

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 1 November 2017, at 5.00 pm, pursuant to notice duly given and Summonses duly served.

**PRESENT**

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</i> Julie Dore
3	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	12	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Abdul Khayum 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	22	<i>Shiregreen &amp; Brightside Ward</i> Dawn Dale Garry Weatherall
5	<i>Burngreave Ward</i> Jackie Drayton Talib Hussain Mark Jones	14	<i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i> Lewis Dagnall Cate McDonald	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
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; Totley Ward</i> Joe Otten Colin Ross Martin Smith	18	<i>Mosborough Ward</i> David Barker Tony Downing	27	<i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i> John Booker Zoe Sykes
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Jackie Satur Paul Wood



**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Keith Davis, Adam Hurst, Alan Law, Ben Miskell, Chris Peace, Peter Price, Mick Rooney, Jack Scott, Gail Smith and Cliff Woodcraft.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 2.1 Personal interests in Agenda Item 4 - Notice of Motion regarding Charges to Access Services in Hospitals (See Minute 5 below), were declared by (a) Councillors Sue Alston and David Barker, due to them being employed by an NHS Trust, (b) Councillors Ben Curran, Andrew Sangar and Richard Shaw, due to their spouse being employed by an NHS Trust and (c) Councillor Talib Hussain, due to his son being employed by an NHS Trust.
- 2.2 Councillors Olivia Blake, Michelle Cook and Josie Paszek each declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 4 - Notice of Motion regarding Charges to Access Services in Hospitals (See Minute 5 below) as (a) a Non-Executive Director of Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust, (b) a Governor of Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and (c) a Council-appointed Governor of the Sheffield Health and Social Care Foundation Trust, respectively.
- 2.3 Councillor Mohammad Maroof declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5 - Notice of Motion regarding Universal Credit (See Minute 6 below) due to him and his spouse being in receipt of tax credits.
- 2.4 Councillors Mike Chaplin and Abdul Khayum each declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 6 - Notice of Motion regarding Housing Policy (See Minute 7 below) as Council-appointed Members of the Southey/Owlerton Area Regeneration Board.

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

3.1 Petitions

- 3.1.1 No petitions were received.

3.2 Public Questions

3.2.1 Public Question Concerning Use of a Building for People of African Descent

Yvonne Wray asked whether a central building could be found for people of African Descent which would provide a resource to help people to identify with their culture and background and help children and generations to come.

Councillor Ben Curran, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Development, responded that he could relate to the importance for people to make connections with their culture and identity. He said he would be pleased to meet with the questioner to talk about the issue, including the requirements for a building and potential solutions.

### 3.2.2 Public Question Concerning Legal Proceedings

Russell Johnson asked whether the Council was content, at a time of austerity, that large sums of money had been spent to attempt to unsuccessfully criminalise a Councillor.

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, responded that there would be a cost to the Council if it did not adhere to the Streets Ahead contract and such cost would potentially be phenomenal and it would be unaffordable not to adhere to the contract.

### 3.2.3 Public Question Concerning the Streets Ahead Contract

Russell Johnson asked if the Leader of the Council could share her assessment of the reputational damage to Sheffield by what he called the mismanagement of the Amey PFI (Private Finance Initiative) Highways contract.

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, responded that it was disappointing when Sheffield appeared in the press and this affected the City in a negative way.

### 3.2.4 Public Question Concerning Standards in Public Life

Justin Buxton asked if Cabinet Members believed that a statement which had been made by a member of the Council to a resident on social media stating "it's just as well I'm contemptuous of idiots like you then" was acceptable.

Councillor Ben Curran, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Development, made reference to the quote which Mr Buxton had given and which he had also raised with both himself and Councillor Olivia Blake, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Deputy Leader of the Council, so they were aware of the context. He said that it was not his role to police the standards of others in a formal way. However, there was a formal process relating to standards of conduct. Complaints relating to Members' conduct could be made through the appropriate Council procedure. He said that, if Mr Buxton was concerned about the conduct of the individual concerned or any other Member, he would suggest the matter was taken through the standards complaints procedure.

