



# Council

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**Wednesday 1 November 2017**

**5.00 pm**

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

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

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## COUNCIL

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**Wednesday 1 November 2017, at 5.00 pm  
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**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

THE LORD MAYOR (Councillor Anne Murphy)  
THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR (Councillor Magid Magid)

1	<i>Beauchief &amp; Greenhill Ward</i> Andy Nash Bob Pullin Richard Shaw	10	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Pauline Andrews Andy Bainbridge Steve Wilson	19	<i>Nether Edge &amp; Sharrow Ward</i> Mohammad Maroof Jim Steinke Alison Teal
2	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Chris Rosling-Josephs Ian Saunders Sophie Wilson	11	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Roger Davison Shaffaq Mohammed Paul Scriven	20	<i>Park &amp; Arbourthorne Ward</i> Julie Dore Ben Miskell Jack Scott
3	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	12	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Abdul Khayum Alan Law Abtisam Mohamed	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> Mike Drabble Dianne Hurst Peter Rippon
4	<i>Broomhill &amp; Sharrow Vale Ward</i> Michelle Cook Kieran Harpham Magid Magid	13	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Sue Alston Andrew Sangar Cliff Woodcraft	22	<i>Shiregreen &amp; Brightside Ward</i> Dawn Dale Peter Price Garry Weatherall
5	<i>Burngreave Ward</i> Jackie Drayton Talib Hussain Mark Jones	14	<i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i> Lewis Dagnall Cate McDonald Chris Peace	23	<i>Southey Ward</i> Mike Chaplin Tony Damms Jayne Dunn
6	<i>City Ward</i> Douglas Johnson Robert Murphy Moya O'Rourke	15	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Ian Auckland Sue Auckland Steve Ayriss	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Penny Baker Vickie Priestley
7	<i>Crookes &amp; Crosspool Ward</i> Craig Gamble Pugh Adam Hanrahan Anne Murphy	16	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond Josie Paszek	25	<i>Stocksbridge &amp; Upper Don Ward</i> Jack Clarkson Richard Crowther Keith Davis
8	<i>Darnall Ward</i> Mazher Iqbal Mary Lea Zahira Naz	17	<i>Manor Castle Ward</i> Lisa Banes Terry Fox Pat Midgley	26	<i>Walkley Ward</i> Olivia Blake Ben Curran Neale Gibson
9	<i>Dore &amp; Topley Ward</i> Joe Otten Colin Ross Martin Smith	18	<i>Mosborough Ward</i> David Barker Tony Downing Gail Smith	27	<i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i> John Booker Adam Hurst Zoe Sykes
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Mick Rooney Jackie Satur Paul Wood

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John Mothersole

Chief Executive

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## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING**

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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](http://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. 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 and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

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.

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## **FACILITIES**

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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.

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**COUNCIL AGENDA  
1 NOVEMBER 2017**

**Order of Business**

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**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. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**4. NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "CHARGES TO ACCESS SERVICES IN HOSPITALS" - GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR PAULINE ANDREWS AND TO BE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JACK CLARKSON**

That this Council:-

- (a) expresses concern at what this Council believes to be the excessive charges being put on vulnerable patients and their families in our city's hospitals by private companies, such as Hospedia (a United States owned company), such as (i) charges for bedside television of £5 per day for the average package and £10 per day for the full package, (ii) the cost of incoming calls to patients from friends and relatives of 50p per minute, (iii) cashpoint fee of £2 and (iv) average car parking charges of £2.50 per hour;
- (b) believes it's unethical for private companies to make huge profits by preying on the patients and their families, especially at the end of life, and notes that, last year, Hospedia had a turnover of £22m in UK sales;
- (c) believes that whilst Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust made no money from television packages, it does receive income from hospital car parking charges; and also believes that there is no evidence of money being reinvested; and, further, understands that NHS staff are also being hit with huge car parking fines, and believes that a parking space at work shouldn't be classed as a luxury, especially for staff working nights;

- (d) notes that the NHS health care service is supposedly free at the point of use, however, believes that the extra charges to access the service are far from healthy, causing additional stress to patients and their families;
- (e) believes it is not acceptable that some patients are being charged £10.00 per day to view a television, whilst inmates at HMP Lindholme Prison, Doncaster, pay just £1.00 for an entire week's worth of viewing; and
- (f) requests that the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care writes to the Secretary of State for Health to demand an end to these excessive charges, which this Council believes are outrageous.

