he stated has been left derelict for some time.

In response to the question, the Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development (Councillor Leigh Bramall), stated that the Castle Market site would be occupied to November 2013, following which the traders would move to the new site at the Moor. The City Centre Master plan would include plans for the Castle area and as part of the demolition of the current buildings, the ruins of the Castle site would be subject to archaeological investigation, meaning that the demolition work would have to be done in a sensitive manner. Depending on what ruins remained, it was envisaged that a new visitor's centre could potentially be created in relation to the Castle.

In relation to the site of the former Fire Station, Councillor Bramall disagreed that the site was a scene of devastation and stated that a popular car park was located on that site. Work was being undertaken in relation to the new retail quarter for the City centre. On Skinnerthorpe Road, there were plans for a school and housing to be developed on the site to which Mr Hartley had referred.

Councillor Bramall stated that, as Mr Hartley had requested, a written response to his questions would also be sent to him.

(b) Public Question Concerning Access to Information Services for People with Learning Disabilities

Adam Butcher asked a question concerning consultation on the Council's budget proposals and specifically in relation to people with a learning disability or disability that could not access the information. He asked how the Council could make sure that people were able to participate in the budget process.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Councillor Bryan Lodge) stated that the Council did endeavour to make information available in many forms and much of this information was also available on the Council's internet site, although he acknowledged that the internet

was not always the best solution for some people. A simplified version of the budget was available for people to use. However, Councillor Lodge stated that from the question posed by Mr Butcher, it was clear that information did not always get to those that wanted it. He undertook to speak with officers about the points Mr Butcher had raised in relation to information for people with learning disabilities and disabilities. He added that City Councillors were also available for people to speak to and there were opportunities for people to ask questions of them.

The Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living (Councillor Mary Lea) added that an easy to read version of the budget as it affected people with learning disabilities was produced and the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board had held a special meeting to consider the budget. In relation to the other areas of the budget, Councillor Lea stated that she would discuss with her colleagues how information could be presented in a form which was easier to read and there was also a role for the Partnership Board in such improvement, and that the issues would be addressed to them for consideration.

(c) Public Question Concerning the Petition to Re-open Sheffield City Airport

Alex Drury asked why the Council was not debating the petition to re-open the City Airport, which was submitted on 14 February and had 5,250 signatures, which was above the threshold for a Council debate.

In response to the question, the Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development (Councillor Leigh Bramall) stated that his meeting of Council was to consider the Council's budget and the petition concerning the City Airport was to be debated by Council at its next meeting in April, in order to do justice to the issues raised by the petition.

(d) Public Question Concerning Stocksbridge Leisure Centre

John Wadsworth asked whether the Council would give the Stocksbridge Leisure Centre (4SLC) Committee more time to formulate a business plan and assist them in this.

In response to the question, the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure (Councillor Isobel Bowler) stated that the Council was in discussion with the Stocksbridge Town Council and the 4SLC Committee and funding a piece of work with Sport England regarding funding options for the Leisure Centre. When the report from Sport England was completed, it would be discussed with the Committee, together with all available and relevant information. As regards the budget reduction affecting the Leisure Centre, Councillor Bowler stated that the Council had to make the decision at this meeting. Stockbridge Leisure Centre would be considered at a meeting of Cabinet in April.

(e) Public Question Concerning Showroom Cinema

Leah Fleetwood asked, in the context of the Council ceasing to be financially responsible for Don Valley Stadium, and a piece on BBC Radio 4 that very morning: how much did the Council contribute the funding of the Showroom Cinema and what percentage was that funding of the total funding for the Showroom Cinema?

In response to the question, the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure (Councillor Isobel Bowler) stated that in the interview on Radio 4, she had referred to choices which the Council had to make in relation to facilities such as Don Valley Stadium or the Showroom in Sheffield. The subsidy of £700K received by Don Valley Stadium was compared to the £500K subsidy provided to Theatres and about £40k to the Showroom Workstation. The subsidy, which had been reduced by 20 percent, represented a small proportion of the Showroom Cinema's total annual budget.

Councillor Bowler stated that she would provide more detailed written information to the questioner concerning the Showroom Cinema budget

(f) Public Questions Concerning Adventure Playgrounds

(i) Jane Healey asked in relation to adventure playgrounds, was there an option to have some mobile Activity Sheffield staff based at the adventure playground sites and why were the communities for each playground only told in January about the proposal to withdraw staff from each site and why was no detailed consultation carried out?

(ii) Paul Sammut stated that when Activity Sheffield and representatives from the Council visited to inform people about the proposed withdrawal of staffing, they encouraged people in the Friends group to look at alternative funding options and had indicated that they had experience and would be able to help the Friends. If this was the case, he asked why the Council was looking to the community to raise funding, when it had the expertise to do so.

(iii) Lisa Swift referred to Pitsmoor and Verdon Street recreation centres and stated that she was disappointed with the outcome of the Scrutiny Committee meeting which examined the adventure playgrounds. She asked for a broad discussion about how the remaining resources and budget might be used. She stated that one mobile worker has 12 hours direct delivery time, whereas staff based in the playgrounds spend much more time on delivery. She asked why a member of staff could not be based at Verdon Street Recreation centre.

(iv) Maughan Pearce stated that the Council and Activity Sheffield had not agreed on the staffing level for each playground, which in turn affected data used as part of the rationale for withdrawing staff, such as the cost of each visit and total staffing costs. Could the Council reassure people that such matters would be properly investigated before any decision was finalised as to how Activity Sheffield would achieve a funding reduction of £400K.

(v) Berie Stott asked what scoping had been done by the Council concerning the viability of the community management proposal prior to the decision to reduce staffing at the adventure playgrounds.

(vi) Lucinda Wakefield asked why the Council was diluting resources, when keeping them focussed on the playgrounds would have a greater impact, given the high number of visits to playgrounds compared with the numbers seen by mobile workers, which had less beneficial impact than core staff based on site. She asked for an opportunity for people to be properly consulted.

In response to the question, the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure (Councillor Isobel Bowler) stated that in relation to timing, the Government settlement arrived on 19 December 2012 and the budget was being finalised in the period between then and January. Although this was unfortunate and time was therefore short, it was quite normal for budget proposals to be announced in January.

In relation to the possibility of core staffing based exclusively at one of the playground sites, it was likely that funding would further reduce in future years and, with this in mind, consideration had to be given to arrangements which allowed for the delivery of services for all of the vulnerable communities in the City. Councillor Bowler stated that she recognised all of the things that people had said in public meetings concerning the adventure playgrounds. Mobile workers could provide a very good service, albeit with no permanent base. She stated that the adventure playgrounds were highly valued and activities would continue to be provided for young people from the playground sites but there were other areas of need too.

With regards funding, when facilities were run by groups or organisations other than the Council, for example a leisure trust, then they were able to access funding, which the Council could not attract or bid for, such as Lottery funding. Groups outside of the Council were therefore encouraged to submit bids for such sources of funding.

Councillor Bowler stated that, whilst she realised that some people were not happy that they could no longer have permanent staff in adventure playgrounds, if the permanent presence were to be maintained then the Council would not be able to fund the delivery of services for people in other areas of Sheffield.

With regard to the information concerning the budget and the required staffing levels for the playgrounds, Councillor Bowler stated that the Council needed to work through that information with the Friends group and stakeholders. The required saving for Activity Sheffield was £400K. She hoped that proposals for community management were a viable option. The Council was seeking to sustain services that local people valued and needed, although it had to be recognised that the Council would not provide all of them in the future. The Council was continuing to

speak with the Friends of Adventures and other community groups towards providing facilities that people valued.

3.3 Petition Requiring Debate

Petition Requesting a Fair Deal for Sheffield on Government Funding

The Council received a petition containing 7,063 signatures and calling on the Government to review its policies concerning the funding allocated to Sheffield and South Yorkshire. The wording of the petition is as follows:-

“To the Prime Minister,

Sheffield is being hit hard by your Government’s cuts, threatening vital services that we value. Our Council is being forced to cut £1 in every £3 from its budget, yet more affluent parts of the Country are being let off more lightly, with much lower cuts. This is unfair and the level of cuts we are experiencing cannot go on.

We call on you to review your Government’s policies, and to give Sheffield and South Yorkshire the fair funding that we deserve.

We also ask that Sheffield City Council endorse this petition and promote it within the City”

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Reverend Noel Irwin. He stated that Sheffield deserves to be treated fairly as regard the funding which the City received from the Government. The petition, which asked for parity of treatment and justice for Sheffield, had received widespread support. He stated that cuts to funding were disproportionately hurting the poor. The City’s churches were undertaking a lot of work to feed and shelter people most in need and food banks were appearing in Sheffield. It was thought that approximately a quarter of a million people in the United Kingdom relied on food aid.

Reverend Irwin made reference to the tradition in Sheffield of standing up for the principles of equality and fairness and to a recent report, published by the Churches concerning fairness. He asked Members of the Council to stand up for justice and to support the petition which had been submitted, asking for a fair deal for the City.

Members of the City Council debated the issues raised by the petition, as summarised below.

- The austerity measures were affecting other areas in the south of the country as well as the north, although their affect on the northern cities was felt to be disproportionate.
- An independent body should be established to look at local government finance.

- There was broad support of the aims of the petition and the work of the church to relieve poverty.
- Consideration should be given to the fair distribution of funding reductions and to the continued need to support small and medium size enterprises
- Some families had to choose between purchasing food and fuel for warmth during the winter.

After a right of reply from Reverend Irwin on behalf of the petitioners, the City Council considered courses of action available in response to the petition. The following proposals were moved in response to the petition and the subsequent debate.

It was moved by Councillor Julie Dore, seconded by Councillor Harry Harpham, that this Council:-

- (a) thanks Reverend Noel Irwin for presenting the petition;
- (b) believes that the Government's cuts are extremely unfair to Sheffield;
- (c) will endorse the petition and promote it within the City, and will continue to work with the faith community, voluntary sector and businesses, to protect the City from the deeply damaging cuts that the Government is making;

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

It was then moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Joe Otten, as an amendment, that the motion be amended by:

The deletion of all of the words after the words "that this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

Notes the petition, thanks those who have signed the petition and directs that if this petition is forwarded on, that a copy is also sent to the Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition so he guarantee to restore all funding cuts to Sheffield City Council if elected Prime Minister in 2015.

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

It was then moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy, as an amendment that the motion be amended by the addition of the following paragraphs:

- calls on the Government to establish an independent body to set local government finance
- requests that details regarding the petition be forwarded to the party leaders of all political parties represented in Parliament.

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

The original motion, as amended, was put as a substantive motion in the following form and carried:-

RESOLVED: That the Council (a) thanks Reverend Noel Irwin for presenting the petition;

(b) believes that the Government's cuts are extremely unfair to Sheffield;

(c) will endorse the petition and promote it within the City, and will continue to work with the faith community, voluntary sector and businesses, to protect the City from the deeply damaging cuts that the Government is making;

(d) calls on the Government to establish an Independent Body to review Local Government finance; and

(e) requests that details regarding the petition be forwarded to the Party Leaders of all political parties in Parliament.

4. SUSPENSION OF PROCEDURAL RULES

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 4 and 11, (a) Council Procedure Rule 17.5 be suspended with regard to the time limit of 3 minutes per speaker for the movers and seconders of amendments, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11(a)(xvi); and (b) Council Procedure Rule 17.11(a) be suspended with regard to giving the mover of a motion the right of reply.

5. REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/2014

It was moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Mary Lea, that the following decisions taken by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 13th February, 2013, arising from its consideration of (a) a joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director, Resources on the Revenue Budget 2013/2014 and (b) a report of the Executive Director, Resources on the Capital Programme 2013/2014 be approved:-

“REVENUE BUDGET 2013/14

A joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Resources was submitted, which set out the latest position on the 2012/13 budget; provided details of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2013/14; sought approval to the City Council's revenue expenditure plans and requirements for 2013/14, including the position on reserves and balances; levies and precepts made on the City Council by other authorities; the City Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, including the financial outlook for 2013/14 and beyond; proposals for the level of Council Tax to be kept the same as for 2012/13; and

the technical calculation of the overall Council Tax increase, including South Yorkshire precepts.

As part of Cabinet's consideration of the joint report, it was noted that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee had noted the following recommendations without amendment, as part of its consideration of the joint report earlier in the day.

RESOLVED: That, on the understanding that the reference to the proposed closure of the Bole Hill View Resource Centre in paragraph 130 of the joint report be amended to show the proposed closure of the Centre as taking effect from "March 2014" rather than "October, 2013" as shown, the City Council, at its meeting on 1st March, 2013, be recommended to:-

- (a) approve a net Revenue Budget for 2013/14 amounting to £477.430m;
- (b) approve a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,282.75 for City Council services, i.e. at the same level as 2012/13;
- (c) approve the Revenue Budget allocations and Budget Implementation Plans for each of the services, as set out in Appendix 2;
- (d) note that, based on the estimated expenditure level of £477.430m set out in Appendix 3 to this report, the amounts shown in part B of Appendix 6 would be calculated by the City Council for the year 2012/13, in accordance with sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (e) note the information on the precepts issued by the South Yorkshire Police Authority and the South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority, together with the impact of these on the overall amount of Council Tax to be charged in the City Council's area.
- (f) note the latest 2012/13 budget monitoring position;
- (g) approve the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategies set out in Appendix 7 and the recommendations contained therein;
- (h) approve the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement set out in Appendix 7; and
- (i) agree that authority be delegated to the Director of Finance to undertake Treasury Management activity, to create and amend appropriate Treasury Management Practice Statements and to report on the operation of Treasury Management activity on the terms set out in these documents.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14

The Executive Director, Resources submitted a report providing an overview of the Council's Capital Programme, which showed a broadly balanced position

with proposed expenditure totalling £ 564 million over the next 5 years to 2016/17.

The Capital Programme was made up of a number of different elements and detailed reports were appended relating to a breakdown of the Capital Programme by Portfolio; a Programme Monitoring report to 30th November 2012; Capital Programme Funding Sources; the Capital Receipt and Corporate Resource Pool (CRP) 2012-17; the Children and Young People and Families Capital Programme and Capital Strategy 2013-14; Housing Capital Programme 2012-17; Properties and Facilities Management (Resources) Capital Programme; Communities Capital Programme; the Neighbourhoods Investment Programme 2013/14 – 2017/18; the Housing Investment Programme 2013/14-2017/18; the Local Transport Plan (LTP); the Capital Approval Process and proposed Capital Projects by Portfolio

As part of Cabinet's consideration of the joint report, it was noted that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee had noted the following recommendations without amendment, as part of its consideration of the report earlier in the day

RESOLVED: That the City Council, at its meeting on 1st March, 2013, be recommended to:

- (a) approve those specific projects included in the 2012-13 to 2016-17 programme at Appendix 10, with back allocations being included within the programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate Member approval as part of the monthly monitoring procedures;
- (b) note the proposed Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2016/17 as per Appendix 10;
- (c) approve the proposal at paragraph 18 to address the current funding gap on Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and note that progress will be monitored and reported to Members as part of the normal budget monitoring process;
- (d) approve the allocations from the Corporate Resource Pool and the policy outlined in Appendix 4 such that the commitment from the CRP is limited to one year and no CRP supported schemes are approved beyond 2013 -14. (If substantial capital receipts are realised within 2012-13 or 2013-14 a further report will be brought to Members as part of the monthly approval process); and
- (e) approve the proposal at paragraph 33 to incorporate all capital receipts arising from non charitable covenanted Parks into the CRP."

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Bryan Lodge, seconded by Councillor Julie Dore, as an amendment:-

That the recommendations of the Cabinet held on 13th February, 2013, as relates to the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/2014, be replaced by the following resolution:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:

- (1) regrets that after years of investment in front line services in Sheffield, overseen by the previous Government, this City is now facing an ideologically driven attack on public services by the present Government;
- (2) confirms that in the past two years the Council has had to contend with devastating Government cuts and has had to make savings of £140 million;
- (3) expresses its anger and dismay that the Council's budget position 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;
- (4) confirms that in the financial year 2013/14 the Council will have to make savings of around £50 million and continues to oppose the Government's unfair cuts to Sheffield;
- (5) is disappointed that the main opposition group continue to fully support the cuts that the Government are imposing on Sheffield and that the Liberal Democrat Party nationally continue to be part of a Conservative-led Government which are making unprecedented ideological cuts to public services;
- (6) regrets that the Government's cuts are unfairly targeted, impacting most heavily on the areas with the highest levels of deprivation whilst some of the wealthiest areas of the country are receiving a substantially lower cut;
- (7) notes that research showing the level of cuts per person in each different local authority areas are as follows:

(i)	Sheffield	-£198.47
(ii)	Doncaster	- £208.63
(iii)	Barnsley	-£168.07
(iv)	Newcastle upon Tyne	-£217.96
(v)	Manchester	-£284.34
(vi)	Richmond- upon-Thames	-£39.21
(vii)	Wokingham	-£26.53
(viii)	Windsor and Maidenhead	-£34.46
(ix)	East Dorset	-£34.24
(x)	North Dorset	-£28.10

- (8) Is particularly disappointed that the Deputy Prime Minister has completely failed to stand up for Sheffield and continues to allow Sheffield and northern towns and cities to receive such a disproportionate level of cuts;
- (9) notes that unfortunately many other Councils are also facing significant reductions in services and this is reflected in the letters written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by all Core City leaders explaining the impact that the cuts will have on their cities;
- (10) regrets that despite the concerns raised by city leaders, the Government have pressed ahead with an unprecedented level of cuts in the Local Government Finance Settlement despite warnings about the impact it will have on Council services in Sheffield and across the core cities;
- (11) further regrets that in the 2012 Autumn Statement the Government extended the period of austerity to 2017/18 and believes this is as a result of their economic failure and mismanagement;
- (12) is particularly concerned that at the same time as public services are being heavily cut and the Government are cutting Council Tax Benefit which impacts on the poorest in the City, the Government think it is appropriate to reduce the top rate of income tax;
- (13) thanks all members of staff across the Council who have contributed to achieving a balanced budget for 2013/14, in this extremely challenging financial climate;
- (14) notes that as a result of budget cuts there could be up to 600 Council posts affected during the financial year 2013/14, including job roles that could be lost through voluntary severance or voluntary early retirement as well as any vacancies that have not been filled;
- (15) expresses sincere and heartfelt sympathy to those members of staff who are losing their jobs through compulsory redundancy and regrets that the Government's cuts agenda has made compulsory redundancies unavoidable;
- (16) notes that the Council workforce has had to contend with real-term pay reductions over the past three years and notes that pay increments have been frozen since pre-April 2011;
- (17) welcomes the commitment of the present Administration to support the lowest paid members of staff through the introduction of the Living Wage;
- (18) thanks the whole of the Council's workforce for continuing to work hard to serve Sheffield during extremely difficult circumstances and continues to value the hard work and public sector ethos of Council staff;
- (19) regrets that this is in stark contrast to the approach of the Government and Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government who continue to denigrate local government in an attempt to justify their attack

on public services;

- (20) regrets that this approach has been replicated by the Deputy Prime Minister and Main Opposition Group in recent weeks who have continued to make factually inaccurate statements about Council spending in a desperate attempt to denigrate the Council and deflect attention from their responsibility for the unprecedented level of cuts faced by the Council;
- (21) welcomes that the present Administration continue to find ways to improve efficiency within the Council and limit as far as possible the impact that cuts have on front line services;
- (22) believes this is demonstrated by the present Administration delivering on their pledge to reduce spending on senior management by £1 million and believes that this action has helped to protect front line services;
- (23) confirms that the present Administration will go further and commits to saving a further £500,000 from management posts within the next year;
- (24) regrets that due to the level of cuts the Council is facing no area of the Council's budget can remain untouched;
- (25) confirms that the present Administration have prioritised protecting the most vulnerable in our society as far as possible;
- (26) is extremely concerned at the impact that the Government's economic mismanagement is having on the people of Sheffield and welcomes the present Administration's commitment to the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme and the wide programme of work it is undertaking to support employment and jobs in the City;
- (27) welcomes that the present Administration continue to stand up for Sheffield, support and protect communities, focus on jobs and make the City business friendly;
- (28) welcomes the report of the Fairness Commission and the present Administration's commitment to fairness;
- (29) acknowledges the challenges presented by the Fairness Commission in making Sheffield fairer and further welcomes the commitment of the present Administration to work with partners across the City to achieve this;
- (30) instructs the Executive Director, Resources to implement the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/14;
- (31) approves those specific projects included in the 2012/13 to 2016/17 Capital Programme at Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17 now submitted, with block allocations being included within the Programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate Member approval as part of

the monthly monitoring procedures;

- (32) notes the Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2016/17 as per Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme;
- (33) approves the proposals at paragraph 18 of the report on the Capital Programme to address the current funding gap on Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and notes that progress will be monitored and reported to Members as part of the normal budget monitoring process;
- (34) approves the allocations from the Corporate Resource Pool and the policy outlined in Appendix 4 such that the commitment from the CRP is limited to one year and no CRP supported schemes are approved beyond 2013 - 14, and if substantial capital receipts are realised within 2012-13 or 2013-14 a further report will be brought to Members as part of the monthly approval process;
- (35) approves the proposal at paragraph 33 of the report on the Capital Programme to incorporate all capital receipts arising from non charitable covenanted Parks into the CRP;
- (36) after noting the joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director, Resources now submitted on the Revenue Budget 2013/14, approves and adopts a net Revenue Budget for 2013/14 amounting to £477.426m, as set out in Appendix 3 of that report, as follows:-

Summary Revenue Budget		
Original Budget 2012/13 £000		Original Budget 2013/14 £000
	Portfolio Budgets:	
67,224	Children Young People and Families	81,274
156,574	Communities	160,883
102,855	Place	101,960
10,620	Deputy Chief Executive	8,741
<u>58,036</u>	Resources	<u>57,985</u>
395,309	Total Portfolio budgets	410,843
	Corporate Budgets:	
	Specific Grants	
-4,931	Council Tax Freeze Grant	-1,642
-7,280	NHS Funding	-9,683
-741	Learning Disability and	0
-26,525	PFI Grant	-40,724
-3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	-4,479
	Corporate Items	

13,000	Redundancy Provision	9,000
1,000	Pension Costs	1,000
3,829	Digital Region	1,229
500	Carbon Reduction Commitment	1,000
-500	Review of Management Costs	-500
-950	Improved debt collection	-450
0	Public Health Savings	-3,400
0	Keep Sheffield Working Fund	400
0	Contingency - Adults Social Care Pressures	3,000
0	Payment to Parish Councils	82
0	Living Wage	160
3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	6,642
0	Fairness Commission	1,000
-108	Other	1,742
36,977	ITA Levy	34,694
36,686	Capital Financing costs	38,237
24,667	MSF capital financing costs	35,275
-7,415	Contribution from Reserves	-6,000

463,518

Total Expenditure

477,426

Financing of Net Expenditure

-5,053	Revenue Support Grant	-190,105
-260,679	NNDR/Business Rates Income	-95,265
0	Business Rates Top Up Grant	-27,800
-197,267	Council Tax income	-164,256
-519	Collection fund surplus	0

-463,518

Total Financing

-477,426

- (37) approves a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,282.75 for City Council services, i.e. at the same level as 2012/13;
- (38) approves the Revenue Budget allocations and Budget Implementation Plans for each of the services, as set out in Appendix 2 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (39) notes the latest 2012/13 budget monitoring position;
- (40) approves the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategies set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report and the recommendations contained therein;
- (41) approves the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (42) agrees that authority be delegated to the Director of Finance to undertake Treasury Management activity, to create and amend appropriate Treasury Management Practice Statements and to report on the operation of Treasury Management activity on the terms set out in these documents;

- (43) agrees that interim authority to spend the Public Health ring-fenced grant be delegated to the Director of Public Health and Executive Directors, subject to a further report to the Cabinet in April 2013;
- (44) approves a Pay Policy for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix 8 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (45) agrees that the Members' Allowances Scheme approved by the Council on 3rd March, 2010 for 2010/11, and implemented for 2011/12 and 2012/13, be also implemented for 2013/14, pending a review of the Scheme being submitted to the Council's Annual General Meeting on 15th May, 2013;
- (46) gives approval for the Council Tax Discount in respect of dwellings that are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished, approved by the Council on 6th February 2013 to be amended so that its reads;

“Empty unfurnished

In respect of a dwelling that falls within the class of dwellings described in regulation 7, of the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwelling) (England) Regulations 2003, that the empty dwelling discount shall apply at 10% for the 6 month period commencing on the date that the dwelling fell within the class. After the 6 month period has expired, the empty dwelling discount shall not apply in respect of the dwelling.

When considering whether a dwelling has been unoccupied for any period, any one period, not exceeding six weeks, during which it was occupied shall be disregarded.”

- (47) notes that, based on the estimated expenditure level of £477.426m set out in Appendix 3 of the Revenue Budget report, the amounts shown in part B below would be calculated by the City Council for the year 2013/14, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (48) notes the precepts issued by local parish councils which add £477,553 to the calculation of the budget requirement in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (49) notes the information on the precepts issued by the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority, together with the impact of these on the overall amount of Council Tax to be charged in the City Council's area;

CITY OF SHEFFIELD
CALCULATION OF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL TAX FOR 2013/14 REVENUE
BUDGET

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

1. It be noted that on 15th January 2013, the Council calculated the Council Tax

Base 2013/14

- (a) for the whole Council area as:
128,050.05 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")); and
- (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix 6c.
2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish precepts) is:
- £ 164,255,587**
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- (a) **£ 1,468,420,140** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- (b) **£ 1,303,687,000** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) **£ 164,733,140** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(A)(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
- (d) **£ 1,286.4746** being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
- (e) **£ 477,553** being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix 6b).
- (f) **£ 1,282.7452** being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.
4. To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire and the

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.

5. That the Council, in accordance with the Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/14 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Sheffield City Council (non-parish areas)

Valuation Band

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	992.71	1,158.17	1,323.62	1,489.08	1,819.98	2,150.89	2,481.79	2,978.15

Bradfield Parish Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Bradfield Parish Council	24.81	28.94	33.08	37.21	45.48	53.75	62.02	74.42
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,017.52	1,187.11	1,356.70	1,526.29	1,865.46	2,204.64	2,543.81	3,052.57

Ecclesfield Parish Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Ecclesfield Parish Council	9.48	11.06	12.64	14.22	17.38	20.54	23.70	28.44
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,002.19	1,169.23	1,336.26	1,503.30	1,837.36	2,171.43	2,505.49	3,006.59

Stocksbridge Town Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Stocksbridge Town Council	17.74	20.70	23.64	26.61	32.51	38.44	44.35	53.21
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,010.45	1,178.87	1,347.26	1,515.69	1,852.49	2,189.33	2,526.14	3,031.36

6. The Council's basic amount of Council Tax is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, therefore no referendum is required.

Council Tax Schedule 2013/14	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Total charge for non- parish areas of Sheffield	992.71	1,158.17	1,323.62	1,489.08	1,819.98	2,150.89	2,481.79	2,978.15
Bradfield Parish Council	1,017.52	1,187.11	1,356.70	1,526.70	1,865.46	2,204.64	2,543.81	3,052.27
Ecclesfield Parish Council	1,002.19	1,169.23	1,336.26	1,503.30	1,837.36	2,171.43	2,505.49	3,006.59
Stocksbridge Town Council	1,010.45	1,178.87	1,347.26	1,515.69	1,842.49	2,189.33	2,526.14	3,031.36

Parish Council Precepts

Parish Council	2012-13			2013-14			Council Tax Increase
	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	
Bradfield	6,031.65	224.112	37.1560	6,023.58	224.112	37.2058	0.13%
Ecclesfield	10,292.25	142,545	13.8497	10,217.10	145,310	14.2222	2.69%
Stocksbridge	4,114.47	102,982	25.0292	4,063.11	108,131	26.6129	6.33%
Total/average	20,438.37	469,639	22.9783	20,303.79	477,553	23.5204	2.36%

Motion to move to next business

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor David Baker that (in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.13) the Council does now move to the next item of business and that the question be now put.