Councillor Olivia Blake then confirmed that she had nothing to add to Councillor Curran's response.

### 3.2.5 Public Questions Concerning the Streets Ahead Programme

Justin Buxton asked several questions concerning Streets Ahead, as follows:

Whether the Cabinet Member was certain that the record keeping by Amey regarding work was of a thorough standard as that stipulated by the Streets Ahead contract and could provide a record which could be the subject of an audit.

Was Richard Wood, the private investigator and associates contracted to the Council, Amey Hallam Highways or Amey LG as, when questioned, they stated they are working for the Council.

Would the Cabinet Member confirm whether Amey and Acorn Environmental had received legally enforceable contravention notices of health and safety law?

Was the Council aware as to whether individuals working as subcontractors of Amey had been instructed to take photographs and videos of people outside barriers and who had instructed them to do so; why was the data collected and where and by whom was the data stored?

Councillor Bryan Lodge, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene, responded that with regard to the questions put by Mr Buxton, he would not be able to provide a detailed answer to the questions at this meeting. However, he would send a written response to Mr Buxton if he provided his contact details.

### 3.2.6 Public Questions Concerning the Outcome of Legal Proceedings

Rebecca Hammond asked the following questions concerning the outcome of an injunction hearing which had taken place on 27 October and a written verdict issued by Mr Justice Males.

Do they (the Cabinet Members) agree that the Judge's interpretation of the injunction takes precedence over any others?

Do they agree that Mr Justice Males concluded that Councillor Alison Teal had interpreted the injunction correctly i.e. in the same way as he did?

Do they agree that consequently, Councillor Alison Teal was found not to be in contempt of court because she had not breached the injunction and this was not merely a technicality?

Nigel Slack referred to a question which he had asked at the meeting of Cabinet on 20 September 2017 concerning the injunction relating to Streets Ahead work and the response that he had been given. He asked whether, in light of a press release by the Council, indicating that the Council and Amey

would continue to ensure that people who breach the injunction were brought to court and the judgement against one of the defendants in the recent injunction case for a similar breach, could the Council confirm whether any investigation had begun and whether the individual concerned would be brought to court?

Secondly, Mr Slack referred to previous questions which he had submitted on 4 and 18 October 2017 to Council and Cabinet respectively and concerning the email of a Director to two members of the Sheffield Tree Action Groups regarding the injunction. He asked on what statement by the Judge or other legal precedence does the Director base his decision and does the 'legal department' agree with his position?

In response to the questions of Rebecca Hammond, Councillor Bryan Lodge, Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene, said that he accepted the words of Mr Justice Males and he then read a part of Justice Males' written judgement relating to the court hearing on 27 October 2017 concerning the definition of a safety zone, as follows:

*"I would accept that, as a matter of ordinary language and before considering the definition in the order, the council's approach is correct. An area consisting of plastic barriers forming three sides and a wall forming the fourth side could properly be described as a safety zone. The area from which it is sought to exclude protesters or other members of the public is clearly identified."*

*"However, the order adopts a particular definition of "safety zone" and it is this which must be applied in the present case."*

Mr Justice Males had ruled that a boundary wall or hedge was not sufficient to enclose a safety zone. This was accepted and understood by the Council and Amey had been instructed to ensure a fourth side was placed around safety zones. It was a technicality in as much as it related to the way the safety zone was assembled, which meant that the safety zone was not complete in that case. Mr Justice Males accepted that as a matter of ordinary language and before considering the definition in the Order, the Council's approach was correct.

Councillor Lodge said he was pleased that Councillor Teal was able to defend her position in court and he recognised the validity of the court and the process and had faith in the court. He also said that he hoped that people would accept all the rulings of the court as they accept this ruling and that they will not proceed within the safety zone barriers and allow the work relating to the highways to continue.