**5. NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "UNIVERSAL CREDIT" - GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR MOHAMMAD MAROOF AND TO BE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JIM STEINKE**

That this Council:-

- (a) believes the Government must pause and fix Universal Credit - design issues, together with the Government cuts and poor implementation, have undermined the aims of the policy which, initially, had such widespread and cross-party support;
- (b) believes it is unacceptable that at present the Department for Work and Pension (DWP) are failing to pay one in four new claims within their six week period and that the impact this is having on claimants cannot be understated, as it is driving debt, arrears and even evictions;
- (c) notes that nationally half of families in arrears under Universal Credit have said that their rent arrears started after they made their claim; with 42% of families in arrears stating that this is due to the long waiting times to receive payment, support being delayed or stopped, or administrative errors in the system;
- (d) notes the widespread concern expressed by landlords throughout the country, including this Council, that paying claimants rather than landlords direct under Universal Credit is causing hardship to many claimants;
- (e) further notes that changes to benefit payments was piloted for council homes in Sheffield, and in the piloted areas there was a 43% increase in arrears, and this was for people who were not in arrears beforehand, and that, should similar results be found when Universal Credit is rolled out completely, the Council will be faced with a huge shortfall, and this in turn will have a significant effect on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), and the Council's ability to

build and repair council homes, and notes that the Authority has already had to make millions of pounds of provision in the HRA for loss of income;

- (f) notes that this Administration made clear its reservations about the proposed changes in payments to the Government, but that the Government has failed to take heed of our warnings, and the Administration is now working closely with people who will be affected by the roll out and will do everything it can to support tenants and make them aware of the changes;
- (g) notes the high costs of calling the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and their agencies over issues concerning Universal Credit, with some callers having to pay as much as 55p a minute when seeking support, believes this is outrageous, and notes that Jobcentres are telling people to use the 0345 number helpline;
- (h) notes that this situation is thankfully being resolved, with the Government now committing to making calls to the Universal Credit helpline free from November; and that this change in government policy was widely hailed as a victory for the Labour Leader, the Rt. Hon. Jeremy Corbyn MP, after he successfully challenged the Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP on the issue at last week's Prime Minister's Questions;
- (i) backs those calling on the Government to put on hold the national roll-out of Universal Credit, and notes the symbolic vote in Parliament recently where MPs backed a pause, after Conservative MPs were told to abstain, which the opposition won by 299 votes to 0; and, whilst noting that the outcome is not binding, believes the Government must "act on the clearly expressed will of Parliament", as stated by the Speaker of the House of Commons, and halt its roll out;
- (j) contends that the implementation of Universal Credit is causing havoc and notes that the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Rt. Hon. David Gauke MP, is asking claimants to visit their local job centre, whilst at the very same time his Department is shutting nearly 70 job centres;
- (k) notes that Eastern Avenue Jobcentre is due to close imminently, despite the fact the service is currently receiving a spike in activity due to the failed implementation of Universal Credit, and that the DWP is yet to publish a cost benefit analysis for this decision, despite the fact they claim the decision is based solely on the need to make savings;
- (l) notes that, in answer to questions raised in Parliament by Louise Haigh MP, the Government admitted that they do not know whether

the closure of Eastern Avenue Job Centre will save any money;

- (m) reaffirms that Eastern Avenue Job Centre should be retained and backs the statement from Council Leader, Councillor Julie Dore, in June 2017 that the closure will have “a dreadful impact on how vital employment support is provided locally” and that “the initial decision has been made without a proper impact assessment and without a clear picture of how claimants will be affected, including extremely vulnerable claimants who may have disabilities or mental health problems”;
- (n) notes that Jobcentres are often not able to provide the support that is required for claimants and the Citizen’s Advice Bureau (CAB) are unlikely to be able to cope with an increased demand;
- (o) believes that the CAB play an essential role in providing support and advice to a great many people but that resources are becoming increasingly stretched; and that government cuts to local authorities, coupled with cuts to the welfare state since 2010, have created a “perfect storm” whereby advice agencies are unable to cope with demand;
- (p) believes that benefit claimants are coming under increasing pressure and that, even before the roll out of Universal Credit, the benefit freeze combined with the predicted rise in inflation could set some low-income households back £300 next year, as warned by the Joseph Roundtree Foundation (JRF);
- (q) further notes that the Resolution Foundation says loss of income due to benefit freezes would be £225 for a single parent in work, and backs the calls from the Director of the JRF that the Chancellor, the Rt. Hon. Philip Hammond MP, should use his upcoming Budget to “ease the squeeze on low and middle income families not make it worse” but that “Government policy is currently set to do the opposite, freezing the value of crucial support that 11 million families receive”; and
- (r) notes that with inflation approaching 3%, families are on course for the biggest real-terms cut in the value of their benefits for decades and calls on the Government to end what this Council believes to be their callous and ideologically driven programme of austerity which is causing such damage to so many.

**6. NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "HOUSING POLICY" - GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR TONY DOWNING AND TO BE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KIERAN HARPHAM**

That this Council:-

- (a) notes that between 1997 and 2010, the Labour Government built

two million homes, helped a million more families become home-owners, provided greater security for private renters and put in the biggest investment in social housing for a generation;