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

It was then moved by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, as an amendment, that the recommendations of the Cabinet held on 13th February, 2013, as relates to the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/2014, be replaced by the following resolution:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:

- (1) regrets that as a result of the reckless spending of the previous Government, difficult decisions are required in all areas of public spending;

- (2) notes that the previous Government increased the national deficit year-on-year from 2001 onwards, reaching a total of £43 billion prior to the economic crash, to the point where £1 in every £4 the Government spent was borrowed;
- (3) reminds Members that the Labour Party pledged £82 billion worth of cuts by 2014, but have failed to provide any credible plans of where these cuts would have fallen;
- (4) however, remembers that the Labour Party have refused to commit to reversing any cut if elected, and therefore believes the Administration are displaying rank hypocrisy when refusing to accept responsibility for their own budget decisions;
- (5) furthermore, condemns the scare-mongering of Labour politicians, who have predicted a 'post-soviet meltdown' and riots in the streets of Sheffield;
- (6) compares this dangerous propaganda to the Council's State of Sheffield 2013 Report, which clearly states, "It is widely argued that the look and feel of the city, and its quality of life and place has never been stronger for many people";
- (7) highlights that while Sheffield will see a 3.9% reduction in its adjusted Formula Grant (including Early Intervention Grant and other funds), councils in the south of England will see much harsher reductions such as Wokingham on 5.6%, Guildford on 7.8%, East Dorset on 8.1% and Epsom & Ewell on 9.4%;
- (8) regrets the £25.3 million reduction taking place in Sheffield's formula funding in 2013/14, yet notes that Sheffield will benefit from numerous sources of Government funding next year, including:
 - (i) £6.5 million to help freeze Council Tax for hard-working families for a third consecutive year;
 - (ii) £42.7 million for the second year of the Streets Ahead programme, which will see every road, pavement and streetlight in the City repaired;
 - (iii) £10 million towards constructing a new University Technical College, to ensure the next generation of Sheffielders have the skills they need to help the City grow;
 - (iv) £3.8 million to provide Free Early Learning for disadvantaged two-year-olds, rising to £5.4 million in 2014/15, in addition to another £18 million for Sheffield schools through the Pupil Premium;
 - (v) millions of pounds invested in Sheffield's trams, trains and buses, alongside commitments to electrify the Midland Mainline and a

new High Speed Rail station in Sheffield; and

- (vi) ongoing support for the local economy, through the Local Enterprise Partnership and the region's enterprise zone, which will generate 12,000 jobs for the local region;
- (9) in addition, welcomes the Sheffield City Deal, which places the City in the driving seat for growth and unlocks £700 million of investment for the City Region;
- (10) recalls the prudence of the previous Administration, whose 2011/12 budget generated a surplus of £6.2 million and contrasts this to the dithering incompetence of the present Administration, whose 2012/13 budget is currently running at a deficit of £1.2 million;
- (11) regrets, that despite promises to the contrary, the present Administration has returned to behaviour that is letting down the people of Sheffield, including;
- (i) rejecting significant investment from the Government, including funds to support the weekly collection of black bins and help those struggling to pay Council Tax;
 - (ii) wasteful spending on pet projects, refurbishments of council accommodation, high-paid consultants and trade union officials;
 - (iii) support for their widely discredited 'favoured areas' policy, which sees cherry-picked areas prioritised, while communities across Sheffield remain forgotten; and
 - (iv) taking power away from local people and returning it into the hands of unaccountable Town Hall bureaucrats;
- (12) believes the present Administration's mismanagement has been most aptly demonstrated by the shambolic roll-out of fortnightly bin collections, with an almost weekly outpouring of embarrassments, mistakes and blunders by a gaffe-prone Cabinet Member;
- (13) recalls the main opposition group's 2012/13 budget amendment, which would have funded weekly bin collections long enough to secure Government cash towards the service and expresses disappointment that the Council rejected this Government offer of support;
- (14) notes that returning to weekly black bin collections would now cost the Council £9.2 million and confirms that this would not be an equitable option;
- (15) however, believes that a fairer budget can be delivered, and front-line services and jobs can be protected, by investigating sensible saving decisions, such as;

- (i) reducing budgets for Trade Unions officials, which have been consistently protected to the detriment of front-line services;
 - (ii) reducing posts in communications, policy and research, political support and performance, instead of front-line staff;
 - (iii) sharing services between councils and trusts, improving enforcement of fines and eliminating costly “pet projects”;
 - (iv) a small reduction in pay for the top 25% of earners in the Council, to produce a more equal structure and protect low-paid jobs such as care workers;
 - (v) use of allocated reserves such as the Local Growth Fund, the Keep Sheffield Working Fund and the Fairness Commission Fund; and
 - (vi) re-prioritising millions of pounds previously earmarked for “Town Hall meeting rooms”, since re-titled “city centre civic accommodation”, to ensure taxpayers’ money is being spent effectively;
- (16) confirms that by agreeing these savings, the Council could continue to provide the front-line services that local people care most about, such as;
- (i) supporting families who are struggling with fortnightly bin collections by slashing the cost of green waste recycling and increasing opening hours at local recycling centres;
 - (ii) ensuring that culture is maintained in the City, by refusing to close a single library and retaining sports centres, like Don Valley Stadium, Graves Pool, and Stocksbridge Leisure Centre;
 - (iii) protecting Sheffield’s green and open spaces, by investing in park maintenance, outdoor education and saving local public toilets;
 - (iv) assisting local businesses by investing in local centres, providing free parking on Saturdays at local centres and reinstating free Christmas parking;
 - (v) helping the most vulnerable in our City by supporting local children’s centres through a period of change, keeping open a local dementia care centre and tackling empty homes to ensure housing is available across the City;
 - (vi) allowing local people and community groups to have their say by retaining popular community assemblies, increasing community funding and providing a local transport fund for assemblies;
- (17) furthermore, recalls the debate on the 23rd January 2013 on Council Tax

Support and confirms that, not only is Transitional Funding no longer available, the scheme cannot legally be amended, yet nevertheless recommends that the hardship fund is doubled;

- (18) therefore instructs the Executive Director, Resources to implement the general fund revenue budget and the capital programme with the following amendments:-

The following non-recurring adjustments

Fairness Commission Fund			
Savings	£	Investments	£
Use of the Fairness Commission Fund	888k	Deliver a Living Wage this year for Council-employed agency staff	34k
		Double the Council's Hardship Fund	500k
		Introduce a transition fund for non-Council maintained children's centres	350k
Total	888k	Total	888k

Local Growth Fund			
Savings	£	Investments	£
Use of the Local Growth Fund	801k	Triple investment available for bringing empty homes back into use	800k
Reallocate funds for Park Hill Green Links	299k	Double investment in our local and district centres	300k
Total	1,100k	Total	1,100k

Keep Sheffield Working Fund			
Savings	£	Investments	£
Use of Keep Sheffield Working Fund	234k	Provide free parking on Saturdays at local and district centres	180k
		Reverse parking permit rises for local businesses this year	29k
		Provide free parking in the city-centre two weeks before this Christmas	25k
Total	234k	Total	234k

The following recurring adjustments (except where shown):

General Revenue Fund

Savings	£	Investments	£
Instigate a pay review with a reduction of 2.5% for staff on a salary between £30k and £39k and 5% on a salary greater than £39k	1,200k	Ensure that no library is closed in 2013/14 by reversing reductions in funding for the libraries service	370k
Reduce the number of full-time trade union officials to one per union	100k	Drastically slash the cost of green waste recycling from £1.20 a sack to 30p a sack	1,000k
Delete three senior manager posts, including: Director of Health Improvement; Director of Business Information & Transformation; Director of Commercial Services.	150k	Increase the opening hours at local recycling centres by a combined total of three days.	100k
End the Castle Market discount	215k	Retain Community Assemblies model and increase discretionary funding to 100k per Assembly	425k
Ensure the sustainable development department is dependent on external income	155k	Delay the closure of the Don Valley Stadium until at least April 2014	(114k)
Deliver savings by sharing services between Sheffield trusts	100k	Delay the closure of Stocksbridge Leisure Centre for an absolute minimum of 12 months	239k
Reduce the number of City Centre Ambassadors	100k	Reverse proposals to close Bole Hill View dementia care centre	183k
Reduce Communication posts in the Council	100k	Retain discretionary denominational home to school transport for Year 10s and 11s	107k
Delete the two Scrutiny Policy Officer posts	85k	Reverse proposed increases in residents' parking permit charges	75k
End the ongoing subsidy of the Burngreave New Deal "white elephants"	80k	Keep open Rivelin, Stocksbridge, Abbey Lane, Bradfield, Chapelton and Fox House public toilets by levelling a small charge of 20p	37k
Reduce Policy & Research posts by a further 10%	58k	Employ a parks volunteer coordinator to ensure maintenance continues	30k
Reduce Performance staff by a further 10%	44k	Retain the current opening hours at Heeley Baths and	20k

Graves Pool			
Withdraw funding for the Sheffield First Partnership	39k	Reverse cuts to outdoor education at the Mayfield centre	8k
Delete the Labour Group Support Officer post	29k		
Increase charges within the former DCEX directorate	15k		
Improve fine enforcement	10k		
Total	£2,480k	Total	£2,480k

General Capital Fund			
Re-phase cost of Moorfoot refurbishment by less than 6% next year	300k	Accelerate programme of legal powers to tackle dangerous parking outside Sheffield schools	300k
Review funding currently earmarked for city centre civic accommodation	TBC	Reallocate decision making over £1.9 million of transport funding away from the Cabinet Member and give to Community Assemblies	Neutral

- (19) believes the £2.2 million earmarked for City Centre Civic Accommodation is not necessary and should be reviewed again by the Cabinet before any implementation;
- (20) approves those specific projects included in the 2012/13 to 2016/17 Capital Programme at Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17 now submitted, subject to the amendments outlined in paragraph (18) above, with block allocations being included within the Programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate Member approval as part of the monthly monitoring procedures;
- (21) notes the Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2016/17 as per Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme subject to the amendments outlined in paragraph (18) above;
- (22) approves the proposals at paragraph 18 of the report on the Capital Programme to address the current funding gap on Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and notes that progress will be monitored and reported to Members as part of the normal budget monitoring process;
- (23) approves the allocations from the Corporate Resource Pool and the policy outlined in Appendix 4 such that the commitment from the CRP is limited to one year and no CRP supported schemes are approved beyond 2013 -14, and if substantial capital receipts are realised within 2012-13 or 2013-14 a further report will be brought to Members as part of the monthly approval

process;

- (24) approves the proposal at paragraph 33 of the report on the Capital Programme to incorporate all capital receipts arising from non charitable covenanted Parks into the CRP;
- (25) after noting the joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director, Resources now submitted on the Revenue Budget 2013/14, approves and adopts a net Revenue Budget for 2013/14 amounting to £477.426m, as set out in Appendix 3 of that report, and subsequently amended in the light of paragraph (18) above, as follows:-

Summary Revenue Budget 2013-14

Original Budget 2012/13		Proposed Budget 2013/14
£000		£000
	Portfolio Budgets:	
67,224	Children Young People and Families	81,739
156,574	Communities	161,811
102,855	Place	103,156
10,620	Deputy Chief Executive	8,216
<u>58,036</u>	Resources	<u>57,805</u>
395,309	Total Portfolio budgets	412,727
	Corporate Budgets:	
	Specific Budget Amendments	
0	Living Wage for agency staff	38
0	Salary reductions	-1,200
0	Keep Sheffield Working Fund	-234
0	Trade Union posts	-100
0	Hardship Fund	500
	Specific Grants	
-4,931	Council Tax Freeze Grant	-1,642
-7,280	NHS Funding	-9,683
-741	Learning Disability and Homelessness Grants	0
-26,525	PFI Grant	-40,724
-3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	-4,479
	Corporate Items	

13,000	Redundancy Provision	9,000
1,000	Pension Costs	1,000
3,829	Digital Region	1,229
500	Carbon Reduction Commitment	1,000
-500	Review of Management Costs	-500
-950	Improved debt collection	-450
0	Public Health Savings	-3,400
0	Keep Sheffield Working Fund	400
0	Contingency - Adults Social Care Pressures	3,000
0	Payment to Parish Councils	82
0	Living Wage	160
3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	6,642
0	Fairness Commission	112
-108	Other	1,742
36,977	ITA Levy	34,694
36,686	Capital Financing costs	38,237
24,667	MSF capital financing costs	35,275
-7,415	Contribution from Reserves	-6,000
<hr/> 463,518 <hr/>	Total Expenditure	<hr/> 477,426 <hr/>
	Financing of Net Expenditure	
-5,053	Revenue Support Grant	-190,105
-260,679	NNDR/Business Rates Income	-95,265
0	Business Rates Top Up Grant	-27,800
-197,267	Council Tax income	-164,256
-519	Collection fund surplus	0
<hr/> -463,518 <hr/>	Total Financing	<hr/> -477,426 <hr/>

(26) approves a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,282.75 for City Council services, i.e. at the same level as 2012/13;

(27) approves the Revenue Budget allocations and Budget Implementation Plans for each of the services, as set out in Appendix 2 of the Revenue Budget report, subject to the amendments outlined in paragraph (18) above;

- (28) notes the latest 2012/13 budget monitoring position;
- (29) approves the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategies set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report and the recommendations contained therein;
- (30) approves the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (31) agrees that authority be delegated to the Director of Finance to undertake Treasury Management activity, to create and amend appropriate Treasury Management Practice Statements and to report on the operation of Treasury Management activity on the terms set out in these documents;
- (32) agrees that interim authority to spend the Public Health ring-fenced grant be delegated to the Director of Public Health and Executive Directors, subject to a further report to the Cabinet in April 2013;
- (33) approves a Pay Policy for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix 8 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (34) agrees that the Members' Allowances Scheme approved by the Council on 3rd March, 2010 for 2010/11, and implemented for 2011/12 and 2012/13, be also implemented for 2013/14, pending a review of the Scheme being submitted to the Council's Annual General Meeting on 15th May, 2013;
- (35) notes that, based on the estimated expenditure level of £477.426m set out in Appendix 3 of the Revenue Budget report, the amounts shown in part B below would be calculated by the City Council for the year 2013/14, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (36) notes the precepts issued by local parish councils which add £477,553 to the calculation of the budget requirement in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (37) notes the information on the precepts issued by the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority, together with the impact of these on the overall amount of Council Tax to be charged in the City Council's area;

CITY OF SHEFFIELD
CALCULATION OF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL TAX FOR 2013/14 REVENUE
BUDGET

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

1. It be noted that on 15th January 2013, the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2013/14

- (a) for the whole Council area as:
128,050.05 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")); and
- (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix 6c.
2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish precepts) is:
- £ 164,255,587**
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- (a) **£ 1,468,420,140** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- (b) **£ 1,303,687,000** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) **£ 164,733,140** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(A)4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
- (d) **£ 1,286.4746** being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
- (e) **£ 477,553** being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix 6b).
- (f) **£ 1,282.7452** being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.
4. To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire and the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council

in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.

5. That the Council, in accordance with the Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/14 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Sheffield City Council (non-parish areas)

Valuation Band

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
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Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	992.71	1,158.17	1,323.62	1,489.08	1,819.98	2,150.89	2,481.79	2,978.15

Bradfield Parish Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Bradfield Parish Council	24.81	28.94	33.08	37.21	45.48	53.75	62.02	74.42
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,017.52	1,187.11	1,356.70	1,526.29	1,865.46	2,204.64	2,543.81	3,052.57

Ecclesfield Parish Council

Valuation Band

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Ecclesfield Parish Council	9.48	11.06	12.64	14.22	17.38	20.54	23.70	28.44
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
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Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,002.19	1,169.23	1,336.26	1,503.30	1,837.36	2,171.43	2,505.49	3,006.59

Stocksbridge Town Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Stocksbridge Town Council	17.74	20.70	23.64	26.61	32.51	38.44	44.35	53.21
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,010.45	1,178.87	1,347.26	1,515.69	1,852.49	2,189.33	2,526.14	3,031.36

6. The Council's basic amount of Council Tax is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, therefore no referendum is required.

Council Tax Schedule 2013/14	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Total charge for non-parish areas of Sheffield	992.71	1,158.17	1,323.62	1,489.08	1,819.98	2,150.89	2,481.79	2,978.15
Bradfield Parish Council	1,017.52	1,187.11	1,356.70	1,526.70	1,865.46	2,204.64	2,543.81	3,052.27
Ecclesfield Parish Council	1,002.19	1,169.23	1,336.26	1,503.30	1,837.36	2,171.43	2,505.49	3,006.59
Stocksbridge Town Council	1,010.45	1,178.87	1,347.26	1,515.69	1,842.49	2,189.33	2,526.14	3,031.36

Parish Council Precepts

Parish Council	2012-13			2013-14			Council Tax Increase
	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	
Bradfield	6,031.65	224.112	37.1560	6,023.58	224.112	37.2058	0.13%
Ecclesfield	10,292.25	142,545	13.8497	10,217.10	145,310	14.2222	2.69%
Stocksbridge	4,114.47	102,982	25.0292	4,063.11	108,131	26.6129	6.33%
Total/average	20,438.37	469,639	22.9783	20,303.79	477,553	23.5204	2.36%

Motion to move to next business

RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed that (a) (in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17.13) the Council does now move to the next item of business and that the question be now put and (b) Council Procedure Rule 5.5 relating to the time at which the meeting will terminate, be suspended so that the meeting could continue until 6.45pm.)

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

The votes on the above amendment were ordered to be recorded and were as follows:-

For the amendment (18) The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Vickie Priestley) and Councillors Simon Clement Jones, Shaffaq Mohammed, , Sylvia Anginotti, Rob Frost, Keith Hill, Diana Stimely, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Denise Reaney, Ian Auckland, Bob McCann, David Baker, Katie Condliffe Alison Brelsford and Trevor Bagshaw.

Against the amendment (59)	The Lord Mayor (Councillor John Campbell) and Councillors Julie Dore, John Robson, Jack Scott, Clive Skelton, Roy Munn, Ian Saunders, Helen Mirfin Boukouris, Chris Rosling Josephs, Bryan Lodge, Denise Fox, Karen McGowan, Jayne Dunn, Jackie Drayton, Ibrar Hussain, Talib Hussain, Mohammad Maroof, Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Geoff Smith, Mary Lea, Harry Harpham, Mazher Iqbal, Steven Wilson, Garry Weatherall, Sheila Constance, Chris Weldon, Alan Law, Steve Jones, Tim Rippon, Cate McDonald, George Lindars Hammond, Robert Johnson, Janet Bragg, Pat Midgley, Jenny Armstrong, Terry Fox, Tony Downing, David Barker, Isobel Bowler, Qurban Hussain, Nikki Bond, Martin Lawton, Sioned Mair Richards, Peter Price, Peter Rippon, Leigh Bramall, Tony Damms, Gill Furniss, Richard Crowther, Philip Wood, Neale Gibson, Nikki Sharpe, Ben Curran, Adam Hurst, Alf Meade, Jackie Satur, Mick Rooney and Ray Satur.
Abstained on the amendment (0)	Nil

It was then moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy, as an amendment, that the recommendations of the Cabinet held on 13th February, 2013, as relates to the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/2014, be replaced by the following resolution:-

RESOLVED: That this Council:

1. regards the cuts to local authority funding as unnecessary and unfair;
2. remembers that the party of the smaller opposition group was the only one to set out a manifesto for the 2010 general election which showed how the cuts could be completely avoided, whilst others proposed and continue to support an austerity agenda;
3. regrets that Sheffield City Council has further limited its room for manoeuvre by transferring more than half its services (in terms of revenue spending) to outside contractors and partners, reducing flexibility and limiting opportunities for locally owned businesses;
4. recognises, however, that the Council is obliged to set a legal budget or

- risk being taken over by Whitehall and losing any remaining choice in how the City is run;
5. believes that, as the economic crisis deepens, the principle of fairness is ever more important and that it is reasonable to ask those with the broadest shoulders to carry more of the burden and to prioritise protecting the most vulnerable;
 6. believes that the Council could set an example by:
 - (a) reducing the pay of employees on salaries of greater than £50k in an incremental manner so that the highest paid take the greatest cuts;
 - (b) cutting management costs in Prevention and Early Intervention (the Council-run Multi Agency Support Teams, which face cuts of only 2.2% compared to cuts of over 50% in children's centres and childcare);
 - (c) cutting the remaining political assistants, allowing elected members to do their own research and press work; and
 - (d) cutting development activity funding;
 7. has listened to the people of Sheffield as they have petitioned us in their tens of thousands and now wishes to give them the opportunity to vote in a referendum on whether they are willing to pay slightly more Council tax (a 2.95% overall increase and 48p a week for the majority of households) in order to fund some of the services they value and to help mitigate the regressive effect of the underfunded Council Tax Support scheme (whereby the poorest households will see a Council tax rise of nine times this amount);
 8. approves the following investments:-
 - (a) fund Early Years Services in full for a further six months with future funding and organization pending a collaborative review of early years services;
 - (b) keep Stocksbridge Leisure Centre open, giving the local community time to find a sustainable way forward, preferably in partnership with the Council;
 - (c) reverse the cuts to libraries with plans put in place for a staffed service across all libraries;
 - (d) provide funding for dedicated staff at the Highfield and Pitsmoor Adventure Playgrounds and Verdon Street Recreation Centre;
 - (e) triple the hardship fund set up to help particularly needy

households amongst the 30,000 hit by the loss of Council tax benefit who will have to find an extra £4.52 a week for Council tax, often in addition to Council house rent rises and loss of housing benefit (“the bedroom tax”);

- (f) consult on and introduce a higher cap for the Council Tax Support Scheme as soon as possible;
- (g) recognises that the cost of energy and other environmental pressures such as resource depletion and the effects of climate change pose increasing pressures on the Council and the people of Sheffield and will therefore retain a senior officer post with responsibility for Sustainable Development, looking to make it self-funding over the medium term; and
- (h) adjust other parking charges rather than increase the cost of parking permits above the 2010 level;

Savings/income	£000	Investments/costs	£000
Cut remaining political assistants	105	Fund Early Years Services	1,800
Reduce staff salaries by 10% for posts above £50k		Keep Stocksbridge Leisure Centre open, giving time for local community to find a sustainable way forward	
	360		310
Reduction in Prevention & Early Intervention management costs, removing around 10 posts	290	Libraries cuts reversed for 2013/14	370
Cut development activity funding in HR Service	250	Highfields & Pitsmoor Adventure Playground kept open	180
Increase of 2.95% in Council Tax for 2013/14	4,845	Council Tax hardship fund tripled with additional funds for administration	1,100
Contribution from Local Growth Fund	202	Funding for local council tax referendum	600
		Retain a senior officer post with responsibility for Sustainable Development	50
		Loss of Council Tax Freeze Grant	1,642
TOTAL	6,052	TOTAL	6,052

9. agrees that, if the proposal in paragraph 7 is rejected in a local Council tax referendum, the investment proposals set out in paragraphs 8(a) to (g) above be withdrawn, and the savings identified in paragraph 6 above, together with a contribution from the Local Growth Fund, be used to pay the cost of the referendum, the cost of rebilling Council tax payers and the costs of the investment proposals that will have been incurred in the early part of the financial year;

10. accordingly instructs the Executive Director, Resources, to implement the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/2014 with the amendments outlined in paragraphs (6) to (9) above;
11. approves those specific projects included in the 2012/13 to 2016/17 Capital Programme at Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17 now submitted, with block allocations being included within the Programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate Member approval as part of the monthly monitoring procedures;
12. notes the Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2016/17 as per Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme;
13. approves the proposals at paragraph 18 of the report on the Capital Programme to address the current funding gap on Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and notes that progress will be monitored and reported to Members as part of the normal budget monitoring process;
14. approves the allocations from the Corporate Resource Pool and the policy outlined in Appendix 4 such that the commitment from the CRP is limited to one year and no CRP supported schemes are approved beyond 2013 -14, and if substantial capital receipts are realised within 2012-13 or 2013-14 a further report will be brought to Members as part of the monthly approval process;
15. approves the proposal at paragraph 33 of the report on the Capital Programme to incorporate all capital receipts arising from non charitable covenanted Parks into the CRP;
16. after noting the joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director, Resources now submitted on the Revenue Budget 2013/14, approves and adopts a net Revenue Budget for 2013/14 amounting to £428.271m, as set out in Appendix 3 of that report, and subsequently amended in the light of paragraphs (6) to (9) above, as follows:-

Summary Revenue Budget 2013-14

Original Budget 2012/13		Proposed Budget 2013/14
£000		£000
	Portfolio Budgets:	
67,224	Children Young People and Families	82,784
156,574	Communities	161,253
102,855	Place	102,500

10,620	Deputy Chief Executive	8,636
<u>58,036</u>	Resources	<u>57,735</u>
395,309	Total Portfolio budgets	412,908

Corporate Budgets:

	Specific Budget Amendments	
0	Hardship Fund	1,100
0	Referendum Costs	600
0	Salary Reductions	-360
0	Contribution from Local Growth Fund	-202
	Specific Grants	
-4,931	Council Tax Freeze Grant	0
-7,280	NHS Funding	-9,683
-741	Learning Disability and Homelessness Grants	0
-26,525	PFI Grant	-40,724
-3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	-4,479
	Corporate Items	
13,000	Redundancy Provision	9,000
1,000	Pension Costs	1,000
3,829	Digital Region	1,229
500	Carbon Reduction Commitment	1,000
-500	Review of Management Costs	-500
-950	Improved debt collection	-450
0	Public Health Savings	-3,400
0	Keep Sheffield Working Fund	400
0	Contingency - Adults Social Care Pressures	3,000
0	Payment to Parish Councils	82
0	Living Wage	160
3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	6,642
0	Fairness Commission	1,000
-108	Other	1,742
36,977	ITA Levy	34,694
36,686	Capital Financing costs	38,237
24,667	MSF capital financing costs	35,275
-7,415	Contribution from Reserves	-6,000

<u>463,518</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>482,271</u>
Financing of Net Expenditure		
-5,053	Revenue Support Grant	-190,105
-260,679	NNDR/Business Rates Income	-95,265
0	Business Rates Top Up Grant	-27,800
-197,267	Council Tax income	-169,101
-519	Collection fund surplus	0
<u>-463,518</u>	Total Financing	<u>-482,271</u>

17. approves a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,320.59 for City Council services, i.e. an increase of 2.95% on the level set for 2012/13;
18. approves the Revenue Budget allocations and Budget Implementation Plans for each of the services, as set out in Appendix 2 of the Revenue Budget report, subject to the amendments outlined in paragraphs (6) to (9) above;
19. notes the latest 2012/13 budget monitoring position;
20. approves the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategies set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report and the recommendations contained therein;
21. approves the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report;
22. agrees that authority be delegated to the Director of Finance to undertake Treasury Management activity, to create and amend appropriate Treasury Management Practice Statements and to report on the operation of Treasury Management activity on the terms set out in these documents;
23. agrees that interim authority to spend the Public Health ring-fenced grant be delegated to the Director of Public Health and Executive Directors, subject to a further report to the Cabinet in April 2013;
24. approves a Pay Policy for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix 8 of the Revenue Budget report;
25. agrees that the Members' Allowances Scheme approved by the Council on 3rd March, 2010 for 2010/11, and implemented for 2011/12 and 2012/13, be also implemented for 2013/14, pending a review of the Scheme being submitted to the Council's Annual General Meeting on 15th May, 2013;
26. notes that, based on the estimated expenditure level of £482.271m set out in

Appendix 3 of the Revenue Budget report, the amounts shown in part B below would be calculated by the City Council for the year 2013/14, in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;

27. notes the precepts issued by local parish councils which add £477,553 to the calculation of the budget requirement in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
28. notes the information on the precepts issued by the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority, together with the impact of these on the overall amount of Council Tax to be charged in the City Council's area;

CITY OF SHEFFIELD

CALCULATION OF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL TAX FOR 2013/14 REVENUE BUDGET

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

1. It be noted that on 15th January 2013, the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2013/14
 - (a) for the whole Council area as:
128,050.05 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")); and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix 6c.