In responding to the questions put by Mr Slack, Councillor Lodge said that evidence of a breach was reviewed by the Council's lawyers and the recent court proceedings showed that assertive action would be taken by the Council to uphold the law. In relation to Mr Slack's second question, Councillor Lodge said that he had provided answers to the questions,

although these might not be the answers which Mr Slack necessarily wanted to hear or would accept. Any decisions with regard to court proceedings were made following a review of the available evidence by lawyers to reach a view as to whether it met the correct standards for court. The Director had rightly and assertively challenged unlawful action and those who encouraged it.

### 3.2.7 Public Question Concerning the Installation of Sprinklers

Martin Hollingworth said that the Council was attempting to retro-fit blocks of flats with sprinklers. He said that he would like to know whether an entire tower block's sprinklers would activate every time a resident burned toast. He also asked about electrical fires, which should not be fought with water.

Councillor Jayne Dunn, the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety, responded to the questions and said that a sprinkler would only be activated at a very high temperature. Only the sprinkler immediately above an affected area would be activated. For example, if the affected area was a kitchen, the sprinklers in other rooms would not be activated. With regard to electrical fires, there was a breaker which would activate. Councillor Dunn said that there would be thorough consultation on any measures relating to sprinklers which the Council proposed to put in place, both with residents and the Fire and Rescue Service.

## **4. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

4.1 RESOLVED: On the motion of Councillor Peter Rippon and seconded by Councillor David Baker, that, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.1, the order of business as published on the Council Summons be altered by taking item 8 on the agenda (Members' Questions) as the next item of business.

### 4.2 Urgent Business

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

(Note: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Anne Murphy), in response to a request from Councillor Douglas Johnson for permission to ask two questions, reported that she would not give permission for Councillor Johnson to ask the questions which he had submitted earlier this day regarding a recent court case, for the reason that the questions did not relate to urgent business that needed to be responded to at this meeting, but that, instead, Councillor Johnson may wish to seek written responses from the Leader of the Council, or to submit them to the next meeting.)

4.3 Questions

4.3.1 A schedule of questions to Cabinet Members, submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 16, and which contained written answers, was circulated and supplementary questions, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.4, were asked and were answered by the appropriate Cabinet Members.

4.4 South Yorkshire Joint Authorities

4.4.1 The Lord Mayor (Councillor Anne Murphy) reported that Councillor Douglas Johnson had given advance notice of two questions relating to the South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, and this has enabled Councillor Ian Saunders, the Council's Spokesperson on the Pensions Authority, to provide a detailed response. She stated that written copies of the questions and response had been circulated in the Chamber.

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

(Note: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Anne Murphy), in response to a request from Councillor Robert Murphy that an emergency motion be discussed, reported that the motion which Councillor Murphy had submitted earlier in the day did not meet the criteria in Council Procedure Rule 11(a)(ii) in that the subject matter of the motion [a recent court case] was known before the deadline for submission of motions.)

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

5.1 It was moved by Councillor Pauline Andrews, and seconded by Councillor John Booker, 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 two hour period;

- (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.

5.1.1 (NOTE: With the agreement of the Council and at the request of the mover of the Motion (Councillor Pauline Andrews), the Motion as published on the agenda was altered by the substitution, in paragraph (a), of the words "£2.50 per two hour period" for the words "£2.50 per hour".)

5.2 Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Cate McDonald, and seconded by Councillor Talib Hussain, 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 addition of the following words:-

- (a) supports the Labour Party position that the NHS funding gap 'should not be filled by charging sick patients, anxious relatives and already hard-pressed NHS staff';
- (b) believes that the NHS health care service should be free at the point of use, however, extra charges to access the service undermine this crucial principle;