- (b) regrets that since 2010, however, home-ownership numbers have fallen, with 200,000 fewer home-owning households nationally since 2010, and many young people are now unable to make their way onto the property ladder as housing prices rise far quicker than wages;
- (c) further notes that the level of home-ownership in the UK has fallen since 2009-10 from 67.4% to 62.9% in 2015-16, the lowest rate for 30 years and, just as starkly, notes that the number of under-45s owning a home has fallen by 900,000 since 2009-10, noting the generational divide that opened as a result of Conservative-Liberal Democrat policies in Government;
- (d) highlights that nationally the number of people in the private rented sector has increased by a staggering 1.2 million households since 2010, with one in four families with children (1.6 million households) now renting privately;
- (e) believes that more and more people are renting instead of buying due to simple supply and demand economics due to seven years of failed government policies which did not do enough to provide sufficient numbers of affordable homes, noting that last year the Government built the fewest affordable homes for 24 years and Conservative-Liberal Democrat Ministers' cut government funding for affordable homes by 60% in 2010, and that, in total, the number of genuinely affordable homes for social rent started last year was fewer than 1,000, compared to 40,000 started in Labour's last year in Government;
- (f) judges that Conservative Ministers have failed to deliver one-for-one replacements for homes sold through the Right-to-buy scheme - instead only one is being built for every five sold and this is having a damaging impact on the Council's housing stock;
- (g) notes that the Government is still threatening to force councils to sell off the best of their homes to pay for the extension of the right to buy to housing associations, with independent estimates suggesting as many as 23,500 homes could be forced to be sold nationally;
- (h) contends that the Government is also badly letting down those who live in our council homes as, despite initial rhetoric to the counter, the Government have failed to provide additional funding for all of the fire safety up-grades the Council is making;
- (i) notes that in the wake of the Grenfell Fire disaster, this

Administration acted quickly and decisively in response to concerns raised and the Council will be fitting sprinklers in all 24 of its tower blocks, moving forward what was already planned by this Administration;

- (j) notes that the Authority has already spent millions on fire safety in our council homes and improvement works have been carried out over the last five years and that it had always been intended to review the policy on sprinklers later this year, but this Administration made a commitment to bring forward plans to provide extra reassurance to residents;
- (k) notes that whilst independent tests have shown that cladding in 23 council tower blocks in Sheffield are completely safe – being made from solid aluminium or brick - the remaining one, Hanover tower, is already having its cladding removed after one element of the system failed the Government's new fire safety test;
- (l) notes that Sheffield City Council has a rolling five-year programme of health and safety works to all council flats and maisonettes and, since 2010, this has focused on fire precaution works such as fire doors, filling cavities with a fire barrier product and hard-wired smoke alarms;
- (m) notes that this Administration acts decisively to ensure fire safety in Sheffield homes, but that because the Authority has proactively made arrangements, it is effectively being punished by the Government who are refusing to provide any additional funds for fire safety projects – despite the outcry as a result of the Grenfell disaster;
- (n) agrees with the words of Clive Betts, Labour MP for Sheffield South East, that the Government ought to share responsibility for ensuring that councils are able to implement the desired fire safety works, such as sprinklers as being undertaken by this Council, without it impacting on other services;
- (o) notes that under this Administration, a thousand new council homes will be created – the Administration is building council homes in the city for the first time in a generation, as well as acquiring them through acquisition, with all homes built to the National Lifetime Homes standard with potential to be adapted in the future for specific needs, the new homes have solar panels and heat recovery systems to keep running costs down, and some have been designed specifically for wheelchair users; and at the same time, this Administration is investing £300m to improve kitchens and bathrooms and help residents save money by improving insulation, heating and roofs;
- (p) notes that statistics released in April 2017 show that Labour

Councils have on average built 50% more homes than Conservative Councils since 2010, and a report by Local Housing Innovations shows that Labour Councils are not just building more homes but building better homes too;

- (q) notes that Labour's Shadow Housing Minister, the Rt. Hon. John Healey MP, has committed that a future Labour Government will take bold action to tackle the housing crisis, including investing to build 100,000 affordable council and housing association homes a year, to rent and buy, a new charter of renters' rights, and a new national plan to end rough sleeping, starting by doubling the number of affordable homes reserved for those with a history of sleeping rough; and
- (r) believes that national policies over the last seven years, since the formation of the Coalition Government, have failed millions for their housing needs and that Labour is now the only credible political party who can resolve this crisis.

**7. NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING "LOCAL TRANSPORT SERVICES AND SCHEMES" - GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR IAN AUCKLAND AND TO BE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR RICHARD SHAW**

That this Council :-

- (a) notes the importance to local communities of a simple, reliable, stable and affordable bus network;
- (b) is concerned about the lack of effective Member oversight at the City Region/South Yorkshire and City Council/Local Ward level of local transport services;
- (c) calls for the Administration to seek to re-establish a City Region/South Yorkshire Transport Body and for the reintroduction of a mechanism by the City Council to give oversight by Ward Members;
- (d) further notes the increasing length of the list of local transport scheme requests which must concern all members of this Council; and
- (e) by means of re-prioritisation or re-allocation of existing resources, calls for the establishment of local based funding, under the control of local Members in order to establish a funding source for Ward-led transport schemes.

**8. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

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

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

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

(NB. Minutes of recent meetings of the two South Yorkshire Joint Authorities have been made available to all Members of the Council via the following link -

<http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13165&path=0>)

## **9. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

To receive the record of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and to approve the accuracy thereof.

## **10. 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.

## **11. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Report of the Chief Executive outlining proposed changes to the Council's Constitution.

Chief Executive

Dated this 24 day of October 2017

**The next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on 6 December 2017 at the Town Hall**