2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish precepts) is:

£ 169,101,127

3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) **£ 1,473,265,680** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - (b) **£ 1,303,687,000** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) **£ 169,578.680** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(A)4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
 - (d) **£ 1,324.3156** being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
 - (e) **£ 477,553** being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix 6b).
 - (f) **£ 1,320.5862** being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by

dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

4. To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire and the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.
5. That the Council, in accordance with the Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/14 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Sheffield City Council (non-parish areas)

Valuation Band

	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sheffield City Council	880.39	1,027.12	1,173.85	1,320.59	1,614.05	1,907.51	2,200.98	2,641.17
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,017.94	1,187.60	1,357.25	1,526.92	1,866.23	2,205.55	2,544.86	3,053.83

Bradfield Parish Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	880.39	1,027.12	1,173.85	1,320.59	1,614.05	1,907.51	2,200.98	2,641.17
Bradfield Parish Council	24.81	28.94	33.08	37.21	45.48	53.75	62.02	74.42
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,042.75	1,216.54	1,390.33	1,564.13	1,911.71	2,259.30	2,606.88	3,123.25

Ecclesfield Parish Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	880.39	1,027.12	1,173.85	1,320.59	1,614.05	1,907.51	2,200.98	2,641.17
Ecclesfield Parish Council	9.48	11.06	12.64	14.22	17.38	20.54	23.70	28.44
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,027.42	1,198.66	1,369.89	1,541.14	1,883.61	2,226.09	2,568.56	3,082.27

Stocksbridge Town Council

Valuation Band

Sheffield City Council	880.39	1,027.12	1,173.85	1,320.59	1,614.05	1,907.51	2,200.98	2,641.17
Stocksbridge Town Council	17.74	20.70	23.64	26.61	32.51	38.44	44.35	53.21

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,035.68	1,208.30	1,380.89	1,553.53	1,898.74	2,243.99	2,589.21	3,107.04

6. The Council's basic amount of Council Tax is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, therefore no referendum is required.

Council Tax Schedule 2013/14	<u>Band A</u>	<u>Band B</u>	<u>Band C</u>	<u>Band D</u>	<u>Band E</u>	<u>Band F</u>	<u>Band G</u>	<u>Band H</u>
Sheffield City Council	880.39	1,027.12	1,173.85	1,320.59	1,614.05	1,907.51	2,200.98	2,641.17
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Total charge for non-parish areas of Sheffield	1,017.94	1,187.60	1,357.25	1,526.92	1,866.23	2,205.55	2,544.86	3,053.83
Bradfield Parish Council	1,042.75	1,216.54	1,390.33	1,564.13	1,911.71	2,259.30	2,606.88	3,128.25
Ecclesfield Parish Council	1,027.42	1,198.66	1,369.89	1,541.14	1,883.61	2,226.09	2,568.56	3,082.27
Stocksbridge Town Council	1,035.68	1,208.30	1,380.89	1,553.53	1,898.74	2,243.99	2,589.21	3,107.04

Parish Council Precepts

Parish Council	2012-13			2013-14			Council Tax Increase
	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	
Bradfield	6,031.65	224.112	37.1560	6,023.58	224.112	37.2058	0.13%
Ecclesfield	10,292.25	142,545	13.8497	10,217.10	145,310	14.2222	2.69%
Stocksbridge	4,114.47	102,982	25.0292	4,063.11	108,131	26.6129	6.33%
Total/average	20,438.37	469,639	22.9783	20,303.79	477,553	23.5204	2.36%

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

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

RESOLVED: That this Council:

- (1) regrets that after years of investment in front line services in Sheffield, overseen by the previous Government, this City is now facing an ideologically driven attack on public services by the present Government;
- (2) confirms that in the past two years the Council has had to contend with devastating Government cuts and has had to make savings of £140 million;
- (3) expresses its anger and dismay that the Council's budget position 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;

- (4) confirms that in the financial year 2013/14 the Council will have to make savings of around £50 million and continues to oppose the Government's unfair cuts to Sheffield;
- (5) is disappointed that the main opposition group continue to fully support the cuts that the Government are imposing on Sheffield and that the Liberal Democrat Party nationally continue to be part of a Conservative-led Government which are making unprecedented ideological cuts to public services;
- (6) regrets that the Government's cuts are unfairly targeted, impacting most heavily on the areas with the highest levels of deprivation whilst some of the wealthiest areas of the country are receiving a substantially lower cut;
- (7) notes that research showing the level of cuts per person in each different local authority areas are as follows:
- | | | |
|--------|------------------------|-----------|
| (i) | Sheffield | -£198.47 |
| (ii) | Doncaster | - £208.63 |
| (iii) | Barnsley | -£168.07 |
| (iv) | Newcastle upon Tyne | -£217.96 |
| (v) | Manchester | -£284.34 |
| (vi) | Richmond-upon-Thames | -£39.21 |
| (vii) | Wokingham | -£26.53 |
| (viii) | Windsor and Maidenhead | -£34.46 |
| (ix) | East Dorset | -£34.24 |
| (x) | North Dorset | -£28.10 |
- (8) Is particularly disappointed that the Deputy Prime Minister has completely failed to stand up for Sheffield and continues to allow Sheffield and northern towns and cities to receive such a disproportionate level of cuts;
- (9) notes that unfortunately many other Councils are also facing significant reductions in services and this is reflected in the letters written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by all Core City leaders explaining the impact that the cuts will have on their cities;
- (10) regrets that despite the concerns raised by city leaders, the Government have pressed ahead with an unprecedented level of cuts in the Local Government Finance Settlement despite warnings about the impact it will have on Council services in Sheffield and across the core cities;
- (11) further regrets that in the 2012 Autumn Statement the Government extended the period of austerity to 2017/18 and believes this is as a result of their economic failure and mismanagement;
- (12) is particularly concerned that at the same time as public services are being heavily cut and the Government are cutting Council Tax Benefit which

- impacts on the poorest in the City, the Government think it is appropriate to reduce the top rate of income tax;
- (13) thanks all members of staff across the Council who have contributed to achieving a balanced budget for 2013/14, in this extremely challenging financial climate;
 - (14) notes that as a result of budget cuts there could be up to 600 Council posts affected during the financial year 2013/14, including job roles that could be lost through voluntary severance or voluntary early retirement as well as any vacancies that have not been filled;
 - (15) expresses sincere and heartfelt sympathy to those members of staff who are losing their jobs through compulsory redundancy and regrets that the Government's cuts agenda has made compulsory redundancies unavoidable;
 - (16) notes that the Council workforce has had to contend with real-term pay reductions over the past three years and notes that pay increments have been frozen since pre-April 2011;
 - (17) welcomes the commitment of the present Administration to support the lowest paid members of staff through the introduction of the Living Wage;
 - (18) thanks the whole of the Council's workforce for continuing to work hard to serve Sheffield during extremely difficult circumstances and continues to value the hard work and public sector ethos of Council staff;
 - (19) regrets that this is in stark contrast to the approach of the Government and Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government who continue to denigrate local government in an attempt to justify their attack on public services;
 - (20) regrets that this approach has been replicated by the Deputy Prime Minister and Main Opposition Group in recent weeks who have continued to make factually inaccurate statements about Council spending in a desperate attempt to denigrate the Council and deflect attention from their responsibility for the unprecedented level of cuts faced by the Council;
 - (21) welcomes that the present Administration continue to find ways to improve efficiency within the Council and limit as far as possible the impact that cuts have on front line services;
 - (22) believes this is demonstrated by the present Administration delivering on their pledge to reduce spending on senior management by £1 million and believes that this action has helped to protect front line services;
 - (23) confirms that the present Administration will go further and commits to saving a further £500,000 from management posts within the next year;
 - (24) regrets that due to the level of cuts the Council is facing no area of the

- Council's budget can remain untouched;
- (25) confirms that the present Administration have prioritised protecting the most vulnerable in our society as far as possible;
 - (26) is extremely concerned at the impact that the Government's economic mismanagement is having on the people of Sheffield and welcomes the present Administration's commitment to the Sheffield Apprenticeship Programme and the wide programme of work it is undertaking to support employment and jobs in the City;
 - (27) welcomes that the present Administration continue to stand up for Sheffield, support and protect communities, focus on jobs and make the City business friendly;
 - (28) welcomes the report of the Fairness Commission and the present Administration's commitment to fairness;
 - (29) acknowledges the challenges presented by the Fairness Commission in making Sheffield fairer and further welcomes the commitment of the present Administration to work with partners across the City to achieve this;
 - (30) instructs the Executive Director, Resources to implement the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme 2013/14;
 - (31) approves those specific projects included in the 2012/13 to 2016/17 Capital Programme at Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17 now submitted, with block allocations being included within the Programme for noting at this stage and detailed proposals will be brought back for separate Member approval as part of the monthly monitoring procedures;
 - (32) notes the Capital Programme for the 5 years to 2016/17 as per Appendix 10 of the report on the Capital Programme;
 - (33) approves the proposals at paragraph 18 of the report on the Capital Programme to address the current funding gap on Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and notes that progress will be monitored and reported to Members as part of the normal budget monitoring process;
 - (34) approves the allocations from the Corporate Resource Pool and the policy outlined in Appendix 4 such that the commitment from the CRP is limited to one year and no CRP supported schemes are approved beyond 2013 -14, and if substantial capital receipts are realised within 2012-13 or 2013-14 a further report will be brought to Members as part of the monthly approval process;
 - (35) approves the proposal at paragraph 33 of the report on the Capital Programme to incorporate all capital receipts arising from non charitable covenanted Parks into the CRP;

- (36) after noting the joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director, Resources now submitted on the Revenue Budget 2013/14, approves and adopts a net Revenue Budget for 2013/14 amounting to £477.426m, as set out in Appendix 3 of that report, as follows:-

Summary Revenue Budget

Original Budget 2012/13 £000		Original Budget 2013/14 £000
---------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------

Portfolio Budgets:

67,224	Children Young People and Families	81,274
156,574	Communities	160,883
102,855	Place	101,960
10,620	Deputy Chief Executive	8,741
<u>58,036</u>	Resources	<u>57,985</u>
395,309	Total Portfolio budgets	410,843

Corporate Budgets:

Specific Grants

-4,931	Council Tax Freeze Grant	-1,642
-7,280	NHS Funding	-9,683
-741	Learning Disability and	0
-26,525	PFI Grant	-40,724
-3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	-4,479

Corporate Items

13,000	Redundancy Provision	9,000
1,000	Pension Costs	1,000
3,829	Digital Region	1,229
500	Carbon Reduction Commitment	1,000
-500	Review of Management Costs	-500
-950	Improved debt collection	-450
0	Public Health Savings	-3,400
0	Keep Sheffield Working Fund	400
0	Contingency - Adults Social Care Pressures	3,000
0	Payment to Parish Councils	82
0	Living Wage	160
3,375	New Homes Bonus (LGF)	6,642
0	Fairness Commission	1,000
-108	Other	1,742
36,977	ITA Levy	34,694
36,686	Capital Financing costs	38,237
24,667	MSF capital financing costs	35,275
-7,415	Contribution from Reserves	-6,000

463,518

Total Expenditure

477,426

Financing of Net Expenditure

-5,053	Revenue Support Grant	-190,105
-260,679	NNDR/Business Rates Income	-95,265
0	Business Rates Top Up Grant	-27,800
-197,267	Council Tax income	-164,256
-519	Collection fund surplus	0

-463,518

Total Financing

-477,426

- (37) approves a Band D equivalent Council Tax of £1,282.75 for City Council services, i.e. at the same level as 2012/13;
- (38) approves the Revenue Budget allocations and Budget Implementation Plans for each of the services, as set out in Appendix 2 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (39) notes the latest 2012/13 budget monitoring position;
- (40) approves the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategies set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report and the recommendations contained therein;
- (41) approves the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement set out in Appendix 7 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (42) agrees that authority be delegated to the Director of Finance to undertake Treasury Management activity, to create and amend appropriate Treasury Management Practice Statements and to report on the operation of Treasury Management activity on the terms set out in these documents;
- (43) agrees that interim authority to spend the Public Health ring-fenced grant be delegated to the Director of Public Health and Executive Directors, subject to a further report to the Cabinet in April 2013;
- (44) approves a Pay Policy for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix 8 of the Revenue Budget report;
- (45) agrees that the Members' Allowances Scheme approved by the Council on 3rd March, 2010 for 2010/11, and implemented for 2011/12 and 2012/13, be also implemented for 2013/14, pending a review of the Scheme being submitted to the Council's Annual General Meeting on 15th May, 2013;
- (46) gives approval for the Council Tax Discount in respect of dwellings that are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished, approved by the Council on 6th February 2013 to be amended so that its reads;

“Empty unfurnished

In respect of a dwelling that falls within the class of dwellings described in regulation 7, of the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwelling) (England) Regulations 2003, that the empty dwelling discount shall apply at 10% for the

6 month period commencing on the date that the dwelling fell within the class. After the 6 month period has expired, the empty dwelling discount shall not apply in respect of the dwelling.

When considering whether a dwelling has been unoccupied for any period, any one period, not exceeding six weeks, during which it was occupied shall be disregarded.”

- (47) notes that, based on the estimated expenditure level of £477.426m set out in Appendix 3 of the Revenue Budget report, the amounts shown in part B below would be calculated by the City Council for the year 2013/14, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (48) notes the precepts issued by local parish councils which add £477,553 to the calculation of the budget requirement in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (49) notes the information on the precepts issued by the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the South Yorkshire Fire and Civil Defence Authority, together with the impact of these on the overall amount of Council Tax to be charged in the City Council’s area;

CITY OF SHEFFIELD
CALCULATION OF RECOMMENDED COUNCIL TAX FOR 2013/14 REVENUE
BUDGET

1. It be noted that on 15th January 2013, the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2013/14
 - (a) for the whole Council area as:
128,050.05 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)); and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Appendix 6c.
2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2013/14 (excluding Parish precepts) is:
£ 164,255,587
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2013/14 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) **£ 1,468,420,140** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts

issued to it by Parish Councils.

- (b) £ **1,303,687,000** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £ **164,733,140** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31(A)(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
- (d) £ **1,286.4746** being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
- (e) £ **477,553** being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Appendix 6b).
- (f) £ **1,282.7452** being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

4. To note that the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire and the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.

5. That the Council, in accordance with the Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2013/14 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Sheffield City Council (non-parish areas)

Valuation Band

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	992.71	1,158.17	1,323.62	1,489.08	1,819.98	2,150.89	2,481.79	2,978.15

Bradfield Parish Council**Valuation Band**

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Bradfield Parish Council	24.81	28.94	33.08	37.21	45.48	53.75	62.02	74.42
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,017.52	1,187.11	1,356.70	1,526.29	1,865.46	2,204.64	2,543.81	3,052.57

Ecclesfield Parish Council**Valuation Band**

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Ecclesfield Parish Council	9.48	11.06	12.64	14.22	17.38	20.54	23.70	28.44
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,002.19	1,169.23	1,336.26	1,503.30	1,837.36	2,171.43	2,505.49	3,006.59

Stocksbridge Town Council**Valuation Band**

Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
Stocksbridge Town Council	17.74	20.70	23.64	26.61	32.51	38.44	44.35	53.21
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Aggregate of Council tax requirement	1,010.45	1,178.87	1,347.26	1,515.69	1,852.49	2,189.33	2,526.14	3,031.36

6. The Council's basic amount of Council Tax is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, therefore no referendum is required.

Council Tax Schedule 2013/14	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
Sheffield City Council	855.16	997.69	1,140.22	1,282.75	1,567.80	1,852.85	2,137.91	2,565.49
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority	42.52	49.61	56.69	63.78	77.95	92.13	106.30	127.56
Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire	95.03	110.87	126.71	142.55	174.23	205.91	237.58	285.10
Total charge for non-parish areas of Sheffield	992.71	1,158.17	1,323.62	1,489.08	1,819.98	2,150.89	2,481.79	2,978.15
Bradfield Parish Council	1,017.52	1,187.11	1,356.70	1,526.70	1,865.46	2,204.64	2,543.81	3,052.27
Ecclesfield Parish Council	1,002.19	1,169.23	1,336.26	1,503.30	1,837.36	2,171.43	2,505.49	3,006.59
Stocksbridge Town Council	1,010.45	1,178.87	1,347.26	1,515.69	1,842.49	2,189.33	2,526.14	3,031.36

Parish Council Precepts

Parish Council	2012-13			2013-14			Council Tax Increase
	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	Tax Base	Precepts (£)	Council Tax Band D (£)	
Bradfield	6,031.65	224.112	37.1560	6,023.58	224.112	37.2058	0.13%
Ecclesfield	10,292.25	142,545	13.8497	10,217.10	145,310	14.2222	2.69%
Stocksbridge	4,114.47	102,982	25.0292	4,063.11	108,131	26.6129	6.33%
Total/average	20,438.37	469,639	22.9783	20,303.79	477,553	23.5204	2.36%

(Note: Councillor Philip Wood abstained from voting on the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
3rd APRIL, 2013

At its meeting on 27th February 2013, the Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director, Place seeking Cabinet's approval of the Council's final version of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map.

The Cabinet minute, including the recommendation required to be approved by the Council, is set out below:-

SHEFFIELD LOCAL PLAN (FORMERLY SHEFFIELD DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK) : PRE-SUBMISSION VERSION OF CITY POLICIES AND SITES DOCUMENT AND PROPOSALS MAP

11.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report seeking Cabinet's approval of the Council's final version of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map.

11.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) endorses the current version of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map for publication;
- (b) refers this report and the documents to the next (non-budget) meeting of the full Council for approval for publication, invitation of formal representations and submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government; and
- (c) authorises the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Business Skills and Development to take all necessary procedural steps following the formal representations to enable the schedule of any changes to the document and Proposals Map to be submitted to the Secretary of State.

(NOTE: A copy of the report of the Executive Director, Place, has been circulated to all Members of the City Council with the Council Summons.)

John Mothersole
Chief Executive



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Cabinet Report

Report of: Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

Date: 27 February 2013

Subject: Sheffield Local Plan (formerly Sheffield Development Framework): Pre-Submission Version of City Policies and Sites Document and Proposals Map

Author of Report: Peter Rainford (273 5897)

Summary: Members are asked to approve the final version of the Sheffield Local Plan's City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map. These include revisions following two consultations, including that on additional housing sites. Changes proposed introduce additional flexibility reflecting continuing economic challenges and the Government's priority to increase the delivery of new homes.

Reasons for Recommendations:

The document and map help to implement the adopted Core Strategy and to meet statutory and national policy requirements. They take account of previous consultation and have been subject to sustainability appraisal and equality impact assessment. They are needed to guide the process of development management and to update the current Unitary Development Plan policies, adopted 14 years ago.

Recommendations: That Cabinet:

1. Endorses the current version of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map for publication
 2. Refers this report and the documents to the next meeting of the full Council for approval for publication, invitation of formal representations and submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
 3. Authorises the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Business Skills and Development to take all necessary procedural steps following the formal representations to enable the schedule of any changes to the document and Proposals Map to be submitted to the Secretary of State.
-

Background Papers: City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES Section 9 Cleared by: Anna Sanderson
Legal Implications
YES Section 10 Cleared by: Nadine Wynter
Equality of Opportunity Implications
YES Section 11 Cleared by: Ian Oldershaw
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
YES Section 12
Human rights Implications
NO: Section 13
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES Section 14
Economic impact
YES Section 15
Community safety implications
YES Section 16
Human resources implications
YES Section 17
Property implications
YES Section 18
Area(s) affected
Whole city excluding area within the Peak District National Park
Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Leader
Leigh Bramall
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Economic and Environmental Wellbeing
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
YES
Press release
YES

27 FEBRUARY 2013

SHEFFIELD LOCAL PLAN (FORMERLY SHEFFIELD DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK):
PRE-SUBMISSION VERSION OF CITY POLICIES AND SITES DOCUMENT AND
PROPOSALS MAP

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks Cabinet's approval of the Council's final version of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map. These are statutory documents subject to a process set out in legislation. This means they would become subject to a six-week period of representations from stakeholders and other members of the public before being submitted to Government for public examination into their soundness. The report sets the latest version in the context of previous work and consultations, explains the steps required for statutory adoption and outlines implications for Council policy.

2 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE?

- 2.1 The new policies and map will guide decisions by the Council and its partners about new development and other changes in land use. They will help to make sure that new developments cater for the needs of all in the city and respect the environment and the needs of future generations. They will help to provide necessary development and to protect and improve people's home environments, the places where they work and visit, and the ways in which they travel. They will take forward improvements that have already been happening and deal with more recent issues that have arisen.
- 2.2 The new Map proposes areas (known as policy areas) with different principal land uses and mixes of associated minor uses. It also allocates specific sites where particular kinds of development will be required. These area-based proposals will have a strong influence on the character and role of every part of the city, both in areas of change or in more stable neighbourhoods. Land will be made available in the right areas for a wide range of needs and conflicts between contrasting land users will be kept to a minimum. This will support initiatives to attract investment and infrastructure to the city. The Plan puts transformation and sustainability at its heart to help create opportunities for future economic growth and local communities that work well, and all this in a sustainable way.
- 2.3 The proposed allocations include some greenfield housing sites that were consulted on last year. One of the Government's key priorities is to increase the delivery of new homes and this land is needed to help meet the long-term need for new homes when the market recovers. But the proposals do not involve any changes to the Green Belt and over 90% of the housing land continues to be through the re-use of sites that have previously been developed. To fully meet all long-term needs we will need to take a more strategic look at the options but this will be something for an early review of the Local Plan as a whole.

3 OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 The proposed policies are needed to guide the content of planning briefs and decisions about planning applications (including, for example, through the work of the Sustainable Development and Design Panel). The intention is that they should help to achieve the objectives and policy outcomes already set out in the Council's adopted Local Plan (Sheffield Development Framework) Core Strategy. These place transformation and sustainability at their heart. All proposed policies and site allocations have themselves been appraised for sustainability. The documents, if adopted, will therefore make a very significant contribution to sustainable development in the city.

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Sheffield Local Plan comprises the renamed Sheffield Development Framework and is a statutory responsibility of the Council. The change in name is needed to conform with the new National Planning Policy Framework, issued in March 2012. The Plan is the City's primary land-use and place-shaping strategy. It covers all of the city except for the areas in the Peak Park, which the Peak Park authority is responsible for planning. It already includes the Core Strategy, which sets out the planning vision for Sheffield, spatial policies (dealing with what is proposed to happen where and how it will be delivered) and other policies dealing with key issues (particularly concerning environmental sustainability). The Core Strategy was subject to public examination by a Planning Inspector and was formally adopted by the Council in March 2009.
- 4.2 The Core Strategy did not cover all the matters needed in the development plan. The second document, now presented to Cabinet, contains additional policies to implement Core Strategy objectives through development management and defines the Core Strategy's broad spatial policies using boundaries on the Ordnance Survey base of the Proposals Map.
- 4.3 The new document and map have been through a long process of preparation and consultation. The last main period of consultation was in 2010 but further work was put back to allow an additional stage of consultation on Additional Sites for housing. The Government has made it clear that local authorities should be able to demonstrate a five-year supply of 'deliverable' housing (in addition to allocations over the rest of the period up to 2026). This means that the land has to be suitable and available but, crucially, development there also has to be achievable in economic terms. Achievability of development has been greatly affected by changed market conditions and it is necessary to help compensate for the resulting loss of deliverable housing sites. The opportunity has also been taken to make changes arising from the new National Planning Policy Framework.

5 THE POLICIES

- 5.1 As the policies flow from the Core Strategy and help to implement it, they are presented under the same headings as in the Core Strategy. The new document is not the place to amend the objectives and policies of the Core Strategy, which necessarily constrain the scope for alternative options in the subsequent document and map. More radical alternatives will need to be explored when the whole Local

Plan comes up for review. As the Core Strategy is already nearly four years old this should begin as soon as work on the present documents is complete.

5.2 For ease of reference, the text for each policy in the document has four main sections:

- Introduction, showing how the policy flows from 'higher-order' policy and why it is needed
- The policy statement itself, with definitions where needed
- Reasons for the content of the policy as proposed
- Explanation of how it will be delivered

5.3 The scope of the policies and changes proposed following the last consultation are outlined in Annex A to this report. Changes have been proposed to:

- Reflect the new policies of the National Planning Policy Framework and the proposed revoking of the Regional Spatial Strategy
- Update in the light of other changes in the planning process, particularly the provisions for the Community Infrastructure Levy
- Reduce overlap with national standards
- Deal with issues previously omitted
- Provide more flexibility where the draft criteria were too demanding for developers in the current challenging economic climate
- Allow more detailed requirements to be set out in supplementary non-statutory policies
- Reflect other new evidence
- Define meanings more clearly
- Condense and combine policies where appropriate.

5.4 Many of the changes are in direct response to comments made by consultees, to whom we offer our thanks. Whilst there are always issues where agreement cannot be reached, needing recourse to the process of public examination, we think that the revised policies go a long way to addressing concerns raised.

5.5 The policies can be found in chapters 2-10 of the City Policies and Sites document.

6 POLICY AREAS AND SITE ALLOCATIONS

6.1 The policy areas and site allocations flow from the Core Strategy's policies about the spatial distribution of land uses and the functioning of specific places. These are shown, along with other designations, in the eight sheets of the Proposals Map, which is available for Members to consult in the Members' Library and can be accessed electronically at [Sheffield City Council - City Policies and Sites](#)

6.2 There is always a tension in plans between the needs for certainty and flexibility. A degree of certainty is necessary to inform decisions about infrastructure, land purchase and property investment and to enable public confidence about the future of their neighbourhoods. But it is also necessary to adapt to changes in markets and provide for development opportunities that could not have been foreseen, especially when it would help bring investment to regeneration areas. So, trade-offs have to be made between certainty and flexibility.

- 6.3 An important way in which the plan creates certainty is by allocating specific sites where a specific land use or uses are required. This helps to ensure that there is enough land to meet the city's requirements, particularly for housing and employment. However, considerable flexibility is allowed through the designation of policy areas that cover the whole city, where certain uses are *preferred* (still giving a measure of certainty) but a wide range of other uses is still *acceptable*. Some uses are not mentioned in the policies so they can be considered on their merits whilst others are identified as unacceptable in principle if they would conflict with the preferred uses. So, for example, in Housing Areas, housing is preferred and should be dominant, small-scale shops and business development would be acceptable but industrial development would be unacceptable (see policy H1).
- 6.4 Since the previous consultation on these policy areas we have concluded that the amount of flexibility needed to be increased to reflect the continuing uncertainties in the economy. So, for example, the Priority Office Areas, with their high proposed concentrations of offices, have been reduced in area and the minimum required percentage of offices has been reduced. In Business Areas the preference for offices has been deleted, making a wider range of non-industrial businesses equally acceptable and these more flexible areas are more extensive than previously proposed.
- 6.5 The policy areas and site allocations are explained more fully in the document in chapters 11 and 12. Full details of allocations in each of the Core Strategy Areas are set out in chapters 13-23.