- (c) notes that for the 2015-16 financial year, NHS trusts in England netted £120,662,650 in car park charges, up from £114,873,867 the year before;
- (d) further notes that the Labour Party stood on a policy platform to abolish hospital parking charges, after years of campaigning by patients' groups, and, unlike other parties who had earlier called for this, such as UKIP, Labour's policy was fully costed; through increased charges on private healthcare insurance to meet the £162m cost of free parking at all NHS hospitals across England;
- (e) notes that this is current Labour Party policy and, as such, the Government will be challenged by Labour MPs on this at every relevant opportunity;
- (f) further notes that at the last General Election only the Labour Party committed to over £30 billion in extra funding over the next Parliament through increasing income tax for the highest 5 per cent of earners and by increasing tax on private medical insurance, and promised to free up resources by halving the fees paid to management consultants;
- (g) notes that the Labour Party's manifesto promised to boost capital funding for the NHS, to ensure that patients are cared for in buildings and using equipment that are fit for the 21st century, and proposed introducing a new Office for Budget Responsibility for Health to oversee health spending and scrutinise how it is spent;
- (h) further notes that the Labour Party is committed to reversing privatisation of our NHS; repealing the Health and Social Care Act which it believes puts profits before patients; and
- (i) supports the Labour Party's calls to introduce a new legal duty on the Secretary of State for Health and on NHS England to ensure that excess private profits are not made out of the NHS at the expense of patient care.

5.3 It was then moved by Councillor Steve Ayriss, and seconded by Councillor Andy Nash, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the deletion of paragraph (c) and the re-lettering of paragraphs (d) to (f) as new paragraphs (f) to (h); and
  2. the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (e) as follows:-
- (c) supports the view expressed by Tim Farron MP earlier this year that the private provider of TV and telephone services is

treating the sick as 'cash cows' by charging "rip off" prices;

- (d) notes that Ofcom has launched a call cost review, which includes investigating the rising cost of telephoning hospital patients, and looks forward to the outcome of that review, due later this year;
- (e) believes that a system should be introduced to enable patients with particular clinical needs e.g. where regular visits to hospital are required, to park without charge and to enable visitors to patients in the last stages of life to be given similar dispensation; however, understands that free parking would lead to a significant increase in demand and would require ongoing management to prevent inappropriate use;

5.4 It was then moved by Councillor Douglas Johnson, and seconded by Councillor Robert Murphy, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraph (c) and the addition of a new paragraph (c) as follows:-

- (c) believes there should be no place for private profit in NHS hospital services;

5.5 Following a right of reply from Councillor Pauline Andrews, the amendment moved by Councillor Cate McDonald was put to the vote and carried.

5.6 The amendment moved by Councillor Steve Ayris was then put to the vote and was negated.

5.7 The amendment moved by Councillor Douglas Johnson was then put to the vote and was negated.

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

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) supports the Labour Party position that the NHS funding gap 'should not be filled by charging sick patients, anxious relatives and already hard-pressed NHS staff';
- (b) believes that the NHS health care service should be free at the point of use, however, extra charges to access the service undermine this crucial principle;
- (c) notes that for the 2015-16 financial year, NHS trusts in England netted £120,662,650 in car park charges, up from £114,873,867 the year before;

- (d) further notes that the Labour Party stood on a policy platform to abolish hospital parking charges, after years of campaigning by patients' groups, and, unlike other parties who had earlier called for this, such as UKIP, Labour's policy was fully costed; through increased charges on private healthcare insurance to meet the £162m cost of free parking at all NHS hospitals across England;
- (e) notes that this is current Labour Party policy and, as such, the Government will be challenged by Labour MPs on this at every relevant opportunity;
- (f) further notes that at the last General Election only the Labour Party committed to over £30 billion in extra funding over the next Parliament through increasing income tax for the highest 5 per cent of earners and by increasing tax on private medical insurance, and promised to free up resources by halving the fees paid to management consultants;
- (g) notes that the Labour Party's manifesto promised to boost capital funding for the NHS, to ensure that patients are cared for in buildings and using equipment that are fit for the 21st century, and proposed introducing a new Office for Budget Responsibility for Health to oversee health spending and scrutinise how it is spent;
- (h) further notes that the Labour Party is committed to reversing privatisation of our NHS; repealing the Health and Social Care Act which it believes puts profits before patients; and
- (i) supports the Labour Party's calls to introduce a new legal duty on the Secretary of State for Health and on NHS England to ensure that excess private profits are not made out of the NHS at the expense of patient care.