7 ADDITIONAL HOUSING SITES

- 7.1 The economic downturn has seriously affected demand for building new homes on many of the sites where the Core Strategy envisaged and promoted development. Demand for high-density city living has fallen significantly and it is also likely to take longer to redevelop in the housing renewal areas. When the consultation draft document and map were prepared in 2010 it appeared that there would still be enough land to meet citywide requirements but this is no longer the case. Whilst recovery of demand might occur in the longer term it is not possible, for the present, to demonstrate how this capacity would be taken up. The difficult decision was, therefore, taken to carry out a further round of consultation in early 2011, principally on potential new greenfield sites.
- 7.2 The consultation on these sites revealed a high level of local opposition. People value the greenspace in their neighbourhoods and anxieties were also expressed about additional pressures on schools and health services, increased traffic and pollution and loss of features of ecological or heritage value. Many respondents were not convinced that the city's need for new homes could not be met on brownfield land.
- 7.3 If the proposed new sites are a step too far for local people it remains questionable whether they will be sufficient to meet the projected long-term requirement for new homes and there remains a significant shortfall in the five-year supply. This has been observed and commented on by the housebuilders. Nor would they enable us to meet the five-year housing requirement, which is the Government's key yardstick for the supply of local housing land. To meet the full requirement in the

current market would have required a review of strategic policy on open space and Green Belt, which was beyond the remit of the current document.

- 7.4 Where housing development is sustainable and consistent with the Core Strategy, national policy is clear about a presumption in favour. We have given careful consideration to the comments received relating to sustainability of the proposed sites and commissioned significant further survey work to check out questions raised. But, in most cases, there are not compelling grounds for arguing that development would not be sustainable. Development would sometimes need to be designed to incorporate features of value (e.g. conserving hedgerows) and densities should sometimes be reduced to lessen the impact on the character of an area (e.g. in a village setting). Some ecological concerns can be addressed by securing a proportion of a site as open space (e.g. as part of a Green Link).
- 7.5 The implications for community services such as schools and health facilities will be matters for the providers to respond to (e.g. by providing additional classrooms or opening new surgeries). The providers are not in a position to produce blueprints and we have received no advice that pressure on facilities would be sufficient grounds for not allocating land. However, the position will need to be reviewed over time, taking account of all the changes in demand that have occurred. So it would still be necessary to review the position as planning applications are submitted. This would take account of funding options including the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 7.6 In principle, an alternative remains, which is not to allocate. We are not recommending this because we need to ensure that there are enough homes for people living in the city. Whilst the current economic pressures are temporarily suppressing demand, this will return as the economy picks up and the housing market adapts. Planning strategy needs to take the long view. This accords with the Corporate Plan aim of having the right number of desirable homes in the right places to meet the future needs of residents. Even if we were minded to recommend the shorter-term view based only on current reduced market demand, we would be raising false expectations about our ability to safeguard these greenfield sites. The Government's presumption in favour of sustainable development, together with its ambition to increase levels of housebuilding, mean that where there is not a five-year supply the presumption will be to allow appeals into refusal of permission for housing, wherever they occur. This could lead to more sensitive sites than those proposed being at risk. In the current policy context, holding back sites where development would be sustainable could mean the plan being found unsound.
- 7.7 We are continuing to propose a two-stage process, which is, firstly, to put forward those additional housing sites that can be justified within the terms of current Core Strategy policy and, secondly, to follow this up with a review of the Core Strategy. We recognise that the first stage will not produce all the site capacity needed but we would be taking the action that is possible short of delaying everything until the Core Strategy can be reviewed. This stage would then be followed by the preparation of a revised Local Plan where more wide-ranging options for finding new housing land can be consulted on. These options should take account of new research into changes in nationally produced projections, assessment of local housing markets in the City Region, appraisals of the sustainability of additional site options and negotiations with neighbouring authorities.

7.8 We have prepared responses on all of the comments received and these are presented in schedules that we propose to publish on the Council's website. We have also published a range of ecological, archaeological and agricultural surveys undertaken following the consultation. A schedule is appended as Annex B, showing our assessment of individual sites.

8 THE NEXT STAGES

8.1 There have been three rounds of extensive consultation and the next stage is the last one. This involves publishing the final version of the document and Proposals Map and representations are invited. This stage is announced in the local press and copies of the documents are made available at First Points, libraries and housing offices across the city. Representations are made on a proforma that asks for comments on the *soundness* of the policies and proposals. To be sound, national policy states that they must be 'positively prepared', justified, effective and in accordance with national policy.

8.2 Although we have tried to address all the concerns that could require changes, there will be some where the Council and stakeholders will continue to disagree as to what is sound. In those cases where further changes would still be justified, they would be presented in a schedule and the published document and map together with the schedule are submitted to the Government for public examination by a Planning Inspector. The Inspector will make recommendations about what should be amended before the plan comes back to Cabinet and full Council for adoption. Although the recommendations will no longer be binding (as they were when the Core Strategy was produced) we would need very good reasons for not acting on them.

8.3 The timetable we are working to is:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Full Council | April 2013 |
| • Representations | Late April to early June 2013 |
| • Consideration of comments | June/ July 2013 |
| • Submission | August 2013 |
| • Public examination hearings | November/ December 2013 |
| • Inspector's report | April 2014 |
| • Adoption | August 2014 |

8.4 The precise timetable will depend on the scale and nature of the representations and how much requires examination in the public hearings.

9 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no new financial implications. Publication of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map and the representations stage have been budgeted for in 2012/13. It should be noted that expenditure will increase markedly in 2013/14, when the bulk of the Planning Inspectorate's charges for the public examination of the document would be incurred. This is being taken into account in budgeting for the next financial year and will be managed and met within the Service's settlement for the 2013/14.

10 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is required to prepare a Local Development Framework (now Local Plan) which forms the basis of planning for its area. The recommendations of this report contribute to meeting this requirement.
- 10.2 A formal resolution of the Council is also required in order to adopt the new policies and map referred to in this report.

11 EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The options that led to these policies have been subject to an equality appraisal and an Equality Impact Assessment. Attention is drawn to the following impacts:
- Policy C1 – housing within reasonable walking distance of local shops and facilities and public transport
 - Policy C2 – residential design that provides for disabled and older people
 - Policy D1 – access for disabled people at public buildings and places of work
 - Policy D2 – new open space including provision for children where there is a shortage
 - Policy D3 – affordable housing
 - Policy E2 – accessible parking for disabled people
 - Policy E3 – street design to provide for disabled people, older people, young people and people with young children
 - Policy G2 – opportunities sought to extend access to the Green Network for wheelchair use.
- 11.2 The representations process is set out in regulations but groups representing people who might otherwise be disadvantaged by planning and development will be informed of the opportunity to comment. Users requiring the document in large print, audio format, Braille or on disk will be given a contact address and phone number. Implications of the consultation processes have already been audited for the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (which sets out the Council's approach and standards to be achieved when consulting with the public on planning matters).

12 HEALTH INEQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 The policies contribute to reducing health inequalities by applying consistent standards across the city.
- Policy C1 includes health facilities in the list of community facilities that should be accessible from new housing
 - Policy D2 provides for new open space in areas of shortage
 - Policies E1, E2, E3 encourage walking and cycling
 - Policy F1 requires mitigation if large scale development would contribute to loss of air quality
 - Policies G2 and G3 encourage greening of the city through further green links and tree planting/ retention
 - Policy G6A protecting the countryside.

13 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The process for representations and adoption of the documents conforms to national law that takes due account of human rights.

14 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 The policies and proposals accord with the National Planning Policy Framework, which requires development to be sustainable and affirms the environmental dimension of sustainability. The policies also flow from the Core Strategy objectives and policies, which have been appraised for sustainability and further appraisal has been carried out of the options that led to the present policies. Some critical policies for sustainable development and design already appear in the Core Strategy but attention is drawn to the following that are proposed for the new document:

- Policy A1 – infrastructure priorities contributing to sustainable transport, reduced carbon emissions and area resilience
- Policies A2, B3, C1 – location of development contributing to reducing the distances people need to travel
- Policy E1 – promoting sustainable ways of travel to new developments
- Policy E2 – helping to manage demand for the use of private cars
- Policy E3 – requiring street design to contribute to sustainable drainage and reduced carbon emissions
- Policy F1 – avoiding harmful effects of pollution
- Policy F2, G10 – providing for sustainable management of waste
- Policies G1, G2, G3, G4 – promoting biodiversity and the natural environment.

- 14.2 The policy areas and site allocations all flow from the Core Strategy and further appraisal has been carried out of the allocations options to draw out any local impacts that could not be discerned at the more strategic scale. The policy areas were not subject to sustainability appraisal as it was concluded that little would be added to what had already been done for the spatial strategy and spatial policies of the Core Strategy.

- 14.3 A report on the sustainability appraisal will be published with the consultation draft of the policies and comments on this will be invited.

15 ECONOMIC IMPACT

- 15.1 The policies support the Core Strategy themes of Economic Prosperity and Sustainable Employment and of Serving the City Region:

- Policy A1 indicates regeneration, release of employment land and maximising benefits from scarce resources among the factors for prioritising spending of Community Infrastructure Levy
- Policy A2 ensures that sensitive uses do not hinder employment uses in areas where employment should have priority
- Policy B1 supports economic regeneration with its design strategy for the City Centre

- Policy B2 supports the economic strengthening of the City Centre's Primary Shopping Area
- Policy B3 gives priority to the viability and regeneration of existing centres, including the City Centre.

15.2 The policies avoid placing undue additional burdens on businesses in the form of conditions. High quality and sustainable design may carry some costs but the policies (e.g. policy B1) recognise the different circumstances in different areas. The sustainable design criteria accord with national guidelines and the Council has already shown itself to be realistic when there are viability concerns. The main additional sums paid by developers would be the Community Infrastructure Levy and, for housing developments, a contribution to affordable housing. The Community Infrastructure Levy (policy A1 but at a level still to be consulted on) would replace most negotiated Section 106 contributions and, for housing developments, the sum negotiated for affordable housing will continue to take account of the viability of the development (policy D3). Otherwise, developer contributions would normally be only those that are essential for their scheme to proceed.

16 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

16.1 Safety features frequently in the criteria for development:

- Policy C1 – pedestrian access from new housing to shops and services to be safe
- Policy D1 – safety is a requirement in securing access form disabled people in public buildings and workplaces
- Policy D2 – safety is a factor in the design of new open space
- Policy E1 – requires action where a development would have significant highway safety impacts and provision of safe travel in Travel Plans (see also F2)
- Policy E2 – safety of on-street parking is a consideration in any relaxation of upper limits on off-street provision
- Policy E3 – safety of users is required in the design of roads and streets
- Policy F1 – contaminated land to be made safe before development is permitted
- Policy G10 – contains a requirement for entrances and pedestrian routes to be well located, obvious and overlooked
- Policy G14 – safety considerations to influence design of advertisements.

17 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

17.1 The publication of the document and Proposals Map and the preparation of supporting reports and other evidence can be undertaken by staff on the current establishment though the peaking of work associated with the public examination may make it necessary to defer competing tasks. It is assumed that any major work on overall review of the Local Plan would come after publication and examination of the present documents.

18 PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 18.1 The development criteria, policy areas and allocations apply equally to the Council as to other public or private sector developer or property interests. Council property management intentions, like those of any other property owner, are relevant in the assessment of the deliverability of proposed allocations (which include Council-owned land) but the Council's property interests are not material considerations for determining planning policy.

19 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 19.1 Alternative options were fully considered and consulted on at the Emerging Options stage of the earlier City Policies and City Sites documents. The more strategic choices were largely determined by the Core Strategy and the choice with many of the policy criteria and allocations is whether to have them or not. However, there were alternative options for many of the criteria (e.g. a higher standard or a lower one than what is proposed) and choices about the required uses for allocation sites. These will be detailed in the Background Reports to be published in time for the representations, which will contain fuller evidence for the selection and rejection of options for policies and proposals.

20 CONCLUSIONS ON REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 20.1 The document and map help to implement the adopted Core Strategy and to meet statutory and national policy requirements. They take account of previous consultation and have been subject to sustainability appraisal and equality impact assessment. They are needed to guide the process of development management and to update the current Unitary Development Plan policies, adopted 14 years ago.

21 RECOMMENDATION

That Cabinet:

- 21.1 Endorses the current version of the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map for publication
- 21.2 Refers this report and the documents to the next (non-budget) meeting of the full Council for approval for publication, invitation of formal representations and submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
- 21.3 Authorises the Executive Director of Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Business Skills and Development to take all necessary procedural steps following the formal representations to enable the schedule of any changes to the document and Proposals Map to be submitted to the Secretary of State.

Simon Green
Executive Director, Place

February 2013

ANNEX A: SUMMARY OF POLICIES IN THE CITY POLICIES AND SITES DOCUMENT

1. This Annex provides a brief overview of the policies now proposed and some of the broad changes.
2. The **Introduction** sets the scene in the wider local plan but it has been extended to include wording recommended by the Planning Inspectorate to demonstrate conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework.
3. The theme of **Economic Prosperity and Sustainable Development** is well covered in the Core Strategy spatial policies and the new document proposes only two further policies under this heading:

A1 Infrastructure Requirements and Developer Contributions. This policy sets the broad priorities for funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy (considered by Cabinet on 12 December). It has been amended to state the main criteria for prioritising.

A2 Requirements for Economic Prosperity and Sustainable Employment. This policy picks up two outstanding matters, which are making sure that sensitive uses are not allowed where they would constrain businesses, and providing for local people who experience the impacts of new businesses also have access to the benefits. The definitions are revised to take a broader view of what is meant by local.

4. The policies for **Serving the City Region** deal with aspects of the City Centre that are relevant to making it a more attractive and more effective core city destination:

B1 City Centre Design. This policy gives a steer on the balancing of economic and design quality requirements in the City Centre quarters, drawing on the guidance of the Urban Design Compendium. Changes are relatively detailed and by way of updating and clarity.

B2 Development in the Central Shopping Areas and Cultural Hub. This policy states criteria for implementing the Core Strategy vision for the City Centre. Changes include a sequential preference for shops in the Primary Shopping Area, identification of a broader Central Shopping Area to include adjoining retail areas such as The Moor, and locations for units selling bulky goods. There is some relaxation of restrictions on the proportion of non-retail uses on ground-floor frontages outside the Primary Shopping Area.

B3 Retail and Leisure Development outside Existing Centres. This policy (formerly C5) identifies specific local requirements not covered in national policy on out-of-centre provision. It had also prescribed a specific five-yearly ceiling on any margins of additional retail development at Meadowhall. Although it is accepted that the quantitative evidence is lacking to define the precise margin for any new retail development, the Council remains firmly committed to the position adopted in the Core Strategy, of keeping the centre at its present size to promote confidence in the regeneration of the City Centre.

5. The theme of **Attractive and Sustainable Neighbourhoods** includes not only housing but also services for local communities.

C1 Access to Local Services and Community Facilities in New Residential Developments. This seeks to ensure that a range of shops and services are within reasonable walking distance of people's homes and is modified to deal with accessibility to public transport, previously covered in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

C2 Residential Design. This deals with aspects of design distinctive to housing uses, including inclusiveness and integration of different house types. Various wording improvements are proposed and the requirement for wheelchair housing is maintained at 25% of all developments of 4 or more dwellings (as in the Unitary Development Plan), rather than increasing it to 30% of dwellings as had been proposed in the previous draft.

C3 Safeguarding Sensitive Uses from Nuisance. This addresses the tension where developing housing in sustainable locations increases the risk of noise or disturbance – the policy requires mitigation of harm to living conditions. But it now leaves the precise timing of late-night opening to be determined in supplementary guidance.

C4 Development in District and Neighbourhood Centres. This supports Core Strategy policies, dealing with pressures to replace shops by uses that could undermine the vitality and viability of centres or cause disturbance to neighbouring communities. It now gives equal weight to shops and community facilities as core functions in these centres.

6. The chapter on **Opportunities and Well-Being for All** takes up three issues under this heading in the Core Strategy.

D1 Inclusive Design in Public Buildings and Places of Work. The previous policy addressed a range of access needs but the revised version focuses on requirements for disabled people at public sites and workplaces. The previous version also aimed to safeguard facilities for community use but it was concluded that planning controls could not prevent closures in the absence of other initiatives.

D2 Open Space in New Housing Developments. This identifies where open space would be expected as a part of new housing schemes. The requirement has been relaxed to apply to only housing developments of 4 or more hectares recognising practical problems with providing open space on smaller sites and that funding for greenspace from the new Community Infrastructure Levy will be more limited in view of other priorities. (Provision of soft landscaping is covered in policy G10 – see below).

D3 Delivering Affordable Housing. This policy completes the provision for affordable housing in the Core Strategy (policy CS40), retaining a target of 40% of units to be affordable, though it is recognised that this cannot be attained under present economic circumstances. But, in the most viable

locations, it is expected that this will still be achievable as well as the CIL payment in higher value areas over at least some of the period covered by the policy.

7. **Movement and Sustainable Transport** are intrinsic themes of the spatial strategy and policies in the Core Strategy but these policies need to be complemented by criteria for development management.

E1 Development and Trip Generation. This policy provides guiding principles for travel plans and transport assessments to ensure that developments contribute significantly to sustainable travel. It now omits the statement about development not being permitted on trip generation grounds as this is now covered by the National Planning Policy Framework, which indicates refusal would be appropriate only if cumulative impacts were severe.

E2 Parking. The statutory documents need to include standards to support the Core Strategy policies for managing the demand to travel – these are expressed in terms of maximum levels of parking and are complemented by provision for disabled people. Provision is now made for a higher level of off-street parking than originally proposed for businesses outside the City Centre and for housing areas where there are safety or operational reasons.

E3 Design for Roads and Movement. This wide-ranging policy shows how design and travel needs can be integrated. It has been reduced in length to give it more focus.

8. The theme of **Global Environment and Natural Resources** is of such importance that the Core Strategy Inspector required the transfer of the relevant development management policies from the present document to the Core Strategy. In particular, the statutory policies relating to climate change and flood risk no longer appear here and users are referred to Core Strategy policies CS64 and CS65 on sustainable design and CS67 on managing flood risk. This leaves relatively little to be covered in the present chapter, which now includes just three policies.

F1 Pollution Control. This ensures that account is taken of existing or resulting pollution of air, land or water. Amendments deal with the cumulative impacts of development on air quality and the effects of light pollution.

F2 Requirements for Waste Management. This policy reflects the potential impact of such developments for their surroundings and proposes appropriate safeguards. No significant changes have been made.

F3 Safeguarding Mineral Reserves. This policy has been added at the request of the Coal Authority to encourage extraction of any coal reserves before a site is developed to prevent them from being sterilised. This would be conditional on no unacceptable environmental impacts.

9. The chapter on the **Green Environment** deals with features of Sheffield's 'green city' character.

G1 Safeguarding and Enhancing Biodiversity and Features of Geological Importance. This policy promotes biodiversity as a feature of all aspects of development and safeguards areas of particular ecological and geological value. Changes are relatively minor.

G2 The Green Network. This safeguards and promotes the network of green space throughout the city (and shown on the Proposals Map) – this promotes biodiversity, health, leisure and sustainable transport objectives. The policy is little changed.

G3 Trees, Woodland and the South Yorkshire Forest. Trees and woodland play a special part in Sheffield's 'green' character and this policy would protect existing trees and promote planting. Changes have been made to better reflect the South Yorkshire Forest Plan.

G4 Water in the Landscape. With its deep valleys, water is a distinctive feature of the Sheffield landscape but a resource that needs to be managed in view of the risk of flooding – this policy brings together guidance to deal with both issues. Changes are mainly matters of rewording.

10. **Character and Heritage** was a major aspect of the Design Principles policy in the Core Strategy (CS74) and the principles are developed into more specific criteria to guide development.

G5 Development and Area Character. Specific aspects of the character of areas are identified that need to be reflected in the design of development. Changes are mainly to improve wording.

G6A Development in Countryside Areas including the Green Belt. This policy complements national policy for Green Belt and deals with related countryside areas not so designated, by setting out local conditions for any development that is, exceptionally, allowed. The former policy G6 was subdivided into G6A and G6B to enable more specific coverage of landscape character and G6A reflects the new national policy context. Reference is no longer made to existing 'Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt' because the National Planning Policy Framework now sets out criteria for assessing development proposals on previously developed sites in the Green Belt.

G6B Landscape Character. This new policy requires development in the city's cherished countryside areas to reflect the range of distinct landscape characteristics around Sheffield.

G7 Development affecting Features of Heritage Value. This provides more specific guidance about the areas, buildings and archaeological heritage that merit particular protection. It now incorporates the **former policy G9** protecting the city's distinctive historic parks and gardens

11. The chapter on **Areas that Look Good and Work Well** takes up the general design themes that do not contribute primarily to one of the specific themes in previous chapters. Taken together, the design policies in the document will contribute to Building for Life principles that are informing the physical

regeneration of neighbourhoods. It develops the second part of the Core Strategy policy on Design Principles (CS74).

G10 Design Quality. This sets out specific design requirements needed to deliver the more general Core Strategy objectives. The proposed changes are mainly ones of detail but the policy now incorporates the issue of public art (**formerly policy G12**) emphasising it as an integral part of design in major developments.

G11 Tall Buildings. This follows from the Core Strategy policy on Tall Buildings (CS76), providing criteria for their design. But it now indicates the prevailing context in each Quarter of the City Centre in terms of a range of building heights rather than specifying single thresholds.

G13 Shop Front Design. This policy provides guidance that will affect locations that are particularly important in terms of the character and image of their area. Additional detail is now proposed to inform consideration of planning applications.

G14 Advertisements. This sets out conditions to ensure that advertisements do not disfigure their location – like shop fronts, they can have a major impact and detract from the design quality of buildings. Changes are mainly matters of detail.

ANNEX B: ASSESSMENT OF ADDITIONAL HOUSING SITE OPTIONS

Additional Sites Ref	Site Name	Officer Recommendation	Total Site Area (Ha)	Original Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Revised Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Notes
	North Community Assembly					
P00502	Wiggan Farm, Towngate Road, Worrall	Allocate for Housing	1.77	55	40	Reduce estimated site capacity to reflect irregular shape of site and local concerns about over development. Lower density required to reflect character of area.
P00503	Former Sports Ground, Greaves Lane, Stannington	Allocate for Housing and Open Space	1.46	20	20	Half of site to be improved as public open space.
P00505 (now part of P00521)	Platts Lane/ Oughtibridge Lane, Oughtibridge	Allocate for Housing	1.26	40	40	Development conditional on provision of a brideway bridge over the railway to improve accessibility to public transport and local services. Site to be combined with two adjacent proposed housing sites to form one large allocation.
P00506	Hawthorn Avenue/ Coppice Close, Stocksbridge	Allocate for Housing	1.72	50	50	Cost of drainage infrastructure likely to make development unviable until at least late in the plan period. Ecology survey has required a condition to protect New Hall Wood by requiring a 15m buffer between the woodland and built development.
P00507	Worrall Hall Farm, Kirk Edge Road/ Top Road, Worrall	Allocate for Housing	0.84	25	15	Reduce estimated site capacity to reflect irregular shape of site and local concerns about over-development and impact on character.
	East Community Assembly					
P00500	Infield Lane, Darnall	Allocate for Housing	1.58	80	80	Number of dwellings reflects recent planning application for housing

Additional Sites Ref	Site Name	Officer Recommendation	Total Site Area (Ha)	Original Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Revised Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Notes
P00508	Former Sports Ground, Bawtry Road, Tinsley	Retain as Open Space	3.50	95	0	There is a shortage of informal open space in the area and it has not been shown that the site is deliverable for housing due to multiple land ownership (there are 63 separate owners through a land banking company but only 16 responded to the consultation). Parts of the site are ecologically important and currently subject to flooding.
P00501	Foley Street/ Levenson Street, Attercliffe	Allocate for Industry	0.85	0	0	Brownfield site and uncontroversial.
P00131	Darnall Works, Darnall Road, Darnall	Allocate for Flexible Use (mix of Housing and Employment uses)	6.48	100	100	Informal planning and development guidance to be prepared show at least 2.48 ha for housing. Brownfield site and uncontroversial.
P00498	Central Community Assembly Herries Road, Owlerton	Allocate for Business and Industry	0.55	0	0	Brownfield site and uncontroversial.
P00516	Gilders Car Showroom, Middlewood Road, Middlewood	Allocate for Housing	1.30	80	80	Site has planning permission for 80 townhouses. Potential interest in developing part of the site for retail but the overriding need for housing means a housing allocation is more appropriate.
P00499	South Community Assembly Area Dairy Distribution Centre, Hemsworth Road, Norton	Allocate for Housing	0.60	15	10	Some of the existing buildings are archaeologically important and should be retained. The Community Assembly have nominated this site for the local list.
P00511	Former SHU Playing Fields, Hemsworth Road, Norton	Allocate for Housing and Open Space	4.01	40	40	Development conditional on re-instatement of 2.67ha as recreational open space of an appropriate standard - there is interest from a local cricket club. Other funding sources might also be required.

Additional Sites Ref	Site Name	Officer Recommendation	Total Site Area (Ha)	Original Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Revised Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Notes
P00512	Norton Lane, Norton Oakes, Norton	Designate as Housing and Open Space Areas	1.53	30	0	In response to comments, the Council carried out ecological assessments but the owners have now advised that the site is no longer surplus to their requirements. The western part of the site should be retained as open space to maintain the Green Link and the central hedgerow. The eastern part should be designated as Housing Area to indicate the preferred use should it become surplus at a later date.
P00518	Former Abbeydale Grange School, Abbeydale Road	Allocate for Housing	2.44	90	90	The school has been demolished and there is a vacant site. This site will be included in the Planning Brief for the Bannerdale Centre, which will be consulted on. This would indicate the layout and density of the development. Development and safeguard features of ecological value.
P00525	Bannerdale Centre and adjacent land, Carter Knowle Road	Allocate for Housing and Open Space	14.89	80	80	The Bannerdale Centre is still in use and due to close from 2014. A Planning Brief comprising this site and the former Abbeydale Grange School will be subject to consultation and define the final location of development. Conditions on the allocation should determine the developable area, secure the playing pitches and safeguard features of ecological or heritage value.
	South East Community Assembly Area					
P00367	Beighton Road, Woodhouse	Allocate for Housing	3.02	90	90	Previously proposed as a site for a vocational centre in 2010 City Policies and Sites document. Public access to the Shirebrook Valley will be retained and hedgerows and trees incorporated within the development where possible.
P00509	Junction Road, Woodhouse	Allocate for Housing and Open Space	2.00	60	40	The proposed site area is reduced and the area needing protection for ecological reasons and to provide the Green Link is proposed for designation as an Open Space Area.

Additional Sites Ref	Site Name	Officer Recommendation	Total Site Area (Ha)	Original Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Revised Estimated Dwelling Capacity	Notes
P00510	Woodhouse East	Allocate for Housing and Open Space	10.5	220	220	Minimum of 3.1 hectares of this farmland area should be retained as open space in order to maintain the countryside setting and safeguard areas of tree planting and environmental improvements by local community.
P00495	Holbrook Rise, Holbrook	Allocate for Business and Industry	0.45	0	0	Brownfield site and uncontroversial.
	South West Community Assembly Area					
P00496	Hadfield Service Reservoir, off Glebe Road/ Blakeney Road, Crookes	Do not allocate for Housing but retain in Housing Policy Area	1.26	40	0	Site is no longer available during plan period though it could come forward as a 'windfall' if owners change their plans.
P00497	Lydgate Reservoir, Evelyn Road, Crookes	Do not allocate for Housing but retain in Housing Policy Area	0.65	20	0	Evidence is not yet available to confirm that the site would be available during the plan period. Could be put back in after representations stage if the landowner produces evidence of availability or it could come forward as a 'windfall' if they change their plans after that.
P00517	Canterbury Crescent, Fulwood	Allocate for Housing	0.70	15	15	The allocation would be subject to conditions regarding safeguarding of ecological interest, e.g. mitigation measures if required to safeguard any protected species visiting the site.

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
3rd APRIL, 2013

At its meeting on 20th March 2013, the Cabinet received a report of the Chief Executive, which contained proposals for the establishment of a Sheffield City Region Authority which would 'combine' or bring together the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) powers and strategic economic development powers in order to align political decision making around strategic Economic Development and Transport.

The Cabinet minute, including the recommendation required to be approved by the Council, is set out below:-

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION AUTHORITY

- 8.1 The Chief Executive submitted a report referring to proposals to establish a Sheffield City Region Combined Authority (the SCR Authority) which would combine or bring together the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) powers and strategic economic development powers in order to align political decision making around strategic Economic Development and Transport.
- 8.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet recommends to the City Council at its meeting on 3rd April, 2013 that it :-
- (a) endorses the findings of the Governance Review document referred to in Appendix 1, specifically that, establishing a SCR Authority would improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to economic development, regeneration and transport in the SCR leading to an enhancement of the economic conditions and performance of the SCR;
 - (b) endorses the submission to Government of a Scheme for the establishment of a Sheffield City Region Combined Authority on the basis of the draft annexed at Appendix 2 (the Scheme);
 - (c) agrees that the City Council will formally become a constituent member of the SCR Authority, sharing appropriate economic development and transport powers with the SCR Authority, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (LDEDCA) and the Local Transport Act 2008(LTA); and
 - (d) authorises the Director of Legal and Governance to agree the terms of and enter into any documentation required to enable the City Council to become a constituent member of the SCR Authority.

(NOTE: A copy of the Chief Executive's report has been circulated to all Members of the City Council with the Council Summons.)

John Mothersole
Chief Executive



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Full Council

Report of: Chief Executive

Date: 20th March 2013 (Cabinet)
3rd April 2013 (Full Council)

Subject: Sheffield City Region Authority

Author of Report: Laurie Brennan
Policy Officer
Policy, Partnerships and Research
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Summary:

The nine local authorities that make up the Sheffield City Region (SCR) have a long history of collaboration at a scale that reflects the natural economic geography of the region. Most recently, this collaboration has taken the form of the SCR Leaders Group and Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (SCR LEP).

The tangible benefits of this collaboration can now be seen in, for example, the SCR securing an advanced manufacturing and technology focussed Enterprise Zone (only one of seven with business rate relief and enhanced capital allowances); successfully negotiating a groundbreaking City Region Deal; making prudent investment decisions in relation to the Growing Places Fund; and securing £25 million from Round Three of the Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

Following a comprehensive “Governance Review”, SCR Leaders have concluded that this is the appropriate moment to deliver a step change in the governance of the city region.

In practical terms, this means establishing a SCR Combined Authority (referred to as the SCR Authority) which will ‘combine’ or bring together the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) powers and strategic economic development powers in order to align political decision making around strategic Economic Development and Transport. This is not a merger or takeover of Local Authorities but the creation of a statutory city region body specifically for making better, joint decisions about the economy and transport in the area.

Reasons for Recommendations:

Following the robust Governance Review commissioned by the Leaders of Sheffield City Region, it is recommended that Sheffield should agree to formally become a constituent member of a combined authority for Sheffield City Region ('SCR Authority') because of the significant opportunities presents to the city and the city region. These include:

- Establishing an economic area that is ready for growth, with Sheffield and the wider city region in the strongest possible position to compete economically both nationally and internationally;
- Emphasising Sheffield role as the engine of growth in a economically powerful city region;
- Creating a shared decision-making structure for the functioning economic geography of the city region where binding decisions can be made once by elected Leaders for the whole of the area;
- Uniting strategic economic and strategic transport decision-making, ensuring that such decisions provide maximum economic benefit for communities across Sheffield City Region (business growth and jobs);
- Delivering a dynamic SCR Authority which will lead the way
- Gaining and using influence by establishing a robust and accountable leadership structure, recognised by Government, which puts SCR at the front of the queue for access to future devolved powers and resources from Whitehall;
- Providing a statutory structure to deliver the existing City Deal and access future economic funding allocations, building on the recent allocation of the £25m RGF to SCR so that we don't miss out
- Maximise opportunities for groundbreaking inter-city region collaboration across the north of England with Manchester and Leeds City Regions (eg. over the devolution of the Northern Rail franchise);

Recommendations:

That Sheffield City Council:

- Endorses the findings of the Governance Review document (**Appendix 1**) (specifically that establishing a SCR Authority would improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to economic development, regeneration and transport in the SCR leading to an enhancement of the economic conditions and performance of the SCR).
- Endorses the submission to Government of a Scheme for the establishment of a Sheffield City Region Combined Authority on the basis of the draft annexed at (**Appendix 2**) (the Scheme)
- Agrees that Sheffield City Council will formerly become a constituent member of the SCR Authority, sharing appropriate economic development and transport powers with the SCR Authority, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (LDEDCA) and the Local Transport Act 2008.(LTA)

- Authorises the Director of Legal and Governance to agree the terms of and enter into any documentation required to enable Sheffield City Council to become a constituent member of the SCR Authority.
-

Background Papers:

DCLG (2010) *Economic prosperity boards and combined authorities: draft statutory guidance*
<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120919132719/http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/regeneration/pdf/1457197.pdf>

HMG (2011) *Unlocking growth in cities*,
http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files_dpm/resources/CO_Unlocking%20GrowthCities_acc.pdf

Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (especially Part 6)
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/20/contents>

Local Transport Act 2008 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/26/contents>

Sheffield City Region (2012) *MADE in Sheffield: a deal for growth (SCR's city deal)*,
http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files_dpm/resources/Sheffield-City-Deal-Final.pdf

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES Cleared by: Eugene Walker, Director of Finance
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by: Gill Duckworth, Assistant Director of Legal Services (Place)
Equality of Opportunity Implications
NO Cleared by: Michael Bowles, Head of Governance and Involvement
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
NO
Human rights Implications
NO:
Environmental and Sustainability implications
NO
Economic impact
YES
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
City of Sheffield
Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Leader
Cllr. Julie Dore
Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee if decision called in
Economic and Environmental Wellbeing
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
YES
Press release
YES

Sheffield City Region Authority

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The nine local authorities that make up the SCR have a long history of collaboration at a scale that reflects the natural economic geography of the region.
- 1.2 Following a comprehensive “Governance Review”, SCR Leaders have concluded that this is the appropriate moment to deliver a step change in the governance of the city region.
- 1.3 This report proposes that Sheffield City Council agrees to become a formal, constituent member of the SCR Authority under the provisions of the LDEDCA
- 1.4 A combined authority bring together (‘combines’) the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) powers and strategic economic development powers in order to align political decision making around strategic Economic Development and Transport. South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (SYITA) would be dissolved and its powers will pass to the SCR Authority.
- 1.5 The proposed SCR Authority will have nine members:
 - Sheffield City Council, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (South Yorkshire unitary councils)
 - Bassetlaw District Council, Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council.
 - Derbyshire Dales District Council will be a non-voting member of the SCR Authority
- 1.6 The SCR Authority will only be engaged in *strategic* economic development and transport decision making. This means functions at SCR-level relating to economic policy and strategy, skills, inward investment, investment decisions (Investment Fund) and decisions for other shared economic assets (Enterprise Zone).
- 1.7 The SCR Authority will only comprise elected members although private sector members may act in an advisory capacity to the board, and support with specific workstreams. To maintain the status of the SCR Authority being a “Leaders’ Board” – there will be a protocol that each member council appoint its Leader or elected Mayor to the SCR Authority.
- 1.8 No powers will be ceded to the SCR Authority; powers shall be *shared* (concurrently) with the SCR Authority but the development of the SCR Authority gives SCR an opportunity to access more devolved powers and resources from Whitehall.

2. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE?

- 2.1 For Sheffielders, the proposal for Sheffield City Council to be a formal constituent member of the SCR Authority will not have an immediate noticeable impact on how the City is governed or how services are delivered. Sheffield City Council will not lose any power to SCR Authority and therefore the services which the Council

commissions and delivers in Sheffield will be unchanged and Sheffield City Council will be the democratically elected, accountable institution for the city.

- 2.2 It means that Sheffield's democratically elected leadership will be responsible for making joint decisions alongside the leaders of the other eight local authorities in SCR for the best interests of the city region's economy.
- 2.3 Being part of the SCR Authority will ensure that Sheffield and the city region can compete nationally and globally. SCR Authority will bring a host of new opportunities for Sheffield and the city region, putting the area in control of powers, resources and decisions which are currently made in London by Central Government.
- 2.4 Through the city deal, we have already seen Government give additional power and funding over skills, transport and financial investment to SCR. Government has awarded SCR £25m from the RGF, recognising the strength and potential of the city region's economy.
- 2.5 The SCR Authority will take charge of decision making for transport in the area, enabling the combined authority to make better decisions about transport and the economy together.
- 2.6 Most importantly, the SCR Authority will put Sheffield in the best position to be successful, with democratically elected leaders working together to create jobs and create opportunities for businesses to grow across the SCR.

3. OUTCOME AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 The proposed governance model for the city region will provide a robust decision making model to improve the economic wellbeing of Sheffield as part of a stronger city region economy.
- 3.2 The proposed model is based on the city region's functioning economic area, enabling decisions to be taken jointly by democratically elected leaders in each of the nine local authorities to make SCR a leading, competitive part of the UK and international economy.
- 3.3 The proposed combined authority structure for decision making on city region issues provides a stable model for the long-term, putting SCR at the forefront of national and local government thinking and ensuring Sheffield, as a key part of SCR, is in the best position to access new powers and resources devolved from central Government.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The councils of the SCR have a long history of collaboration on a geographical scale which makes sense for the functioning economy of the area. SCR was recognised as part of the Northern Way¹ in 2004 and was formalised through the 'Sheffield City Region Development Forum' in 2006 which demonstrated the

¹ *Moving Forward: The Northern Way Growth Strategy*

commitment of the political leadership in the area to work closer together.

- 4.2 In 2011, the Government approved the creation of (SCR LEP) through which local authorities and private sector leaders from the city region provide the vision, knowledge and strategic leadership across functional economic area to drive sustainable private sector growth and job creation.
- 4.3 Since the establishment of the SCR LEP, the city region has already delivered a number of key achievements which are crucial for the success of SCR's economy:
- Enterprise Zone for advanced manufacturing and technology for new inward investment to grow the City Region economy business attracted by a range of incentives including business rate relief and enhanced capital allowances.
 - RGF Round 3 investing £25m investment will unlock over £100 million of direct business investment, leading to sustainable, private sector growth in the City Region.
 - Growing Places Fund (GPF) £18.5m has been allocated to SCR authorities for immediate short-term investment aimed at supporting transport and housing projects that deliver economic growth and create employment in the City Region, locally Markham Vale has been supported (£1.5m SCR, £2.5m D2N2).
 - Start up Loans for Young People pilot to provide small loans to 18 - 24 years old in the process of establishing a business, or have a business in its initial phase. The City Region has secured £500k for up to 200 loans an average of £2,500; however the final amount will be determined by the business plan.
- 4.4 In September 2012, SCR agreed a 'city deal' with Government which secured devolved powers and resources for the city region.² Along with the seven other Core Cities, Government agreed deals which decentralised greater control to the biggest cities in England (outside London), recognising the unique role those cities play in national economy and the greater impact those cities could make with more localised control over resources and decisions.
- SCR will also receive new financial powers as part of the Deal to strengthen the City Region's economic self-reliance, through a SCR Investment Fund (SCRIF). These packages will provide flexible financial tools to invest in growth, develop infrastructure, create jobs and stimulate inward investment. The Sheffield City Region Deal is predicated on the SCR formalising its governance.
- 4.5 Core Cities have long argued for cities to have greater decentralised power and resource in order to drive their local economies, arguments which are recognised by the city deals but more recently by Lord Heseltine³ in his review of economic growth in the UK and work by Professor Michael Parkinson into the economic success of 'second tier' cities in Europe⁴.

² Sheffield City Region (2012) *MADE in Sheffield: a deal for growth* (SCR's city deal),

http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files_dpm/resources/Sheffield-City-Deal-Final.pdf

³ BIS (2012) *No Stone Unturned in Pursuit of Growth* ('The Heseltine Review')

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/34648/12-1213-no-stone-untuned-in-pursuit-of-growth.pdf

⁴ Parkinson, M. et al (2012) *European Second Tier Cities in Austerity: Why Invest Beyond the Capital?*,

http://www.ljmu.ac.uk/EIUA/EIUA_Docs/Second_Tier_Cities.pdf

- 4.6 Sheffield City Region's deal includes:
- Devolution of £27.8m of national skills funding to deliver a demand-led skills system creating 4,000 new apprentices and 2,000 upskilled staff by 2016
 - Creation of a Sheffield City Region Investment Fund (SCRIF) which gives SCR the ability to invest in the key infrastructure projects which produce economic growth and create jobs
 - Devolved transport funding with long-term funding certainty for 10 years enabling the City Region to invest in the major transport schemes needed to connect people to jobs. This also included the development of UK's first 'Better Bus Area' for Sheffield and devolved bus funding (Bus Service Operator Grant) to support the new Bus Partnership Agreement.
- 4.7 Alongside the benefits delivered by the City Deal and collaboration at SCR level, the SCR governance structure is subject to increased local and national scrutiny. Recent developments have ensured that SCR is beginning to outgrow its existing governance structures and arrangements, which have been based on informal, voluntary partnerships without independent legal status.
- 4.8 To put SCR in the strongest possible position to deliver the existing city deal and obtain further devolved powers and resources from Whitehall, the SCR Leaders' Group agreed to undertake a statutory 'Governance Review' in accordance with the provisions of s.108 of the LDEDCA and the LTA⁵.

5. SHEFFIELD CITY REGION: GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- 5.1 The remit of the Governance Review, as commissioned by the SCR Leaders, was to:
- evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of existing governance arrangements for economic development, regeneration and transport across the SCR;
 - consider the options available for making changes to these governance structures and arrangements – such as leaving existing governance unchanged; strengthening or restructuring existing governance arrangements; establishing an 'Economic Prosperity Board' (EPB) (for strategic economic decisions alone); and establishing a Combined Authority;
 - recommend which option is likely to be most beneficial to the SCR
- 5.2 More specifically, the Governance Review considers whether the present governance arrangements in the city region are sufficient to meet the medium to long term ambitions (and the expected associated opportunities) of SCR
- 5.3 The Governance Review was been undertaken with SCR local authorities' legal expertise, support from Central Government (specifically the Department for Communities and Local Government) and reported directly to the SCR Leaders' Group. Leaders have had complete oversight of the process, with regular workshops and unanimous agreement of next steps at each stage of the process

⁵ Approved by Sheffield City Region Leaders' Group on 9th May 2012.

between July and December 2012.

- 5.4 The full Governance Review document is included in **Appendix 1** but to summarise, the Review concluded that establishing a SCR Authority would improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to economic development, regeneration and transport in the SCR, leading to an enhancement of the economic conditions and performance of the SCR. This conclusion is based on the key findings that:
- SCR is an ambitious City Region with **untapped economic potential** and robust plans for growth;
 - there is **the potential to strengthen SCR governance** both in term of the efficacy of decision making and in terms of transparency and accountability;
 - having considered the various options available (including the “do nothing” option) - establishing the SCR Authority is the option **most likely to deliver sustained economic and social benefits** to the SCR.
- 5.5 The SCR Leaders’ Group approved the findings of the Governance Review on 23rd January 2013 and the Review has undergone a period of local public consultation (closed 15th February 2013).
- 5.6 To deliver the proposed outcome of a combined authority for SCR, it is required that a ‘Scheme’ is developed as part of the Review which details the proposed area, membership, voting rights, executive arrangements, functions and funding of a combined authority. The ‘Scheme’ is the element which is used by the Secretary of State to create a Parliamentary Order and establish the legal basis for a combined authority. The ‘Scheme’ is included in **Appendix 2**.

6. A COMBINED AUTHORITY FOR SHEFFIELD CITY REGION

What is a combined authority?

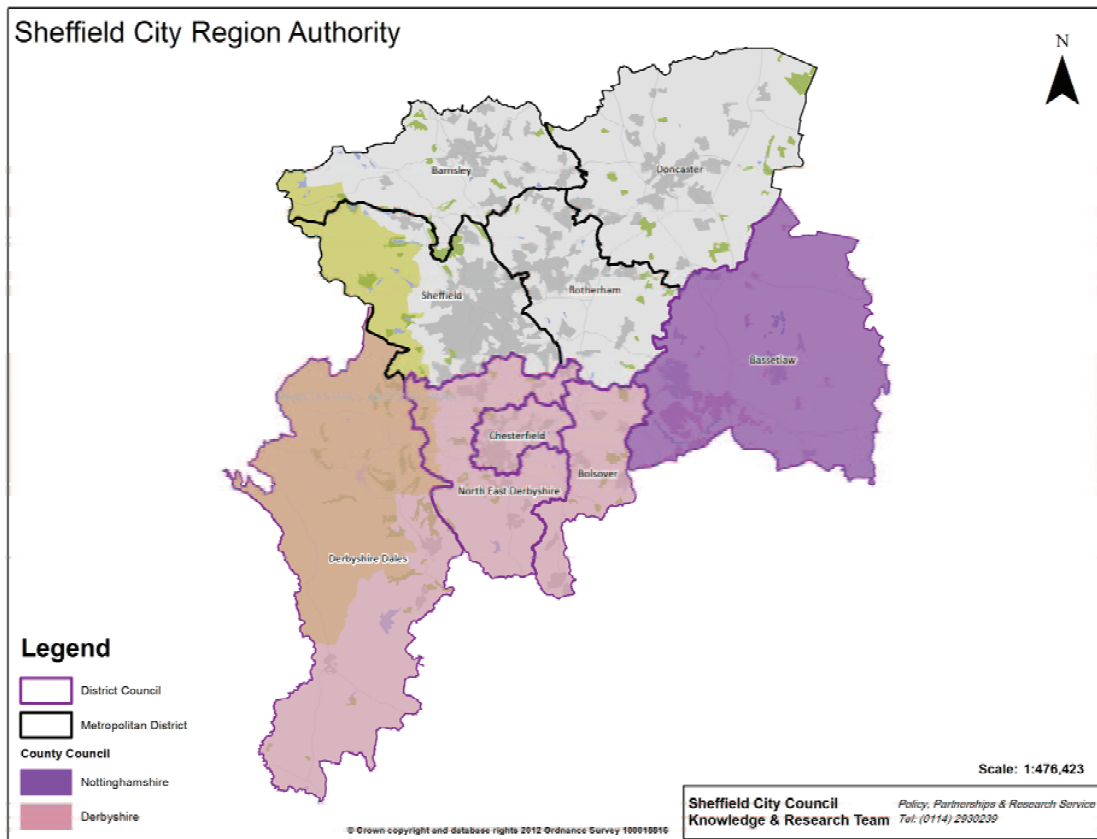
- 6.1 A combined authority brings together (‘combines’) the powers of two statutory bodies – the Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) and the Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) – thus uniting decision making for a single geography over *strategic* economic development and *strategic* transport.
- 6.2 Combined authorities were created by legislation passed by the previous Government in Part 6 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act (LDEDCA) 2009.⁶ Until now, only one such body has been in existence – the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA).

The proposed Sheffield City Region Authority

- 6.3 The proposed SCR Authority will have nine members – the four South Yorkshire local authorities plus Bassetlaw District Council, Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council. The voting rights of all members will be defined in the “Scheme” which accompanies this Governance Review document. Derbyshire Dales District Council will be a non-

⁶ HMG (2009) *Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009*
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/20/contents>

voting member of the SCR Authority.



6.4 In accordance with the findings of the Governance Review, the Leaders agreed that the proposed SCR Authority should be established on the following principles:

- **The SCR Authority will remain a lean, streamlined, and focussed decision making body** established to secure greater powers and funding from Government.
- **No powers will be ceded to the SCR Authority;** powers shall be *shared* with the SCR Authority.
- **The SCR Authority should be sustainable and flexible** to reflect new ways of working in the future for example adapt to accommodate the County Councils).
- **The SCR Authority will only comprise elected members** although private sector members may act in an advisory capacity to the board, and support with specific workstreams. A protocol will be established that each member council will appoint its Leader or elected Mayor to the SCR Authority.
- **The SCR Authority will only be engaged in strategic Economic Development and Transport.** This means functions at SCR-level relating to economic policy and strategy, skills, inward investment, investment decisions (Investment Fund) and decisions for other shared economic assets (Enterprise Zone).
- The SCR Authority will **reflect the full geography of the SCR** within the constraints of current legislation.

7 SHEFFIELD CITY REGION AUTHORITY

Powers

- 7.1 The remit of the SCR Authority will be **strategic economic development and transport**.

SCR Leaders have made clear that the SCR Authority should remain a lean, focused decision making body – with responsibility over a small number of strategic issues - where it is mutually beneficial for local authorities to work together (and engage the private sector). The economic responsibilities of the SCR Authority are:

- Setting City Region Economic Strategies
- Setting the investment strategy for the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund
- Making decisions with regard to the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund
- Making decision in relation to the uplift from Enterprise Zone business rates
- Setting the SCR for Growth Strategy
- Co-ordinated inward investment activity

- 7.2 The SCR Authority will have the benefit of **wellbeing powers** which are specifically reserved to Combined Authorities by the LDEDCA together with a range of incidental powers.

- 7.4 These are equivalent to the former powers of wellbeing provided to local authorities which have now been replaced with the General Power of Competence by the Localism Act 2011. These will provide broad powers to address economic development issues.

- 7.5 In the creating of a combined authority for the city region, all powers and functions of South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority will pass to the SCR Authority. The SCR Authority will then be responsible for carrying out those functions.

- 7.6 The SCR Authority will not have any specific powers over planning. However, using general economic development powers, the SCR Authority may decide to agree a SCR spatial strategy which may be relevant to local planning frameworks.

- 7.7 The SCR Authority will not be able to make decisions on issues which are solely matters for individual local authorities (eg. local planning decisions, local education issues, waste collection etc). The focus of the SCR Authority is on economic and transport matters which are of importance to the City Region as a whole.

- 7.8 The Scheme provides for the SCRA and the constituent councils to enter into joint arrangements for the discharge of specified transport functions which will include the establishment of a Joint Committee to be called '*Transport for Sheffield City Region Board*'.

This will be the **only body with decision making powers formally delegated from the SCR Authority**.

All other sub-boards will act in an advisory capacity only (including the SCR LEP).

- 7.9 The SCR Authority will assume the same powers that the ITA has at present,

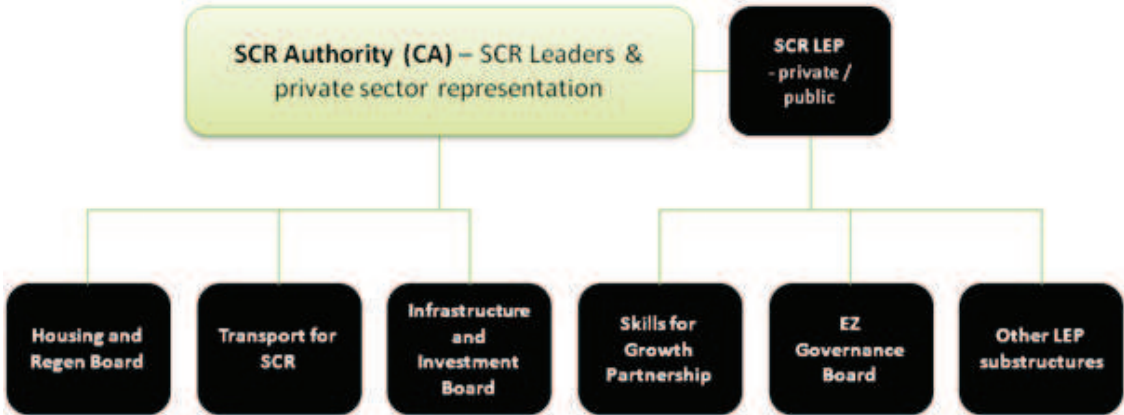
including being the levying authority. It is envisaged that the new Transport for Sheffield City Region Board will carry out many of the ITA's functions with the SCR Authority being responsible for overall transport strategy and setting the transport budget.

- 7.9 The SCR Authority shall have an executive transport body, *Transport for Sheffield City Region Executive (TfSCRE)* to exercise its transport functions and support Transport for Sheffield City Region Board.

Working arrangements

- 7.10 SCR Leaders have also made clear that **no local authority powers will be given away or “ceded” to the SCR authority** and that the CA will consist of only Elected Members working together for the benefit of local residents. .
- 7.10 The Scheme, makes reference to the importance of the SCR LEP and states that the intention is for the SCR LEP to be a lead advisory body to the SCR Authority
- 7.11 So far as is possible, the SCR Authority will **reflect the full geography of SCR**. However, due to legislative restrictions, there are some functions which for legal and practical reasons, must continue to operate on a South Yorkshire basis.
- 7.12 Matters of the SCR Authority will be decided by a **simple majority vote**. Some matters (e.g. the ITA levy) will be determined only by South Yorkshire members of the Combined Authority due to legislative restrictions and the location of transport responsibilities in two-tier areas.
- 7.15 The proposed structure of SCR-level decision making with the SCR Authority in place is summarised in figure 2 below:

Fig 2 – Proposed governance structures with the SCR Authority in place



8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 The SCR Leaders considered the range of different options available as part of the Governance Review (see p13 of **Appendix 1**) and concluded that the Combined Authority model was the only solution which addressed the challenges and put SCR in a position to access new opportunities. Other options are considered below:

8.2 **Do nothing**

Failure to strengthen SCR governance will compromise the medium to long-term ambitions of the area and therefore be detrimental to the future economic performance of the city region. Specifically, failure to formalise SCR's governance will mean that the city region will not be able access ~£10 million of devolved transport funding per annum or manage ~£29 million of devolved skills funding agreed as part of our City Region Deal. The "do nothing" option would also be a missed opportunity to better align decision making around strategic economic development, transport and regeneration.

8.3 **Informal restructure**

Like Manchester City Region prior to the development of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, it was felt that SCR is already stretching the boundaries of which can be achieved through an informal non-statutory partnership. Under this model, Leaders would still have to re-agree decisions at a local level – a process which is cumbersome and sometimes unclear. A legal, corporate body will allow the SCR to make a shared binding decision once, rather than one decision nine times.

8.4 **Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) only**

Whilst this option would give SCR a statutory city region level board for economic decision-making, the model does not involve the incorporation of transport, thus preventing Sheffield City Region from achieving accessing the overwhelming benefits of aligning decision making in relation to strategic economic development and transport under one strategic body.

9. **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 Following the robust Governance Review commissioned by the Leaders of Sheffield City Region, it is recommended that Sheffield should agree to formally become a constituent member of a combined authority for Sheffield City Region ('SCR Authority') because of the significant opportunities presents to the city and the City Region. These include:

- Establishing an economic area that is ready for growth, with Sheffield and the wider city region in the strongest possible position to compete economically both nationally and internationally;
- Emphasising Sheffield role as the engine of growth in a economically powerful city region;
- Creating a shared decision-making structure for the functioning economic geography of the city region where binding decisions can be made once by elected Leaders for the whole of the area;
- Uniting strategic economic and strategic transport decision-making, ensuring that such decisions provide maximum economic benefit for communities across Sheffield City Region (business growth and jobs);
- Delivering a dynamic Sheffield City Region Authority which will lead the way
- Gaining and using influence by establishing a robust and accountable leadership structure, recognised by Government, which puts Sheffield City

- Providing a statutory structure to deliver the existing City Deal and access future economic funding allocations, building on the recent allocation of the £25m Regional Growth Fund to SCR so that we don't miss out
- Maximise opportunities for groundbreaking inter-city region collaboration across the north of England with Manchester and Leeds City Regions (eg. over the devolution of the Northern Rail franchise);

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That Sheffield City Council:

- Endorses the findings of the Governance Review document (**Appendix 1**) (specifically that establishing a SCR Authority would improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to economic development, regeneration and transport in the SCR leading to an enhancement of the economic conditions and performance of the SCR).
- Endorses the submission to Government of the Scheme for the SCR Authority
- Agrees that Sheffield City Council will formerly become a constituent member of the SCR Authority, sharing appropriate economic development and transport powers with the SCR Authority, in accordance with the provisions of the LDEDCA and the LTA
- Authorises the Director of Legal and Governance to agree the final form of the Scheme, the terms of any additional legal documentation required and to enter into any such documentation to enable Sheffield City Council to become a constituent member of the SCR Authority

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, the costs of the CA that are reasonably attributable to the exercise of its functions relating to economic development and regeneration (and any start-up costs) shall be met by the constituent and non-constituent councils. Such costs shall be apportioned between the nine councils on a per capita basis.