5.8.1 (NOTE: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid) and Councillors Douglas Johnson, Robert Murphy and Alison Teal voted for paragraphs (a) to (c) of the Substantive Motion, and abstained from voting on paragraphs (d) to (i) of the Motion, and asked for this to be recorded.)

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

6.1 It was moved by Councillor Mohammad Maroof, and 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 Pensions (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 for 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 Rowntree 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.

6.2 Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Sue Auckland, and seconded by Councillor Joe Otten, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of all the words after the words “That this Council” and the addition of the following words:-

- (a) calls for the Government to pause the planned accelerated roll-out of Universal Credit until problems with implementation can be addressed through the following measures:-
  - (i) removing the seven waiting days at the start of a claim, to reduce the amount of time people have to wait for their first payment;
  - (ii) monitoring the impact of payment one month in arrears, and changing it if this results in rising debt and destitution;
  - (iii) making sure everyone moving to Universal Credit is told they can get an Advance Payment to help them while they wait for their first payment;
  - (iv) introducing an online system so people can book their initial Jobcentre appointments online rather than having to call the Universal Credit helpline;
  - (v) allowing people to adjust to Universal Credit by offering everyone options in how they would like the benefit to be

paid; and

- (vi) putting in place a comprehensive support package before Universal Credit roll-out accelerates, to make sure people get advice to manage their money and deal with any complications in the application process;

(b) notes that:-

- (i) over a third (39%) of people are waiting more than the 6 weeks it should take to receive their first payment;
- (ii) in some pilot areas, the average waiting time is as high as 12 weeks;
- (iii) just over 1 in 10 (11%) are waiting over 10 weeks without the benefit; and
- (iv) 3 in 5 (57%) are having to borrow money while waiting for their first payment; and

(c) reiterates its support for more substantial reform of Universal Credit, including:-

- (i) reversing the Government's cuts to the amount claimants can earn (the "work allowance") before their benefits are reduced;
- (ii) introducing a second work allowance, allowing both members of a couple to work without losing their benefits;
- (iii) restoring the first child premium for new claimants;
- (iv) abandoning the restriction of benefits to just two children; and
- (v) ending the freeze on working-age benefits.

6.3 It was then moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid), and seconded by Councillor Douglas Johnson, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (s) as follows:-

- (s) believes it is not enough just to 'note' national policy issues, and therefore asks the Administration to draw up an action plan to protect Sheffield's citizens from the full roll-out of Universal Credit as well as it can.

6.4 It was then moved by Councillor Zahira Naz, and seconded by Councillor Lisa Banes, as an amendment, that the Motion now

submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (s) to (u) as follows:-

- (s) notes that on Monday 30 October, The Daily Telegraph stated that Conservative Ministers are reportedly preparing for a major U-turn on the rollout of Universal Credit in the Budget by reducing the controversial six-week wait to four weeks for the first payment to claimants;
- (t) believes that if such a move does indeed take place, it will be due to the weeks of sustained pressure on the Government by the Labour Party and charities, who warned the Government that the implementation of Universal Credit, due to be accelerated this month, is pushing recipients into poverty, arrears and a reliance on food banks; and
- (u) believes, however, that a four week wait is still far too long for many and that the current proposals for Universal Credit should be ceased immediately until further consideration is given to changes, with national measures implemented to mitigate any problem which may arise with the full rollout of Universal Credit.

6.5 After contributions from other Members, and following a right of reply from Councillor Mohammad Maroof, the amendment moved by Councillor Sue Auckland was put to the vote and negated.

6.6 The amendment moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid) was then put to the vote and was also negated.

6.7 The amendment moved by Councillor Zahira Naz was then put to the vote and was carried.

6.7.1 (NOTE: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid) and Councillors Douglas Johnson, Robert Murphy and Alison Teal voted for paragraph (u) of the amendment, and abstained from voting on paragraphs (s) and (t) of the amendment, and asked for this to be recorded.)