11.2 Therefore, any future apportioned costs will be the subject of a separate decision.

12. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12.1 Section 103, LDEDCA authorises the Secretary of State by order, to establish as a body corporate a combined authority for an area that meets the specified conditions.

The SCR Authorities considered there to be a need to strengthen governance arrangements at a regional level and therefore agreed to support a governance review under s.108 of the LDEDCA. The SCR Leaders considered the outcome of the review and agreed to establish a Combined Authority.

A Combined Authority, introduced by the LDEDCA is a distinct legal entity which

assumes the functions of the ITA within its area and shares key local authority functions relating to Economic Development.

The Local Authorities will share powers with the SCR Authority rather than delegate, therefore Sheffield City Council will retain all of its existing functions and powers.

- 12.2 The SCR Authority will have the benefit of well being powers which are specifically reserved to Combined Authorities by the LDEDCA together with a range of incidental powers. These are equivalent to the former powers of well being provided to local authorities which have now been replaced with the General Power of Competence by the Localism Act 2011. These will provide broad powers to address economic development issues.

The wellbeing power granted to the SCR Authority may be limited in its application to the area of the constituent Authorities, therefore the Scheme document (**Appendix 2**) asks the Secretary of State to approve the delegation of the General Power of Competence to the SCR Authority to ensure its powers are wide enough to accommodate the whole of the City region area.

- 12.3 The SCR Authority shall exercise any function of the Secretary of State delegated to the SCR Authority by the Order of the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 86 Local Transport Act 2008 and Section 104(1)(b), LDEDCA. Such functions shall be exercised subject to any condition imposed by the Order.

- 12.4 In addition to the above, the SCR Authority will have the following specific powers exercisable concurrently with the constituent and non-constituent councils.

- The power under section 144 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the power to encourage visitors and provide conference and other facilities)
- The duties under sections 15ZA, 15ZB, 15ZC, 17A, 18A(1)(b), 514A and 560A of the Education Act 1996 and the power under sections 514A and 560A of that Act (duties and powers related to the provision of education and training for persons over compulsory school age)
- The duty under section 4(1) Local Government Act 2000 (duty to prepare a strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area and contributing the achievement of sustainable development in the UK) and the power under section 4(2) of the Local Government Act 2000 (power to modify their sustainable communities strategy)
- The General Power of Competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011

- 12.5 The powers will be supplemented by operating protocols agreed locally by the SCR Authority and the Councils. These will include:

- That members of the SCR Authority will not act in a way that directly contradicts a decision made by the SCR Authority
- That the Member appointed by each Local Authority will be the Leader or Mayor of that Council

The Scheme also provides for the Council's to choose to delegate additional functions at a later date. These will be Executive functions and therefore will be a decision of the Executive of each Council to delegate any further powers to the SCR Authority.

13. ECONOMIC IMPACT

- 13.1 The chief rationale for establishing the Sheffield City Region Authority is to advance the economic opportunities and ambitions of Sheffield and wider city region. Not only will the Sheffield City Region Authority unite strategic decision making on the economy and transport, it will create a robust governance structure which is primed to receive new powers and resources from central Government, giving elected politicians from SCR greater control over the levers which drive growth.
- 13.2 Through the SCR Authority, elected Leaders will make streamlined investment decisions which are focused on producing the greatest impact on economic growth (GVA) and job creation in the city region. The SCR Authority will provide clear, accountable leadership for the City Region's economy, championing SCR as a place to invest and do business.

1.

Part 1

The Governance Review

1. About this document

- 1.1. This document has been prepared by the Sheffield City Region Executive Team, on behalf of the local authorities that form the Sheffield City Region (SCR). This document details the findings of the governance review that has been undertaken under Section 108 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (LDEDCA)¹ and Section 82 of the Local Transport Act 2008.
- 1.2. Section 108 of LDEDCA provides that relevant authorities may undertake a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of transport within the area covered by the review and of the effectiveness and efficiency of arrangements to promote economic development and regeneration within the area covered by the review.
- 1.3. This review may recommend that a new legal body should be established if the creation of one of these bodies would be likely to improve:
 - the exercise of statutory functions relating to economic development, regeneration and transport in the area i.e. the SCR;
 - (for combined authorities) the effectiveness and efficiency of transport in the area;
 - and the economic conditions in the area.
- 1.4. This document is issued for consultation to all stakeholders including proposed members of the Combined Authority (henceforth called the “SCR Authority”); the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (SYITA); neighbouring authorities; the Local Enterprise Partnership and neighbouring LEPs; Sheffield City Region MPs; other City Region public bodies; the Chambers of Commerce; the Company of Cutlers and other private sector bodies; regulatory bodies; third sector bodies as well as all relevant government departments.
- 1.5. This document is issued as part of an iterative process of consultation. The findings of this governance review and the ‘scheme’ for the SCR Authority (included in Part 2 of this document) will be considered at a Full Council meeting of each of the constituent local authorities in March or April 2013. Following this, the Department for Communities and Local Government will launch a further consultation exercise between March and June 2013.

¹ See draft statutory guidance <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/regeneration/pdf/1457197.pdf>

- 1.6. Comments on this document should be made, in writing, no later than 31st March 2013 to:

David Hewitt
Sheffield City Region Executive Team

AMP Technology Centre
Advanced Manufacturing Park
Brunel Way
Rotherham, S60 5TZ

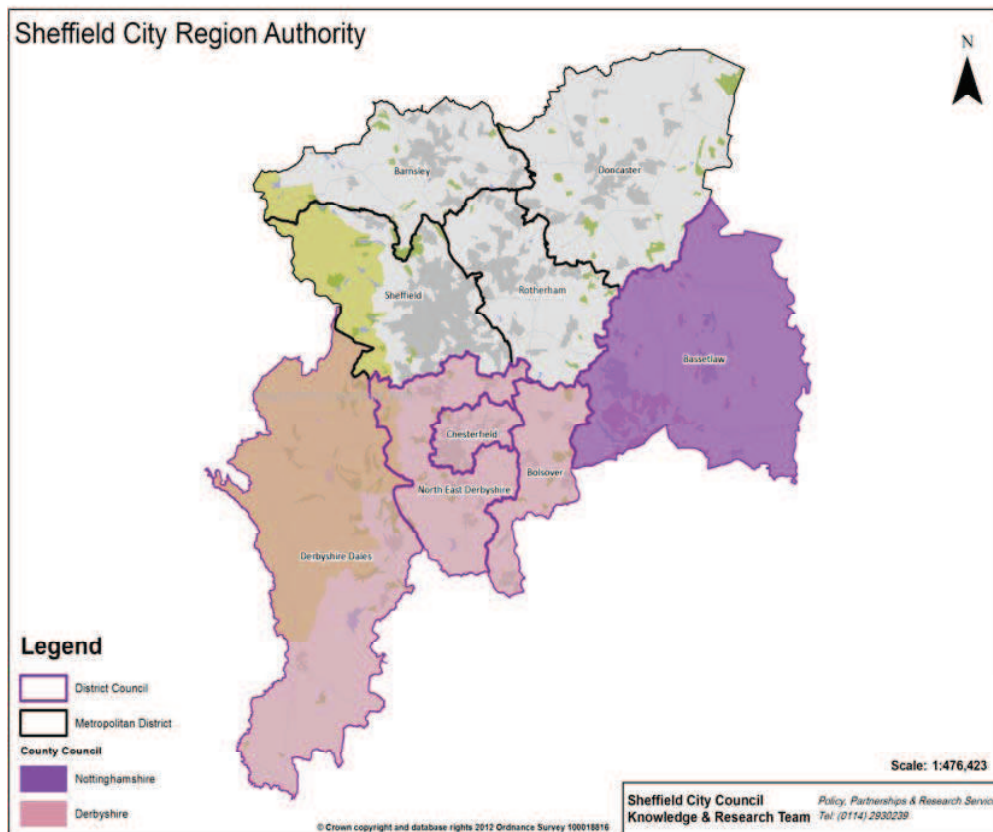
Telephone: 0114 2541335

Email: david.hewitt@sheffieldcityregion.org.uk

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1. The nine local authorities that make up the Sheffield City Region (SCR) have a long history of collaboration at a scale that reflects the natural economic geography of the region (see *figure 1*). The original impetus for this collaboration was the Northern Way agenda, which was designed to unlock the potential for faster economic growth and to bridge the £30 billion output gap between the North and the rest of the United Kingdom.
- 2.2. This collaboration was formalised through the SCR Forum and, most recently, has taken the form of the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (SCR LEP) and SCR Leaders Group. The tangible benefits of this collaboration can now be seen in, for example, the SCR securing an advanced manufacturing and technology focussed Enterprise Zone (only one of seven with business rate relief and enhanced capital allowances), successfully negotiating a City Region Deal and making prudent investment decisions in relation to the Growing Places Fund.

Figure 1 – the Sheffield City Region



- 2.3. Whilst increased coordination and collaboration is undoubtedly a “good thing”, leading to tangible benefits for all partners, it has led to the governance structures of the SCR being subject to increased local and national scrutiny. There is a general consensus that the SCR is beginning to outgrow its existing governance structures and arrangements – which have always been based on informal, voluntary partnerships without any independent legal status. Accordingly, SCR Leaders have recognised that the time is right to take SCR governance to the “next level” (i.e. from informal collaboration to joint decision making) and “put into legislation that which we [the SCR] have been doing by consent for some time”.²
- 2.4. To this end, it was agreed at the SCR Leaders’ Group on 9th May and the SCR LEP Board on the 10th May 2012 that the SCR should undertake a Governance Review under s.108 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (LDEDCA) and under the 2008 Transport Act. In accordance with statutory guidance³ the purpose of this Governance Review has been to:
- evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of existing governance arrangements for economic development, regeneration and transport across the SCR;
 - consider the options available for making changes to these governance structures and arrangements – such as leaving existing governance unchanged, strengthening or restructuring existing governance arrangements, establishing an Economic Prosperity Board (EPB), and establishing a Combined Authority;
 - recommend which option is likely to be most beneficial to the SCR.
- 2.5. The SCR Governance Review has been undertaken in the context of an evolving (and overwhelmingly productive) relationship between the SCR and Government. Accordingly, the question for the SCR governance review has not just been “are SCR governance arrangements sufficient today?” – rather – “will SCR governance structures and arrangements be sufficient to deliver the SCR’s medium to long-term ambitions?”
- 2.6. This document sets out the conclusions of the SCR Governance Review – most notably the headline conclusion that establishing a SCR Combined Authority (the “SCR Authority”) **would improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to economic development, regeneration and transport in the SCR leading to an enhancement of the economic conditions and performance of the SCR.**
- 3. This conclusion is based on three key findings explored in the remainder of this document**

² SCR Governance Review Workshop 1 - 20th July 2012

³ <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/regeneration/pdf/1457197.pdf>

- 3.1. The rationale for the SCR Authority is based on **three key findings** of the SCR Governance Review:
- the SCR is an ambitious City Region with **untapped economic potential** and robust plans for growth;
 - there is **the potential to strengthen SCR governance** both in term of the efficacy of decision making and in terms of transparency and accountability;
 - having considered the various options available (including the “do nothing” option) - establishing the SCR Authority is the option **most likely to deliver sustained economic and social benefits** to the SCR.
- 3.2. Specific detail relating to the SCR Authority including: the area it will cover; its membership; voting and any executive arrangements; it’s functions and the way in which it will be funded will be set out in the ‘scheme’ included in Part 2 of this document. As detailed in the scheme, the recommendation of the SCR Governance Review is that the SCR Authority should be established according to the following principles:
- The SCR Authority should be **lean, streamlined and focussed**. The purpose of the CA will be to provide strong, stable governance and support the SCR to fulfil its huge potential. The delivery of this vision will be facilitated by attracting new powers, duties and funding to the SCR.
 - In addition to this, the CA will be a mechanism by which the SCR is able to formalise areas where there is already effective collaboration (e.g. skills and inward investment). **Decisions on these matters will be made in one place, by elected Leaders** who are responsible for strategic direction and underwriting any risks.
 - The SCR Authority will, so far as is practicable, reflect the functional economic area or “real economy” of the Sheffield City Region although, technically, the *area* of the SCR Authority will be South Yorkshire.⁴ This is the optimal deliverable solution for the SCR.
 - The SCR Authority will have nine members – the four South Yorkshire local authorities plus Bassetlaw District Council, Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council. The voting rights of all members will be defined in the “scheme” which accompanies this Governance Review document. Derbyshire Dales District Council will be a non-voting member of the SCR Authority.

⁴ Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Sheffield City Council.

- Although only elected Leaders will have voting rights on the SCR Authority – an active role for the private sector will be maintained (including through the private sector-led SCR LEP).
- 3.3. As detailed in the ‘scheme’ the CA shall, like the current SYITA, have the power to issue a levy to its constituent councils in respect of the expenses and liabilities of the CA which are reasonably attributable to the exercise of its functions relating to transport. The amount to be raised by the levy shall be apportioned between the constituent councils on a per capita basis. Non-transport functions will be funded from a budget agreed annually by CA members and apportioned as above.
 - 3.4. The SCR Authority will need support from a small executive function. At present within the city region there are several reviews underway looking at policy and delivery functions, particularly in South Yorkshire. These studies should be mindful of this requirement from this Governance Review, ensuring that linkages are made where appropriate, but also of the principle around driving out efficiencies in the delivery of officer functions.
 - 3.5. As detailed in the scheme which accompanies this document, the SCR Authority will have powers in relation to *strategic* Economic Development and Transport. As noted above, it is the intention of all partners that the SCR Authority remains a streamlined and focussed strategic commissioning body. Accordingly, only powers and duties that are immediately necessary have been outlined in the scheme in Part 2 of this document.
 - 3.6. Strategic Economic Development will include collaboration around functions such as SCR-level economic policy and strategy, skills, inward investment, SCR-level investment decisions (e.g. decisions relating to the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund) and decisions relating to other shared economic assets e.g. Enterprise Zone policy.
 - 3.7. In time, and by local resolution, partners may chose to transfer additional powers to the SCR Authority. This could either be through a further Governance Review and the publication of a scheme and statutory order or by virtue of Section 107 of the Local Government Act 1972. In all cases, the transfer of such powers would require a full Council Decision from each constituent local authority.

4. The SCR is an ambitious City Region with untapped economic potential and robust plans for growth

- 4.1. As set out in the City Region Deal (MADE in Sheffield – a deal for growth)⁵ SCR has a proud history being at the very forefront of the UK’s industrial and entrepreneurial development, starting with the industrial revolution and continuing to the present time. The SCR grew on the back of the steel and coal industries and, whilst manufacturing still accounts for £3.5m GVA, the SCR now has a vibrant and diverse economy with major employers including HSBC, Boeing, Rolls Royce, Forgemasters, TATA Steel, Sky, Siemens, Outokumpo, BT and many more.
- 4.2. The SCR also has a number of unique economic assets. The world leading Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) and Nuclear Research Centre (NAMRC) is the future of advanced manufacturing and nuclear manufacturing industry in the UK. Driven by Boeing, Rolls-Royce and the University of Sheffield, the AMRC/NAMRC is already having a major impact on UK manufacturing, including producing parts for the new Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft and for Formula One racing.
- 4.3. SCR is home to two world class universities bringing over 58,000 students into the City Region each year. The University of Sheffield is a world leading research university, one of the UK’s Russell Group and the best performing university in Yorkshire.⁶ Sheffield Hallam University is the fourth largest university in the UK and its business-focused approach means it works with major industry leaders such as Sony, Microsoft, Cisco and BP.
- 4.4. With a population of over 1.7 million people (with 7.6 million people living within a 35 mile radius of the City of Sheffield) and a GVA contribution of over £25.7 billion – the **SCR is evidently already an area of national economic significance**. However, independent economic forecasts suggest that there is untapped potential in the SCR which *could* deliver an extra 68,000 jobs and GVA of over £29.7bn by 2022. This would mean an additional net contribution to the Exchequer of £1,464m by 2022 and £2,924m by 2030.⁷
- 4.5. The public and private sectors in the SCR have forged a strong, progressive partnership focused on a shared vision of how to achieve the economic transformation SCR needs. Greater decentralisation and autonomy or “earned devolution” is central to this vision. Public and private sector leaders have a detailed understanding of the SCR economy, where it is strong and sustainable and where there are challenges that hold the SCR back.
- 4.6. SCR leaders recognise that in order to deliver the SCR economic strategy and to secure greater devolution and autonomy - strong stable, visible and accountable governance will be essential. The question for the SCR governance review has

⁵ <http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/wave-1-city-deals>

⁶ Sunday Times University Guide 2013

⁷ Oxford Economics (2011) Economic Projections for Core Cities (October 2011)

therefore not just been “are SCR governance arrangements sufficient today?” – rather – “will SCR governance structures and arrangements be sufficient to deliver the SCR’s medium to long-term ambitions?”

5. There is the potential to strengthen SCR governance

- 5.1. The Northern Way agenda was the original impetus for SCR-level collaboration. Based on informal, voluntary partnerships, this collaboration developed incrementally into the SCR Forum, which became the SCR Leaders’ Group and SCR LEP. Today, the SCR Leaders’ Group is the joint committee responsible for coordinating and progressing issues where City Region-level collaboration adds value. Sub-regional Economic Development matters are, principally, managed by the SCR LEP.
- 5.2. All SCR local authority leaders are members of the SCR LEP Board. A partnership between the public and private sector in the City Region, the LEP’s vision is for the SCR to make a greater contribution to the UK economy by having a local economy less dependent on the public sector and providing the right conditions for businesses to grow.
- 5.3. Beneath the LEP, a number of substructures have been established to progress specific LEP priorities and initiatives. For example, seven Sector Groups⁸ represent the voice of different industry sectors and an Enterprise Zone Governance Board oversees the management of the SCR’s modern manufacturing and technology focused Enterprise Zone. Sub-groups have also been set up to provide advice to the SCR LEP and Leaders’ Group in relation to Regional Growth Fund applications and the allocation of the Growing Places Fund.
- 5.4. South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority is the locally accountable body responsible for the strategic direction of transport planning and delivery in South Yorkshire and the body responsible for the Sheffield City Region Transport Strategy and South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan. This work is carried out by the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Sheffield City Council and the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Partnership. For the non-South Yorkshire Districts – two County Councils (Derbyshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council) act as the Transport Authorities.
- 5.5. Although the South Yorkshire ITA has no formal relationship with the SCR Leaders’ Group and SCR LEP, it regularly consults with them on matters of strategic

⁸ <http://www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/about/sector-groups/>

significance. For example – the SCR’s consultation response for the proposed devolution of funding for major transport schemes was a joint SCR LEP and ITA response.

5.6. This coordination and collaboration has conferred significant benefits to all SCR partners. For example, the SCR has been able to:

- Secure an advanced manufacturing and technology focussed Enterprise Zone – one of only nine sites nationally to benefit from business rate relief *and* enhanced capital allowances (recognised as the number-one Enterprise Zone in the UK).⁹
- Make prudent investment decisions regarding the SCR’s Growing Places Fund allocations.
- Develop a coordinated sub-regional approach to attracting inward investment.
- Work collaboratively to develop strong sub-regional proposals and propositions e.g. our ambitious Regional Growth Fund programme bid “Unlocking Business Investment”.
- Secure a City *Region* Deal which will result in the devolution of greater powers (and with it control over funding) in relation to skills, transport and financial tools for growth. The City Region Deal, predicated on formalising SCR governance, represents the beginning of a sustained dialogue with Government.

5.7. Whilst increased coordination and collaboration is undoubtedly a “good thing”, leading to tangible benefits for all partners, it has led to the governance structures and arrangements of the SCR being placed under increased local and national scrutiny (internal and external drivers of the SCR Governance Review). In terms of internal drivers for change, it is recognised that the SCR is close to the limit of what can be achieved through a voluntary, non-statutory partnership for the following reasons:

- As a non statutory body – the SCR Leaders’ Group or the SCR LEP are dependent on agreements by or delegations from its constituent authorities. This slows down the implementation of board decisions and could create ambiguity as to when a decision is a decision (or merely an agreement in principle, which is subject to further ratification).
- There is currently no formal link between decision making in relation to economic development (including inward investment, skills and spatial planning), regeneration and transport. Hence, it is more challenging for decisions to be aligned in a way that secures maximum economic and social benefit.

⁹ <http://www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk/2012/07/1-ranking-for-enterprise-zone/>

- There is some ambiguity and overlap between the roles and functions of various sub-regional bodies e.g. the distinction between the SCR Leaders' Group and the LEP or between the LEP and its substructures. Strengthening and clarifying these relationships would also have the desirable effect of increasing the transparency and accountability of local decision making.
 - The voluntary partnership between local authorities is not sufficient to underpin the SCR's medium to long-term ambitions. The SCR requires a single, stable, democratically accountable body able to take a strategic, City Region view of an issue.
- 5.8. In terms of external drivers of the SCR governance review - the devolution of funding for major transport schemes, the SCR City Region Deal and Northern Rail Devolution are all predicated on the strengthening of SCR governance. It is recognised that more formal and robust arrangements will lead to a process of "earned devolution" – where greater local autonomy will follow strengthened governance and a track record of local competence.
- 5.9. The absence of more formal arrangements therefore compromise the SCR's medium to long-term ambition of greater autonomy and "earned devolution" – which is unacceptable given our local ambitions and capacity to deliver.





6. Establishing the SCR Authority is the legal option most likely to deliver lasting economic and social benefits

- 6.1. As noted in the IPPR North Report: Governance and Leadership¹⁰ - good governance matters for two key reasons. The first relates to the need to manage and support economic development in an effective way. Collaboration across boundaries helps to ensure that maximum return on investment is being achieved, and that public policy has a keen impact (OECD 2009). The second reason relates to questions of transparency and accountability for decisions taken. This includes having the mechanisms in place to make tough, binding decisions at a level that reflects the functional economic geography of an area.
- 6.2. Having established that there is a compelling case to strengthen SCR governance – the SCR Governance Review has considered the pros and cons of the various models of governance that could be implemented in the SCR. The four options considered in detail have been (1) "do nothing" (2) undertake an informal restructure (3) create an Economic Prosperity Board (4) establish a SCR Combined Authority (in some form).

¹⁰ http://www.ippr.org/images/media/files/publication/2012/06/governance-leaderships_June2012_9338.pdf

6.3. **The headline recommendation of the SCR Governance Review is that establishing the SCR Authority is the optimal solution to the issues and opportunities set out in this document.** A summary of the rationale for this strong recommendation is summarised *figure 1* below and in the remainder of this document.

Figure 1 – Summary of options considered in detail

Option	Evaluation	Discussion
“Do nothing”		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to address issues raised during the Governance Review. (Section 4). • Limits longer-term ambitions of SCR.
Informal restructure		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCR already stretching boundaries of an informal, non-statutory partnership. • Still dependent on agreement / delegations from constituent authorities i.e. eight decisions rather than one. Creates unnecessary ambiguity and delay. • Not sufficient to meet SCR’s longer-term ambitions e.g. in relation to the SCR Investment Fund.
EPB		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Prosperity Board – more limited version of the Combined Authority. • Fails to align decision making around <i>strategic</i> economic development and transport.
Combined Authority		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimal legal model for the SCR. • Flexible – can be tailored to meet local requirements. • Option best suited to underpin the medium to long-term ambitions of the SCR.

6.4. The “do nothing” option was discounted on the basis of the reasons set out in section five above. Failure to strengthen SCR governance will compromise the medium to long-term ambitions of the SCR and therefore be detrimental to the future economic performance of the region. Specifically, failure to formalise SCR governance will mean that the region will not be able access ~£10 million of devolved transport funding per annum or manage ~£29 million of devolved skills funding agreed as part of our City Region Deal. The “do nothing” option would also be a missed opportunity to better align decision making around strategic economic development, transport and regeneration.

6.5. The second option (informal restructure) has also been discounted. This is on the grounds that, like the Manchester City Region prior to the development of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority,¹¹ the SCR is already stretching the boundaries of which can be achieved through an informal non-statutory partnership. Under this model, Leaders would still have to re-agree decisions at a local level – a

¹¹ <http://www.agma.gov.uk/gmca/index.html>

process which is cumbersome and sometimes unclear. A legal, corporate body will allow the SCR to make a shared binding decision once, rather than one decision nine times.

- 6.6. SCR Leaders' recognise that only a statutory body with a legal personality in its own right will be strong enough to lead the collaboration between SCR local authorities and form the necessary legal relationships required going forward.
- 6.7. Similar to the "do nothing" option, an informal restructure is also unlikely meet the expectations of Government – both now and as the SCR seeks further devolution and autonomy. A statutory partnership will also provide the necessary certainty, stability and democratic accountability to allow for long-term strategic decisions to be made at an SCR level. This includes supporting the SCR to make decisions that whilst "tough" - are in the long-term interests of the region. A statutory partnership also has the added advantage of being able to enshrine certain principles into the governance structures of the SCR e.g. an active role for the private sector.
- 6.8. Having considered the tests set out in LEDEDCA, a Combined Authority is deemed to be the optimal legal model for the SCR. The Combined Authority model has been preferred to an Economic Prosperity Board because of the **overwhelming benefits of aligning decision making in relation to strategic economic development and transport under one strategic body**. The Combined Authority model is also the preferred option of Government – hence, the likely shared benefits of "earned devolution" going forward.
- 6.9. As set out above, this legally independent body should act as the accountable decision making body for matters of SCR significance (and where SCR-level collaboration is desirable and adds value) delegating powers and duties sub-committees as is appropriate. The SCR Authority should also act as the Accountable Body for SCR funds and investments – a far more efficient process than one local authority acting as Accountable Body for the whole City Region and relying on secondary agreements and guarantees.
- 6.10. It will be for constituent local authorities to determine the small number of areas (relating to economic development, transport and regeneration) where the SCR Authority will have jurisdiction – with the overwhelming majority of decisions continuing to be made at a local authority level.

Sheffield City Region Executive Team
January 2013

Part 2

Scheme for the establishment of a Sheffield City Region Combined Authority

*For consultation – January
2013*

Section 1 – Intention to establish Sheffield City Region Combined Authority

1. Establishment of Authority

- 1.1. A Combined Authority (“SCR Authority”) shall be established pursuant to Section 103 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (“LDEDCA”).

2. Dissolution of South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (SYITA)

- 2.1. The South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (‘SYITA’) shall be dissolved, pursuant to Section 91 of the Local Transport Act 2008 (‘LTA2008’).

3. Name of Authority

- 3.1. The name of the SCR Authority shall be the *Sheffield City Region Authority*.

4. Membership of Authority

- 4.1. Membership of the SCR Authority will be drawn from the constituent and non-constituent councils listed below:-

- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sheffield City Council.

(“constituent councils”)

- Bassetlaw District Council
- Bolsover District Council
- Chesterfield Borough Council
- North East Derbyshire District Council
- Derbyshire Dales Districts Council

(‘non-constituent councils’)

5. Area of Authority

- 5.1. The SCR Authority area shall be the whole of the following four local government areas:
- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
 - Sheffield City Council.
- 5.2. The constituent councils will appoint six elected members¹ to the SCR Authority. to the SCR Authority. Each constituent council will appoint one member. In addition, each year, by equal rotation, two of the constituent councils will each appoint a second member, such second member appointment to be for a one year term.²
- 5.3. The Executive of each non-constituent council will appoint one elected member each to the SCR Authority.
- 5.4. Membership of the SCR Authority will be a decision of the Executive of each council.³
- 5.5. To maintain the status of the SCR Authority being a “Leaders’ Board” – there will be a protocol that each constituent and non-constituent council appoint its Leader or elected Mayor to the SCR Authority. In addition to this, there will be a protocol that the two additional second member constituent council appointments will be non-voting members and will not regularly attend meetings of the SCR Authority (see section 10.7 below and *footnote 1*).
- 5.6. The Executive of each constituent and non-constituent council shall each appoint another of its elected members to act as a member of the SCR Authority in the absence of the elected member appointed under paragraph 5.2 and 5.3 above (“substitute member”). This elected member must be drawn from the cabinet of that council.⁴
- 5.7. The Executive of a constituent or non-constituent council may at any time terminate the appointment of a member or substitute member appointed by it to the SCR Authority. Appointment and reappointment of a new member will be an executive decision of each constituent and non-constituent Council.⁵
- 5.8. Where a member or substitute member of the SCR Authority ceases (for whatever reason) to be an elected member of the council that appointed them, the elected

¹ Note: it is a requirement of LDEDCA that the majority of members are drawn from the constituent authorities of the CA.

² Note: to be determined how the rotation of appointing 2 members will operate. Examples, the CA could determine at its first meeting, or the face of the Order could specify.

³ This assumes the council is operating executive arrangements.

⁴ This assumes the council is operating executive arrangements.

⁵ This assumes the council is operating executive arrangements.

member shall cease to be a member of the SCR Authority, and the Executive of the relevant council shall appoint a replacement member as soon as practicable.

- 5.9. The SCR Authority shall, in each year, appoint a Chair (and Vice-Chair(s)) from among its members. The appointments shall be the first business transacted at the first meeting of the SCR Authority.
- 5.10. No remuneration shall be payable by the SCR Authority to its members (other than allowances for travel and subsistence).
- 5.11. The SCR Authority may co-opt additional, non-voting representatives from, for example, from the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership Board.⁶

6. Voting

- 6.1. The constituent council members of the SCR Authority shall have one vote each.
- 6.2. The Chair of the SCR Authority shall not have a second or casting vote. Subject to the provisions of any enactment, all questions coming or arising before the SCR Authority shall be decided by a simple majority of the members of the SCR Authority present and voting.
- 6.3. In the case of a tied vote or any motion or amendment, the reasons for the failure to agree will be passed to SCR Chief Executives Group who can then work with their officers to identify if the issues can be resolved before being reconsidered, and voted upon, at the SCR Authority. Should a second vote remain tied, then the motion shall be deemed to be lost.
- 6.4. Members from the non-constituent councils will, in accordance with section 85(4) LTA2008, be non-voting members of the SCR Authority. The constituent council members may, in accordance with section 85(5) LTA2008, resolve to extend the voting rights on defined matters to all or any of the non-constituent council members.⁷

7. Executive Arrangements

- 7.1. Executive arrangements (within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2000) shall not apply to the SCR Authority. However, the discharge of the functions of the SCR Authority will be subject to the scrutiny arrangements set out in section 9 below.

⁶ Note: such representation will always be non-voting as such representatives are not members. This is also the mechanism by which County Councils may be represented in the future.

⁷ Note: it is considered that one manner of doing this would be to resolve at the beginning of any meeting of the CA those matters that the non-constituent council members may vote upon. It is the intention of the constituent members to extend voting rights to the all non-constituent members with the exception of Derbyshire Dales District Council (who have chosen to be non-voting members of the SCR Authority).

8. Transport for Sheffield City Region

- 8.1. The SCR Authority shall have an operational transport body, 'Transport for Sheffield City Region Executive' (TfSCRE), to exercise its operational transport functions. TfSCRE shall have all the functions necessary for it to discharge such functions on behalf of the SCR Authority.

9. Scrutiny Arrangements

- 9.1. The nine local authorities of the Sheffield City Region will establish a joint overview and scrutiny committee to exercise scrutiny functions over the SCR Authority (including, where appropriate, the SCR Authority's sub-boards). Each constituent and non-constituent local authority will appoint one elected member to the joint overview and scrutiny committee.⁸

Section 2 – Functions, powers and duties of the CA

10. The function of the SCR Authority

- 10.1. The purpose of the SCR Authority is to improve the exercise of statutory functions in relation to economic development, regeneration and transport in the SCR leading to an enhancement of the economic conditions and performance of the SCR.
- 10.2. The SCR Authority will have powers in relation to *Strategic* Economic Development. Unless otherwise stated, these powers will be exercised by the SCR Authority on a concurrent basis i.e. no powers have been "ceded" to the SCR Authority from its members. Strategic Economic Development means functions such as:
- Setting City Region Economic Strategies
 - Setting the investment strategy for the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund
 - Making decisions with regard to the Sheffield City Region Investment Fund
 - Making decision in relation to the uplift from Enterprise Zone business rates
 - Setting the SCR for Growth Strategy
 - Coordinated inward investment activity.
- 10.3. The SCR Authority will have the benefit of well being powers which are specifically reserved to Combined Authorities by the LDEDCA 2009 together with a range of incidental powers. These are equivalent to the former powers of well being provided to local authorities which have now been replaced with the General Power of

⁸ Note: the scope and remit of any such joint committee to be determined by the nine SCR councils.

Competence by the Localism Act 2011. These will provide broad powers to address economic development issues.

- 10.4. There may be further advantages in also securing the use of the General Power of Competence for the SCR Authority to provide for maximum flexibility in being able to deal with economic development and regeneration issues. Accordingly, the SCR Authority requests that the Secretary of State exercises his powers under section 87 of the Local Transport Act 2008 so as to provide that the Authority has been delegated the General Power of Competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 10.5. The transport functions of SYITA will be transferred to the SCR Authority. All functions conferred or imposed on the SYITA by any enactment relating to the functions of SYPTE shall be exercisable by the SCR Authority in relation to its executive body (TfSCR).
- 10.6. The SCR Authority shall exercise any function of the Secretary of State delegated to the SCR Authority by the order of the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 86 LTA2008 and Section 104(1)(b), LDEDCA. Such functions shall be exercised subject to any condition imposed by the order.
- 10.7. In addition to the above, the SCR Authority will have the following specific powers exercisable concurrently with the constituent and non-constituent councils. These are viewed as complementary to the broader powers to address economic development identified above:
 - The power under section 144 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the power to encourage visitors and provide conference and other facilities).
 - The duties under sections 15ZA, 15ZB, 15ZC, 17A, 18A(1)(b), of the Education Act 1996 and the power under sections 514A and 560A of that Act (duties and powers related to the provision of education and training for persons over compulsory school age).
 - The duty under section 4(1) of the Local Government Act 2000 (duty to prepare a strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom) and the power under section 4(2) of the Local Government Act 2000 (power to modify their sustainable communities strategy).
 - The General Power of Competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 10.8. These powers will be supplemented by operating “protocols” agreed locally by the SCR Authority and councils. These protocols will include:

- That members of the SCR Authority (i.e. constituent and non-constituent councils) will not act in a way that directly contradicts a decision made by the SCR Authority.
 - That the two additional members drawn from South Yorkshire members on a rotating basis (described at 5.2) will be non-voting members and will not routinely attend meetings of the SCR Authority.
 - That the member appointed by each local authority to the SCR Authority will be the Leader or Mayor of that council.
- 10.9. As detailed in the Governance Review document – the constituent and non-constituent councils of the SCR Authority may, in time, choose to delegate additional powers by virtue of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972. These will be executive functions given the remit of the SCR Authority and it will therefore be a decision for the Executive to delegate any further powers to the SCR Authority.
- 10.10. The SCR Authority will not have any specific planning-related powers. However, using general economic development powers, the SCR Authority may agree a SCR spatial strategy – which may be relevant to local planning frameworks.

Section 3 – Funding and transfer of property, rights and liabilities

11. Funding

- 11.1. The SCR Authority, as a levying body under Section 74 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, shall have the power to issue a levy to its constituent councils in respect of the expenses and liabilities of the SCR Authority which are reasonably attributable to the exercise of its functions relating to transport. The amount to be raised by the levy shall be apportioned between the representative authorities on a per capita basis.
- 11.2. The costs of the CA that are reasonably attributable to the exercise of its functions relating to economic development and regeneration (and any start up costs) shall be met by the constituent and non-constituent councils. Such costs shall be apportioned between the nine councils on a per capita basis. The CA will agree an annual budget for the purpose of this expenditure.⁹

12. Transfer of Property, Rights and Liabilities

- 12.1. All property, rights and liabilities of SYITA existing at the transfer date shall transfer to the CA, including rights and liabilities (if any) in relation to contracts of employment.

⁹ Note: funding to be considered.

Section 4 – Substructures and internal scheme of delegation

13. Joint Committee – Transport for SCR Board

- 13.1. The CA and the constituent councils will enter into joint arrangements under Section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 20 of the Local Government Act 2000 and Regulations 4, 11 and 12 of the Local Authorities (Arrangements for Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2000 for the discharge of specified transport functions which will include the establishment of a joint committee to be called the Transport for SCR Board ('TfSCRB').

14. SCR Local Enterprise Partnership

- 14.1. The Sheffield City Region has a strong LEP Board that brings together elected leaders with representatives from the private sector. Such a board is seen as critical for the promotion and facilitation of economic growth in the city region.
- 14.2. This board (or its successors as required by Government) will work alongside the SCR Authority, as well as discharging the practical decision making role in respect of certain functions as required by Government and/or the SCR Authority. The SCR Authority would act as the LEP's 'accountable body' for the holding of LEP funding streams.
- 14.3. It is intended that the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership would be a lead advisory body to the SCR Authority – including providing leadership of particular SCR projects and workstreams. This will "hardwire" a role for the private sector into the leadership of the Sheffield City Region – something that makes the SCR distinctive and unique.

15. Other Arrangements

- 15.1. The SCR Authority may establish sub-structures and sub-committees and delegate powers and functions as is appropriate.

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
3rd APRIL, 2013

At its meeting on 20th March 2013, the Cabinet received a report of the Executive Director, Place, referring to the Council's support for the introduction of digital presentations of planning applications and to the shrinking size of the agendas for the two area Planning and Highways Committees which provided an opportunity to follow national best practice, to enable efficiency savings, and to establish a single Committee that would be better able to take the wider interests of the City into account. The report also contained proposals to share the remit of the Cabinet Highways Committee with the appropriate Cabinet Member and to increase officer delegation.

The Cabinet minute, including the recommendation required to be approved by the Council, is set out below:-

MODERNISATION OF PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS AND CABINET HIGHWAYS COMMITTEES

9.1 The Executive Director, Place, submitted a report referring to the Council's support for the introduction of digital presentations of planning applications and to the shrinking size of the agendas for the two area Planning and Highways Committees which provided an opportunity to follow national best practice, to enable efficiency savings, and to establish a single Committee that would be better able to take the wider interests of the City into account. The report also contained proposals to share the remit of the Cabinet Highways Committee with the appropriate Cabinet Member and to increase officer delegation in order to improve efficiency and to reduce the workload of other Cabinet members. The opportunity for the public to make personal representations would still remain.

9.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) recommends to Council that, from May 2013, the existing two Area Planning and Highways Committees be combined into a single Planning Committee for the whole City;
- (b) agrees that the digital presentation of planning application reports with an enhanced format be introduced at the first meeting of the new, modernised Planning Committee, following any pilot testing that officers deem necessary;
- (c) adopts Option 1 within the report and recommends to the Leader that she amends her Scheme of delegation to record the fact that decisions reserved to the Cabinet Highways Committee are also reserved to an Individual Cabinet Member and to reflect the proposals in Appendix A regarding increased officer delegations; and
- (d) authorises the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and Director of Legal Services, to make

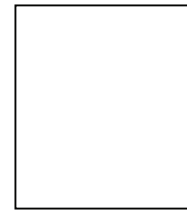
the practical arrangements necessary to introduce the new executive transport and highways decision making arrangements following amendment of the Leader's Scheme as proposed at (c) above;

(NOTE: A copy of the report of the Executive Director, Place, has been circulated to all Members of the City Council with the Council Summons.)

John Mothersole
Chief Executive



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Cabinet Report



Report of: Executive Director, Place

Date: 20 March 2013

Subject: Modernisation of Planning and Highways & Cabinet Highways Committees

Author of Report: Graham Withers / John Bann

Summary:

Cross party support for the introduction of digital presentations of planning applications has previously been established and the shrinking size of the agendas for the two area committees provides an opportunity to follow national best practice, to enable efficiency savings, and to establish a single committee that will be better able to take the wider interests of the City into account. Proposals are also put forward to share the remit of the Cabinet Highways Committee with the Individual Cabinet Member and to increase officer delegation in order to improve efficiency. The opportunity for the public to make personal representations will remain.

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet recommend to Council that, from May 2013, the existing two Area Planning and Highways Committees be combined into a single Planning Committee for the whole city.
2. That Cabinet agree that the digital presentation of planning application reports with an enhanced format be introduced at the first meeting of the new, modernised Planning Committee, following any pilot testing that officers deem necessary.
3. That Cabinet adopt Option 1 and recommend to the Leader that she amends her Scheme of delegation to record the fact that decisions reserved to the Cabinet Highways Committee are also reserved to an Individual Cabinet Member and to reflect the proposals in Appendix A regarding increased officer delegations
4. That authority be given for the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and Director of Legal Services, to make the practical arrangements necessary to introduce the new executive transport and highways decision making arrangements following amendment of the Leader's Scheme as proposed at 3 above.

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial implications
YES Catherine Rodgers
Legal implications
YES Cleared by: Gillian Duckworth / Deborah Eaton
Equality of Opportunity implications
NO Cleared by: Ian Oldershaw
Tackling Health Inequalities implications
NO
Human rights implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES
Economic impact
YES
Community safety implications
NO
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
ALL
Relevant Scrutiny Board if decision called in
Economic and Environmental Wellbeing
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council? YES
Press release
NO

Modernisation of Planning and Highways & Cabinet Highways Committees

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report identifies two opportunities to modernise the Planning and Highways Committees and in addition to replace the Cabinet Highways Committee:
- Establishes that shorter agendas for the two area planning committees provide an opportunity to move to a single, city-wide planning committee, with consequent efficiency savings for Democratic Services and the Planning Service and the opportunity to provide a strong city view, backed by Councillors with increased expertise in planning, which is likely to be welcomed by local businesses and external investors in Sheffield.
 - Summarises previous cross-party findings on the need to introduce the digital presentation of planning application reports with an enhanced format over existing content and proposes that this be introduced at the first meeting of the new committee, following any pilot testing that is deemed necessary.
 - Describes the current decision making process for Executive transport and highway decisions and puts forward proposals to share the remit of the Cabinet Highways Committee with Individual Cabinet Members and to increase delegations to officers. The aim of this is to improve efficiency and to reduce the need for non-transport cabinet member involvement. Such a system of decision-making already operates in other core cities and neighbouring authorities and the opportunity for the public to make personal representations will remain.
 - Non-executive decision making on highway issues, such as road and footpath closures, will remain with the Planning and Highways Committee.

2. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE?

- 2.1 In theory, area planning committees can mean local Councillors making planning and highway decisions about their local areas. Each area committee has ten members, of which only four in City Centre, South and East and six in West and North represent wards in the area covered by the Committee. Whilst these proportions will change over time and when substitutes attend, dividing a city as large as Sheffield into two committees makes a limited contribution towards local decision making. Local members can in any case attend the planning committees to represent the views of their constituents without needing to be voting members of the committee. The accessibility of the committee will be unchanged as both area committees meet in the Town Hall, apart from rare exceptions. Neighbourhood planning powers in the Localism Act are in any event creating important new ways for communities to better engage in planning.

2.2 A city-wide committee should find it easier to give proper consideration to the wider interests of the people of Sheffield, particularly in terms of economic development, but also in terms of issues such as climate change and protecting and enhancing the character of Sheffield. Local businesses have suggested in the past that investors and other regeneration partners would have greater confidence in a city-wide planning committee making more informed decisions for Sheffield. Whilst there is no evidence that the area committees could reasonably be accused of failing to do this, any improved perception can only help in attracting new investment and jobs, without weakening the Council's commitment to other issues and outcomes that matter to Sheffield, which are all reflected in our local planning policies.

2.3 In relation to the proposal to share the remit of the Cabinet Highway Committee, the process proposed for Individual Cabinet Member decision-making will be very similar to the current system. This involves Cabinet continuing to take major policy and transport scheme decisions. It is proposed that the monthly Cabinet Highway Committee meetings be replaced by monthly reports to the relevant Cabinet Member with the public able to make representations. Typically, only one or two members of the public attend Cabinet Highways Committee personally to speak on any issue, with a large number of issues receiving written public responses only. Where an occasional issue attracts unusually high public interest there remains the option of calling a Cabinet Highways Committee. Therefore the move to the individual Cabinet Member taking shared responsibility with the Cabinet Highways Committee for the decision making is not considered to have any detrimental impact.

3. MODERNISATION OPTIONS

3.1 Currently, there are considered to be two main options for modernising the Planning Committees at this point in time. These are the introduction of digital presentation of planning application proposals and the opportunity presented by shorter agendas to move to a single planning committee. The benefits and disbenefits of each option are assessed in Section 6.

3.2 There are two options for changing the Executive transport and highways decision making process. These are: Cabinet Highways Committee decisions being shared with the Individual Cabinet Member with or without increased delegation to officers; and full officer delegation. The benefits and disbenefits of each option are assessed in Section 6.

4. PROPOSED MOVE TO SINGLE PLANNING COMMITTEE

4.1 Determining planning applications is the main function of the area planning committees. In the 10 months from January 2012 the number of planning application reports considered has fallen to an average of 7.5 cases for City Centre, South and East and to an average of 6 West and North. These are very low numbers and it is difficult to sustain 2 committees at these levels. One West and North Committee had to be cancelled when there were no reports to consider.

4.2 The economic downturn has significantly reduced the pool of major applications that require committee approval. Improved delegation when the delegation scheme was

modernised to the national best practice model in January 2011 has also contributed Combining the figures of the Committees that have taken place so far in 2012, moving to a single Committee would result in an average of 13.5 planning applications per agenda, which is considered to be a more efficient committee structure, providing a reasonable application workload. It is possible to divide agendas into two halves if a large number of applications fall to one committee, which would avoid members of the public having to wait too long for their item to be considered (45-60% of agenda items attract speakers) and could provide a break for members and officers attending, if necessary.

- 4.3 The national Planning Advisory Service recommends a single planning committee as the most efficient model for cities and would provide efficiency savings in the administration and clerking of the committees, with an estimated value of £12,000 a year.

Table 1. Savings from move to a Single Planning Committee

Democratic Services- support for committees	£5k
Members' Allowances budget - Special Responsibility Allowance	£6k
Planning Services- 50 hrs G5 Admin Officer	£1k
Total Saving	£12k

- 4.4 These and other possible advantages and disadvantages of a single committee are summarised below:

Advantages

- **Better visual information** on material planning considerations, helping Members to make well informed decisions
- **Cheaper and more efficient to run** – around £6K a year efficiency savings and valuable help to maintain services at a time whilst already delivering necessary and significant other staff savings, and helping to reduce paper consumption
- **More strategic** - easier to take a city-wide, strategic view on the economic benefits of development
- **More business friendly** – would develop enhanced planning expertise among Members.
- **Greater consistency** – avoids issues about differences between the two area committees.
- **Improved expertise** – easier to develop a smaller core membership of experts on planning issues
- **Less reliance on substitutes** – less call on Members would help avoid current difficulties in finding sufficient substitutes for two area committees
- **Further savings** – a saving of a Special Responsibility Allowance of around £6K a year through the reduction of two committee chairs to one.

Disadvantage

- **Longer meetings** – At present there are two area committees operating on a three weekly cycle. Agendas and Committee meetings would be longer if combined but good chairing would resolve most of these difficulties and the length of meetings has been reducing over the past 12 months in any event.
- 4.5 If volumes of Committee items increase, as major scheme activity increases for example, a number of actions could be taken to help prevent the Planning Committee becoming so long that its performance was hindered or that might lead to public dissatisfaction. There is no obvious scope to make further changes to the delegation scheme to increase delegation rates (already at around 95%), as the Council is using the most efficient, national best practice model. However, the way the Chair interprets and applies the scheme to marginal agenda items could be reviewed to help prevent agendas getting too crowded.
 - 4.6 With more major schemes, it can be anticipated there will be greater use of pre-application briefings of the Planning Committee, addressing some Member concerns earlier in the process, and this will help contain the length of time spent on these application reports.
 - 4.7 Timed breaks in the meeting could be introduced to manage the arrival of speakers (and officers) if that was felt to be appropriate and it would also be possible to introduce a requirement for public speakers to register in advance, so that a better estimate of timings could be given in order to better manage longer agendas. This could be used to help prevent the public waiting too long for their item. The length of meetings would be kept under review.
 - 4.8 It is recommended that the minimum size of the new committee be 10 Members, as for the existing area committees, but Members may want to consider if 10 remains the optimum number. Each Council AGM will be able to determine the size and membership of the Committee.

5. DIGITAL PRESENTATIONS

- 5.1 Over 40% of planning applications are now submitted online and all paper documents are scanned and indexed to create a digital or electronic copy of the application file. These are made visible to the public and consultees via the Council web site on Planning Applications Online. ‘Digital presentations’ means replacing paper drawings displayed on boards prior to the Planning Committee, which are impossible for anyone to see without getting up and standing close to them, with a PowerPoint presentation of screenshots from the digital file.
- 5.2 The Planning Committee Advisory Group last considered digital presentations on 20 January 2011, following an earlier visit to Leeds, and concluded that we should move to digital presentations in Sheffield as it had the potential to improve the decision making process, by improving the quality of information on which Committee Members make application decisions, providing better opportunities for communicating issues, and illustrating and explaining why decisions are made to applicants and objectors who attend.
- 5.3 A joint officer assessment by Modern Governance and Planning on how it would be possible to do this, concluded that the best option given the constraints of working within a Grade 1 Listed Town Hall, would be to use two plasma screens on movable stands, linked to a laptop controlled by an officer supporting the planning officer

presenting. Plasma screens offer better screen resolution and legibility than projected images. Two screens would be necessary to enable all present to have sight of a screen.

- 5.4 The Advisory Group liked the enhanced material used in Leeds, which included an aerial photo and prepared location plan of the application site to make site identification better for Members than at present, a selection of site photographs taken by the case officer to illustrate the site context and key issues, as well as a selection of key drawings from the application file. It is not safe to rely on a network connection or practical to expect an officer to navigate through an extensive catalogue of documents to pull out relevant material at the speed required at Committee, so this material has to be prepared in advance and managed at the Committee by a second officer.
- 5.5 It is calculated, using the Leeds experience, where an IT support officer prepares the Power Point presentation, that the additional resource required in Sheffield would be 0.3 FTE Administrative Officer. This can be met within the current funded establishment. It is also assumed that the additional work for case officers (taking photographs and identifying a selection of drawings to be displayed, for the Area Managers (in preparation and support at Committee), can be absorbed by the Planning Service. There would also be a small cost in purchasing GIS licences for the software necessary to prepare the enhanced location plans.

Table 2. Annual cost of introducing digital presentations

Planning Services - 0.3fte G5 Admin Officer	£9k
Estimated annual hire and committee set up costs	£3-4k
GIS License	£0.2k
Total Cost	£12.2 – £13.2k

- 5.6 Budget pressures have delayed the introduction of digital presentations, with insufficient administrative support being retained to do the additional preparatory work for each Planning Committee. Its introduction is the logical next step in modernising the Planning Committee. It is likely to have cross party support and be welcomed by all those who attend.
- 5.7 Every other core city, apart from Manchester, uses digital presentations. They help officers illustrate the key considerations behind their recommendations; help Members make well informed decisions; and help applicants, objectors and the media attending understand why decisions are being made, giving greater confidence in the process.
- 5.8 A lack of confidence in the Committee process has in the past been a concern of local business leaders, and while the reasons behind those concerns were complex, the introduction of digital presentations would demonstrate our commitment to modernise and improve the planning process.

6. EXECUTIVE TRANSPORT & HIGHWAY DECISION MAKING

- 6.1 Transport and Highways matters are covered under two Cabinet Member portfolios: Business, Skills and Development and Environment, Recycling and Streetscene (the latter dealing primarily with the Streets Ahead Project). The current system of transport and highway decision-making involves Cabinet dealing with major policy and transport scheme issues (including Compulsory Purchase Orders for schemes), with the Cabinet Highways Committee making most other Executive decisions (including operational policy such as 20mph speed limit strategy; considering objections to Traffic Orders and approving Permit Parking schemes). There is some delegation to officers, namely approving the designs of schemes, which are not controversial and cost under £200,000 and approving advertising of Traffic Orders. Community Assemblies have made Executive decisions on which schemes to take forward as part of annual highways programme and the designs of these schemes. The involvement of Community Assemblies in the transport and highways decision-making process will cease with their abolition. The relevant Planning & Highway Committee undertakes non-Executive decisions, such as highway and footpath closures and cycle path creation orders. The single Planning & Highways Committee will retain this non executive decision making function.
- 6.2 Any changes in executive decision making for transport and highway schemes need to ensure that:
- a) Decisions are made legally and with a clear audited trail of delegated accountability;
 - b) Decisions are made in an open and transparent way;
 - c) The work of the Members and officers is conducted in an efficient, effective and timely matter;
 - d) Clarity is brought to the decision making process so that it is always clear who has authority to make decisions;
 - e) Important decisions of public interest should continue to be made with input from Members and the public at relevant stages;
 - f) Decisions are made at the most appropriate level to ensure that Council business is conducted as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- 6.3 Two options for changing the current transport and highways Executive decision making process have been considered. These are: Cabinet Highways Committee decisions being shared with the Individual Cabinet Member with or without increased delegation to officers; and full officer delegation. The benefits and dis-benefits of each option are assessed below:
- 6.4 Option 1: Cabinet Highways Committee decisions being shared with the Individual Cabinet Member with or without increased delegation to officers. Delegation to Individual Cabinet Members is a model adopted by several of the Core Cities (including Birmingham and Nottingham). Rotherham MBC also use Individual Cabinet Member decision making and do this by way of regular and programmed Cabinet Member decision making meetings. These would be in the diary as per Cabinet Highway Committee with Committee Secretariat support. Minutes would be formally recorded and published. In Rotherham, the Cabinet Member is advised by a group of Councillors but they do not make the decision. Reports are prepared in advance by officers. The meetings are not open, but members of the public etc can apply to put their case direct to the Cabinet Member before making his / her decision and written representations would be invited from the public and be presented as part of the report to the Cabinet Member. Sheffield could adopt a

similar method of dealing with Individual Cabinet Member decision making, however as Sheffield intends to retain its Cabinet Highways Committee the proposal is that there would be the normal arrangements for consulting with the public and stake holders on schemes and policies. Officers would make people aware of how they could make representations to the Individual Cabinet Member who would then decide whether there was sufficient public interest to refer the matter to the Cabinet Highways Committee. If written representations are sufficient for the Cabinet member to make a decision or there are no representations, the decision will be made by the Individual Cabinet Member. It is also proposed that the relevant Cabinet advisor on traffic, transport and parking issues would advise the Individual Cabinet Member prior to the decision being taken, thereby increasing the input of Member expertise in the relevant area.

This option could increase the workload of the Cabinet Member – depending on the level of delegation and the frequency of decision making. If decisions were made on a monthly basis and the delegation remained the same then the workload should be the same. Having the option of the Individual Cabinet Member making the decision would make it easier to diary decision making.

6.5 Option 2: A significant proportion of planning decisions are already delegated to officers. The amount of decisions delegated for transport and highways matters could be increased by:

- Increasing the value of schemes that officers could approve the design of (from say £200k to £1m);
- This could include schemes with some controversial elements;
- Deciding on objections to minor schemes such as local parking restrictions;

All decisions would be in written report format and would be recorded and published. The Cabinet Member and Ward Members (for local schemes) would be involved in the discussions about the decisions. Reasons for the decisions would be clear so that public can understand why and how officers have chosen a particular course of action. There will therefore be a clear and audited trail of accountable decision making.

The advantage of this option is that it would reduce the workload for the Individual Cabinet Member. It would also speed up the decision making process. This is particularly important when schemes are being planned to fit in with the Streets Ahead Core Maintenance works. However, it would reduce the public's involvement in the decision making process by not allowing direct representations at a public decision making forum.

6.6 Option 1 could involve increased officer delegation (a proposed scheme for approval is attached as Appendix A), to reduce Cabinet Member workload, to speed up the decision making and delivery times, and improve efficiency. Essentially the Individual Cabinet Member and the Cabinet Highways Committee would each have reserved to them, within the Leader's Scheme of delegation all of the Council's executive functions arising from the Council's roles as the Highway Authority and Road Traffic Authority (other than those specifically reserved to Cabinet and those delegated to officers in accordance with Appendix A). These will include transport and parking matters, where these relate to:

- a) The Capital Programme;

- b) Policy statements;
- c) Matters that have drawn substantial objections from the public;
- d) Approval of designs of schemes costing in excess of £250,000.

It is also worth noting that the leader's proposed new scheme provides that any decision that can be taken by an officer can also be taken by an Individual Cabinet Member. Therefore even where a matter falls to an officer the Individual cabinet Member can choose to make that decision if they so wish.

7. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no equality of opportunity implications to the proposals for Planning & Highway Committee. Public input will still be maintained during scheme consultation, policy development and by written representations to the Individual Cabinet Member or personal attendance at a Cabinet Highway Committee.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The total saving in administration, clerking and Chair's allowances from moving to a single planning committee is estimated at £12,000 a year. The total cost of introducing digital presentations is estimated at £12,200 – £13,200 a year. The Planning Service will absorb the additional work required to prepare digital presentations, partly offset by small efficiencies from preparing the agenda for a single committee.
- 8.2 The recommended Option will not change the administrative support for and cost of transport and highway executive decision making.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The determination of planning applications is a function reserved to Full Council in accordance with the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000. Section 102 Local Government Act 1972 provides for the Council to discharge its functions via a committee or committees. The number of committees is not prescribed therefore there is no legal requirement for there to be two committees and the Council can lawfully discharge its function via a single committee.
- 9.2 The exercise of executive functions concerning the approval of Traffic Regulation Orders, designated traffic management matters, controlled parking zones and other orders in respect of major transport scheme designs are made under the application of the Highways Act 1980 and the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
- 9.3 Legal Implications - How decisions can be made by a local authority
The Local Government Act 2000 introduced a duty for most local authorities to adopt 'Executive Arrangements' to make its decisions. Sheffield adopted the model of Leader and Cabinet and subsequently Strong Leader and Cabinet. The legislation determines which functions are executive functions and specifies where those functions can be discharged. The Act divided Local Authority functions into three types:

- Council

- Local Choice
- Executive Functions

The focus of this report is in respect of both the exercise of executive functions and non-executive functions. Executive powers can be exercised by:-

- 1 The Leader
- 2 Cabinet
- 3 A committee of the executive (including Cabinet Highways Committee)
- 4 Individual Cabinet Member Decision
- 5 An officer
- 6 Community Assemblies

9.4 Non-executive functions of the Council as planning and highways authority are set out in Part A, 5-31, Part B, 41 and 46A-55 and Part I, 1-34, 46 and 47 of Part 3 Responsibility for Functions of the Constitution and have been delegated to the Planning and Highways Committees in accordance with their terms of reference (except those matters delegated to officers in accordance with the Constitution). Section 278, Highways Act 1980 is a local choice function which has also been delegated to the Committees in accordance with their terms of reference.

9.5 Changes will be made to the Leader's Scheme of Delegation to reflect the changes proposed here and agreed with the Leader to ensure continued robust open and transparent decision making.

10. HR IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no HR implications.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Sheffield has a clear vision of a low carbon, sustainable city with a strong renewable energy sector. Whilst the impact may be imperceptible, a city-wide committee should find it easier to give appropriate weight to policies that support this vision.

11.2 Appropriate and efficient decision making is vital in the effective delivery of sustainable transport and highway schemes. Such schemes play a fundamental part in improving the environment, reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1. That Cabinet recommend to Council that, from May 2013, the existing two Area Planning and Highways Committees be combined into a single Planning Committee for the whole city.

12.2 That Cabinet agree that the digital presentation of planning application reports with an enhanced format be introduced at the first meeting of the new, modernised Planning Committee, following any pilot testing that officers deem necessary.

- 12.3. That Cabinet adopt Option 1 and recommend to the Leader that she amends her Scheme of delegation to record the fact that decisions reserved to the Cabinet Highways Committee are also reserved to an Individual Cabinet Member and to reflect the proposals in Appendix A regarding increased officer delegations.
- 12.4. That authority be given for the Director of Development Services, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and Director of Legal Services, to make the practical arrangements necessary to introduce the new executive transport and highways decision making arrangements following amendment of the Leader's Scheme as proposed at 12.3 above.

Les Sturch, Director of Development Services

APPENDIX 1. SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) FORM

PART 1: Details and purpose of function/policy/procedure/ procurement/strategy/project (to be referred to collectively as “policy or project” in this form)

This section must be completed

Please describe your policy or project: Modernisation of the Planning and Highways & Cabinet Highways Committees	Directorate/s: Place
Is this policy or project:	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing <input type="checkbox"/>
Service Area/s: Planning Service, Transport, Traffic And Parking Services & Democratic Services	
Person responsible for the policy or project Graham Withers / John Bann	
Person responsible for completing a full EIA if appropriate: Graham Withers / John Bann	
Are there any other people involved in the EIA – for example, as part of peer review/external challenge? Ian Oldershaw	
What are the main aims, purpose and outcomes of the policy or project and how do these fit in with the wider aims of the organisation ? To ensure that the Planning and Highway Committee structure and processes are efficient and effective, taking into account national best practice and the Council’s need to make budget savings and involve all stakeholders in the planning application process.	
Will this policy or project have any implications on other procedures/projects/strategies etc of the City Council? It may help free up some Member time for constituency business. Changes to CHC will free up some Cabinet Member time. Are there any implications on our statutory duties? (e.g. social care or homeless eligibility criteria) There are no implications for the statutory duties of the Council as Local Planning Authority or as Highway and Parking Authority.	

PART 2: Initial Impact Assessment

Complete this part to evaluate whether you should proceed to a full EIA. If you know your policy or project will have an impact on certain groups, please go straight to Part 3.

A. Will the aims identified in Part 1 affect our statutory equality or human rights duties to:	
a) Promote equality of opportunity?	e) Promote positive equality attitudes?
b) Encourage participation for all *	f) Eliminate discrimination?
c) Consider reasonable adjustments for disabled people?	g) Eliminate harassment?
d) Promote and protect human rights?	h) Promote good community relations?
l) Include measures to promote equal pay, ensure fair promotion, development opportunities and tackle occupational segregation	
* Note b) must include disabled people under the Disability Duty. If so, please comment:	
No impact re any of the above	

<p>B. Are the particular communities or groups below likely to have different needs, experiences and attitudes in relation to the project? Are there any significant cohesion or social inclusion issues for the project?</p> <p>Black Minority Ethnic <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> People of different ages <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/ Belief <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation <input type="checkbox"/> Carers <input type="checkbox"/> Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/> Social Inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No impact re any of the above. Fundamentally, the modernisation of the Planning and Highways Committees is equality neutral affecting all those involved equally regardless of age, sex, race, faith, disability, sexuality, etc. No negative equality impacts have been identified.</p> <p>If the EIA is not being done at the start of the policy or project please give reasons for the delay: N/A</p> <p>Date for review: N/A</p>

If you have identified any significant impacts under sections 2A or 2B then you will need to proceed to a full EIA in PART 3.

If you have not identified any significant impact you do not need to conduct a full EIA.
Please note - this decision still needs to be cleared (signed off) by the officer in your directorate responsible for signing off EIAs.

I have now considered the equality implications of my policy or project and / will not proceed to carry out a Full Impact Assessment.	
Date of EIA form (Parts 1 and 2) completed: 11 February 2013	
Signed (Officer completing the form):	Graham Withers / John Bann
Signed (EIA Responsible Officer):	Ian Oldershaw
	Date: 11 February 2013
	Date: 12/02/13

Appendix A

Proposed Delegations relating to Highways and Transport and Traffic to be incorporated within the Leader's and the Executive Director (Place)'s Schemes of Delegation

1. The 'Streets Ahead' Project (Highways PFI) and other Highways Related Issues
 - 1.1 The Head of Highway Maintenance is authorised to make decisions on behalf of the Council as the 'Authority Representative' under the Highways Maintenance PFI Contract dated 31st July 2012 and including any subsequent revisions between (1) the Council and (2) Amey Hallam Highways Limited ('the Streets Ahead Contract'), including authorising the making of call-off contracts (as deeds and in the agreed contractual form) for the provision of non-core services pursuant to the Streets Ahead Contract', provided that this authority:-
 - 1.1.1 Does not extend to making a decision in relation to:-
 - (a) Termination of the Streets Ahead Contract;
 - (b) The final approval of the making of High Value Changes (as defined in the Streets Ahead Contract); or
 - (c) Step-in by the taking of any Required Action (as defined in the Streets Ahead Contract).
 - 1.1.2 Is subject to any further restrictions which may be imposed on it from time to time by the Cabinet or by an individual Cabinet member with a relevant portfolio; and
 - 1.1.3 Is without prejudice to the authority of any other persons to make decisions under any other provisions of this Scheme.
 - 1.2 Any functions of the executive in relation to the Council's roles as Highways Authority and Road Traffic Authority, including transport and parking (except any function that relates to highways maintenance and street naming and numbering and Section 278, Highways Act 1980 (power to erect barriers in streets in cases of emergency)) may be discharged by the Chief Executive, by the Executive Director, Place, by the Director of Development Services and by the Head of Transport Traffic and Parking Services in each case acting individually.
 - 1.3 Any functions of the Executive in relation to the Council's role as Highways Authority in so far as they relate to highways maintenance and street naming and numbering and Section 278, Highways Act 1980 (power to erect barriers in streets in cases of emergency) may be discharged by the Chief Executive, by the Executive Director, Place, by the Director of Development Services and by the Head of Highways Maintenance in each case acting individually.

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SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 3RD APRIL, 2013

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.7 – SHEFFIELD LOCAL PLAN

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Sue Alston

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land at Canterbury Crescent for up to fifteen houses, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Katie Condliffe

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land at Worrall for up to fifty-five houses and green field land in Stannington for twenty houses, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Denise Reaney

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land in Norton for up to fifty houses and designation as Housing Area of land at Norton Oakes, Norton, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alison Brelsford, seconded by Councillor Trevor Bagshaw

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 27th

February, 2013 in relation to the City Policies and Sites document and Proposals Map, be replaced by the following resolution:-

“That this Council opposes the allocation of green field land in Oughtibridge for up to forty houses and green field land in Stocksbridge for fifty houses, and therefore directs the Executive Director of Place to undertake further work on the report before submitting new proposals.”

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.8 – SHEFFIELD CITY REGION AUTHORITY

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed, seconded by Councillor Colin Ross

That the recommendations of the Cabinet at its meeting held on 20th March, 2013 in relation to the establishment of a Sheffield City Region Authority, be approved subject to the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (d) and the addition of a new paragraph (b) as follows:-

- (b) directs the Director of Legal & Governance to undertake further work to ensure the new bodies maintain political proportionality.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.10 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPAM

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (p) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (l) as follows:-

- (b) reiterates the opposition of the Main Opposition Group on this Council to the bedroom tax;
- (c) welcomes concessions that have already been made to the bedroom tax, notably the exemption made for members of the armed forces and foster families;
- (d) supports also the Government’s decision to treble the Discretionary Housing Payment budget and provide councils with discretionary funding to help families in difficult circumstances;
- (e) believes these concessions come as a result of Liberal Democrat influence in Government and thanks Liberal Democrat Ministers for working to improve the policy;
- (f) furthermore, highlights that disabled tenants who require an

additional bedroom for a non-resident carer who provides overnight care were already protected from the change;

- (g) encourages the Government to go further by agreeing additional exemptions and increasing the Discretionary Payments funding;
- (h) believes the root cause of this problem is the previous Government's failure to address the nation's housing crisis, with the building of social housing declining to the lowest figure since the Second World War under the previous Government;
- (i) notes with concern that under the previous Government seven times more prison cells were built than council homes;
- (j) further notes with dismay that under the previous Government's Housing Market Renewal Scheme, 4,590 houses in South Yorkshire were demolished, while just 2,415 were built, at a cost of £265 million;
- (k) furthermore, understands that the present Administration have so far spent just 11% of the New Homes Bonus, a fund specifically targeted at encouraging more home building; and
- (l) recommends that Sheffield follows the example of Bristol City Council by setting up a cross-party working group, to agree ways to support local residents affected by the bedroom tax.

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (p) to (t) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (p) as a new paragraph (u):-

- (p) congratulates those who organised and attended simultaneous demonstrations across the country on Saturday 16th March and Saturday 30th March 2013;
- (q) notes that councillors are receiving a steady flow of casework around the legislation;
- (r) will therefore gather detailed case studies of those affected and submit these as evidence to Government on the effects of the under-occupancy measures and the case for more Government support for Discretionary Housing Payments;
- (s) requests the Administration to do everything it can to inform and help residents affected by the bedroom tax and avoid eviction, for example through:

- (i) encouraging tenants to claim the benefits they are entitled to, for example Disability Living Allowance; and
 - (ii) giving maximum practical support and choice to those tenants who do wish to move;
- (t) also requests the Administration to look into:
- (i) whether it would be possible to reclassify bedrooms so as to avoid the tax; and
 - (ii) whether it would be feasible to ask Housing Associations and the Council Housing Service not to take eviction proceedings where arrears are solely due to unaffordability caused by the bedroom tax;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.11 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JACK SCOTT

8. Amendment to be moved by Councillor David Baker, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

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) supports the steps taken by the Rt. Hon. Ed Davey, M.P., the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, to promote collective switching across the UK;
- (b) is pleased to see the Council has accepted the Government’s challenge and encourages all residents to sign up to Big Sheffield Switch;
- (c) welcomes the ground-breaking Green Deal, first proposed by Liberal Democrats, which the Council’s Cabinet Member for Environment described as “fantastic news for Sheffield”;
- (d) supports further actions the Coalition Government is taking to tackle fuel poverty, including:
 - (i) reversing the previous Government’s planned cut to Cold Weather Payments, which are targeted at the most vulnerable;
 - (ii) reducing fuel bills for 2 million families by up to £130 through the Warm Home Discount; and
 - (iii) rolling out a ‘smart meter’ programme, which helps people

save money and ensures energy companies meet demand more efficiently;

- (e) notes research by the Department of Energy & Climate Change, which demonstrates that the Coalition Government's climate change policies will save consumers roughly £166 in energy bills by 2020;
- (f) highlights the importance of Liberal Democrats in Government forcing Conservative Ministers to take warnings of climate change seriously, something that has been sadly ignored by previous Governments;
- (g) recalls the previous Administration's Decentralised Energy City Strategy, which set out a bold vision to make energy self-sufficient and allow the City to "adapt to future changes to our climate";
- (h) furthermore, commends the previous Administration's Free Insulation Scheme, through which over 28,000 homes in Sheffield are already benefiting from warmer homes and cheaper energy bills; and
- (i) requests that the Administration publishes a Cabinet Report on current progress against the Council's Decentralised Energy City Strategy.

9. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Robert Murphy, seconded by Councillor Jillian Creasy

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (p) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraph (p) as a new paragraph (q):-

- "(p) understands the need for Sheffield to contribute to energy generation and requests the current Administration to reopen the feasibility study into a windfarm at Westwood Country Park which was halted by the previous Administration."

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 12 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SHAFFAQ MOHAMMED

10. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) notes that the imposition of damaging cuts by the Coalition Government means that the budget position today is completely different from 2009/10, and therefore regrets that it is no longer sustainable to maintain parking zone permit prices at levels below those first set when parking permit zones were introduced;
- (b) notes that the previous Administration doubled on-street parking charges in permit parking zones in their 2010 budget;
- (c) further notes that the main opposition group also recently put forward a scheme that would have seen parking for small businesses given to residents during Streets Ahead works, with potentially devastating consequences for trade in local district centres, and recalls the total opposition to the plan by the Federation for Small Businesses;
- (d) recalls that the main opposition group opposed increases in resident permit charges last year, however notes they cynically abandoned this pledge in their budget proposal;
- (e) believes this demonstrates the total hypocrisy and short term view that the Liberal Democrats have demonstrated, not just locally but nationally, on issues such as tuition fees and the VAT tax bombshell; and
- (f) therefore believes it is clear the Liberal Democrats are more interested in their own party's short term interests than the long term welfare of Sheffield and cannot be trusted to take long term, responsible decisions.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.13 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI BOND

11. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Alison Brelsford

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (k) and the addition of new paragraphs (c) and (d) as follows:-

- (c) supports measures the Coalition Government has taken to tackle domestic violence, including enforcing serious case review for deaths related to domestic violence, and use of the international aid budget to address domestic violence abroad; and
- (d) regrets the need of the mover of the motion to cloud the very important issue of domestic violence with party-political point-scoring.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.15 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR DIANA STIMELY

12. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (f) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (j) as follows:-

- (b) notes that money to support Local District Centres, funded by the previous Government, has been cut by the present Coalition Government;
- (c) recalls that the Liberal Democrat Group have already back tracked on reversing increases in parking permit prices, in addition to their decision to double on street parking charges in permit parking zones in their 2010 budget;
- (d) is currently consulting on a pay back scheme trial in Broomhill, to support local district centres whilst protecting Council budgets;
- (e) notes that the main opposition group's budget proposal for free parking uses one-off funds allocated by the current Administration for schemes to grow the economy over the medium term, and fails to deliver sustainable support to district centres;
- (f) believes that the best way to help traders during the longest recession on record is to grow the economy – benefiting companies, jobs and trade;
- (g) believes that the local Liberal Democrats have failed to come up with one single initiative over the past two years, as the Government cuts have had to be implemented, that seeks to drive long term sustainable growth while recognising the increasingly difficult budget position the Council faces;
- (h) further notes that the main opposition group's proposed budget would have moved money away from key schemes to grow the economy over the medium to long term;
- (i) therefore believes that this is yet another example of short term promises made for their own political gain; and
- (j) re-affirms this Administration's commitment to make decisions for the long term well being of the City and the economy – despite the Government's focus on cutting local government budgets.

13. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (f) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (j) as follows:-

- (b) notes that the Government has allocated Sheffield £100,000 through the High Street Innovation Fund, alongside £10,000 for Banner Cross traders;
- (c) further notes that £64,000 of this money has already been allocated to fund just four apprentice positions, indicating that, whilst worthwhile, this funding is a drop in the ocean compared to the challenges faced by local high streets;
- (d) notes that, whilst the investment in Banner Cross is very welcome, current construction of a Sainsbury's store within this local centre threatens the viability of one of the most diverse and thriving District Centres in the City, and that the impact of the proposed Sainsbury's store in Crookesmoor would have a similar impact on that Centre;
- (e) regrets that the Core Strategy (policy CS34) and provisional City Policies and Sites document (policy C4.16) encourages the opening of superstores in District Centres, regardless of need and the importance of diversity in local shops, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraph 23);
- (f) notes that the impact assessment for a supermarket similar to that currently planned at Banner Cross, adjacent to the District Centre, predicted takings for local shops would fall by around 15% but that no impact assessment for the scheme within the District Centre was required;
- (g) instructs officers to explore options for the provision of impact assessments for all supermarket developments (or development over an agreed floorspace threshold), whether within or outwith District Centres;
- (h) notes the New Economics Foundation "Reimagine Your High Street" initiative, which seeks to create low carbon, socially vibrant local economies by combating the growth of national chain stores, and asks that officers and Members work with Community Forums and other neighbourhood groups to support this initiative;
- (i) welcomes the new supermarkets watchdog that will regulate how supermarkets purchase their food but believes this will be

inadequate, on its own, to keep supermarket growth in check and tackle the perceived abuse of planning procedure, land-banking and product pricing that powerful supermarkets engage in; and

- (j) therefore, asks the Chief Executive to write to Government and request that Councils are indemnified against the legal costs of 'vexatious' supermarket planning disputes.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.16 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

14. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, seconded by Councillor Simon Clement-Jones

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (e) and the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (f) as follows:-

- (c) notes that this underspend is not an unprecedented phenomenon;
- (d) believes a proportion of this underspend should be allocated to "shovel-ready" capital projects in culture, leisure and park facilities;
- (e) highlights that these projects will not only improve services but boost the local economy; and
- (f) furthermore, recommends that a number of future allocations in the capital programme should be reviewed, including the £2.2 million earmarked for City Centre Civic Accommodation.

15. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Bryan Lodge

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, along with eminent Early Years specialists, including Dame Tickell, the decision made by this Coalition Government to cut £7.4m from the Early Intervention Grant;
- (b) further regrets that the Government has taken away funding from early intervention and prevention, 'wraparound' services to children and families and redistributed it to the Deputy Prime Minister's pet project of 'free learning for two year olds';

- (c) reminds the smallest opposition party that capital programme funding cannot be used to fund revenue spending;
- (d) notes that capital schemes in the Children, Young People and Families portfolio are mostly two or three years projects running over academic years and any profile spend is not an actual 'underspend' but just accounts for the difference in the academic and financial years;
- (e) also reminds the smallest opposition group that any attempt to take money away means that schools across the City would not get their 'promised' improvements, including to boilers, windows and toilets; and
- (f) is committed to working with providers to enable them to develop sustainable business plans for their organisations and help them to access all other relevant funding.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 18 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SUE ALSTON

16. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Jackie Drayton, seconded by Councillor Denise Fox

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words "That this Council" and the substitution of the following words therefor:-

- (a) recognises the importance of Outdoor Education and its part in raising attainment and expectations and enabling enriching experiences of many children and young people across the City;
- (b) notes with concern that this Government is making unprecedented and unfair cuts to Sheffield City Council and that the Council has had to make savings of £140 million over the past two years with a further £50 million for 2013/14 and also the additional £7.4m cut to the Early Intervention Grant which specifically funded revenue work with children and young people;
- (c) regrets that Mayfield Environmental Education Centre is not being used by school groups in the City;
- (d) notes that despite providing funding last year to keep the Centre open and supporting a campaign to find a sustainable future for the Centre, a viable solution has not been found;
- (e) welcomes the Administration's capital investment in the Thornbridge Outdoor Education Centre, especially enabling the

Centre to adapt to provide more activities for disabled children and their families; and

- (f) is pleased to support Thornbridge Outdoors so it continues to provide access to the exciting outdoor opportunities for all children and young people in Sheffield.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.19 – NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR SIMON CLEMENT-JONES

17. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Bryan Lodge, seconded by Councillor Ian Saunders

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 Government is giving with one hand but taking away much, much more with the other;
- (b) notes that April’s increase in the personal allowance doesn’t make up for what families have already lost in terms of tax and benefit changes;
- (c) further notes that when the impact of higher VAT and cuts to things like tax credits are taken into account, research has demonstrated that a family with one earner and two children on £20,000 will be £381 a year worse off in 2013-14 and £600 a year worse off in 2014-15;
- (d) believes that the real priority of this Government is to support the 13,000 millionaires who are set to get an average tax cut of £100,000 in just a few weeks’ time;
- (e) opposes the Government’s decision to cut the top rate of income tax;
- (f) regrets that the Liberal Democrats have abandoned so many of their manifesto promises and have forfeited their principles for power; and
- (g) believes that the Liberal Democrats have been duplicitous and requests that they hold their coalition partners to account rather than supporting their unfair and damaging policies in government.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO.20 - NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JILLIAN CREASY

18. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Mazher Iqbal

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) notes that the 'bedroom tax' is due to take effect from April this year;
- (b) condemns this policy which will affect anyone of working age (below 61 ½) on housing benefit deemed to be 'under-occupying' a social housing home, which equates to around 7500 homes across Sheffield;
- (c) deplores the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam for allowing the Government to implement this deeply unfair policy;
- (d) notes that the following are not exempt from the bedroom tax:
 - (i) those couples who need an extra bedroom because of one of them having a medical condition or disability;
 - (ii) non-resident parents who have their children to stay at weekends in the holidays;
 - (iii) families who offer regular respite support to other family members; and
 - (iv) people living in homes which have been substantially adapted at tax-payers' expense;
- (e) is committed to supporting all residents both children and adults, including those with disabilities and medical needs;
- (f) regrets that the Discretionary Payments Fund that the Government has made available is completely inadequate and is estimated to cover only a fraction of people affected by the bedroom tax and notes that this Fund is also expected to cover other welfare changes;
- (g) notes that the Government's own Equality Impact Assessment estimates that two-thirds of households affected will have a member with a disability;
- (h) further notes that many independent analysts are predicting that households will move into the private rented sector, costing

more, and that care needs for many disabled people will increase, again costing more;

- (i) further notes that there is not an excess supply of small properties available for households to move into in Sheffield;
- (j) further notes the bedroom tax will unfairly hit many people, including families with disabled children or adults, families who share the care of their children and families who offer respite care to other family members;
- (k) further notes that this policy may well end up costing the public purse more;
- (l) believes that disabled people – both adults and children – deserve respect and not to be penalised for their medical needs;
- (m) values the role of non-resident parents and believes they should be encouraged to play as full a part in the lives of their children as possible;
- (n) further values and appreciates the role of families who offer respite care – and not only because it saves the taxpayer billions of pounds;
- (o) notes that Housing Associations will have difficulty in keeping arrears down, damaging services for all tenants; and
- (p) therefore resolves to:
 - (i) ask the Leader to write to the Secretary of State outlining the Council's concerns and urgently requesting that the bedroom tax is scrapped; and
 - (ii) ask the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods to write to Sheffield MPs outlining the concerns and asking that they lobby for their affected constituents and push for the bedroom tax to be scrapped.

19. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Penny Baker, seconded by Councillor Andrew Sangar

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) notes that the 'bedroom tax' is due to take effect from April this year;
- (b) reiterates the opposition of the Main Opposition Group on this

Council to the bedroom tax;

- (c) welcomes concessions that have already been made to the bedroom tax, notably the exemption made for members of the armed forces and foster families;
- (d) supports also the Government's decision to treble the Discretionary Housing Payment budget and provide councils with discretionary funding to help families in difficult circumstances;
- (e) believes these concessions come as a result of Liberal Democrat influence in Government and thanks Liberal Democrat Ministers for working to improve the policy;
- (f) furthermore, highlights that disabled tenants who require an additional bedroom for a non-resident carer who provides overnight care were already protected from the change;
- (g) encourages the Government to go further by agreeing additional exemptions and increasing the Discretionary Payments funding;
- (h) believes the root cause of this problem is the previous Government's failure to address the nation's housing crisis, with the building of social housing declining to the lowest figure since the Second World War under the previous Government;
- (i) notes with concern that under the previous Government seven times more prison cells were built than council homes;
- (j) further notes with dismay that under the previous Government's Housing Market Renewal Scheme, 4,590 houses in South Yorkshire were demolished, while just 2,415 were built, at a cost of £265 million;
- (k) furthermore, understands that the present Administration have so far spent just 11% of the New Homes Bonus, a fund specifically targeted at encouraging more home building; and
- (l) recommends that Sheffield follows the example of Bristol City Council by setting up a cross-party working group, to agree ways to support local residents affected by the bedroom tax.