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

RESOLVED: 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 Pensions (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 for 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 Rowntree 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";
- (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;
- (s) notes that on Monday 30 October, The Daily Telegraph stated that Conservative Ministers are reportedly preparing for a major U-turn on the rollout of Universal Credit in the Budget by reducing the controversial six-week wait to four weeks for the first payment to claimants;
- (t) believes that if such a move does indeed take place, it will be due to the weeks of sustained pressure on the Government by the Labour Party and charities, who warned the Government that the implementation of Universal Credit, due to be accelerated this month, is pushing recipients into poverty, arrears and a reliance on food banks; and
- (u) believes, however, that a four week wait is still far too long for many and that the current proposals for Universal Credit should be ceased immediately until further consideration is given to changes, with national measures implemented to mitigate any problem which may arise with the full rollout of Universal Credit.

6.8.1 (NOTE: 1. Councillors Andy Nash, Bob Pullin, Richard Shaw, Adam Hanrahan, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Roger Davison, Shaffaq Mohammed, Paul Scriven, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Ian Auckland, Sue Auckland, Steve Ayris, David Baker, Penny Baker and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraphs (a) to (s) and (u) of the Substantive Motion, and voted against paragraph (t) of the Motion, and asked for this to be recorded; and

2. The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid) and Councillors Douglas Johnson, Robert Murphy and Alison Teal voted for paragraphs (a) to (r) and (u) of the Substantive Motion, and abstained from voting on paragraphs (s) and (t) of the Motion, and asked for this to be recorded.)

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

7.1 It was moved by Councillor Tony Downing, and 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.

7.2 Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Paul Scriven, and seconded by Councillor Penny Baker, 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 addition of the following words:-

- (a) notes that the housing crisis in the UK is long standing and started in 1976 when the numbers of houses built started to decline and has never recovered since then to build numbers at pre-1976 levels;
- (b) is concerned that the number of affordable and social housing has declined since the 1960s over successive governments of all colours and that this trend needs to be reversed if the UK is to tackle its housing crisis;
- (c) is adamant we should never return to the sub prime mortgage market rampant in the 2000s, pre the 2008 crash, that fuelled

unsustainable mortgages and unaffordable home ownership;

- (d) believes that local authorities have the determination and ability to make a massive contribution to solving the housing crisis, if given the powers to do so;
- (e) therefore supports a campaign to unlock the potential of local government to help solve the housing crisis by supporting the following:-
  - (i) the right for councils to borrow against their Housing Revenue Account to build local social housing for rent and therefore for the caps to be significantly lifted and in some cases scrapped;
  - (ii) for each local council to determine its own right to buy policy, including the right not to have a right to buy system; and
  - (iii) the ability for councils to implement a local land tax for those who are land banking, so to help to release land to build homes on; and
- (f) requests that a copy of this motion be sent to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

7.3 After contributions from other Members and following Councillor Tony Downing declining his right of reply, the amendment was put to the vote and negatived.

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

- |                            |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| For the amendment (24)     | - | The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid) and Councillors Andy Nash, Richard Shaw, Douglas Johnson, Robert Murphy, Adam Hanrahan, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Pauline Andrews, Roger Davison, Shaffaq Mohammed, Paul Scriven, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Ian Auckland, Sue Auckland, Steve Ayris, Alison Teal, David Baker, Penny Baker, Vickie Priestley, Jack Clarkson and John Booker. |
| Against the amendment (44) | - | The Lord Mayor (Councillor Anne Murphy) and Councillors Chris Rosling-Josephs, Ian Saunders, Sophie Wilson, Denise Fox, Bryan Lodge, Karen McGowan, Michelle Cook, Kieran Harpham, Jackie Drayton, Talib Hussain, Mark Jones, Moya O'Rourke,  |

Craig Gamble Pugh, Mazher Iqbal, Mary Lea, Zahira Naz, Andy Bainbridge, Steve Wilson, Abdul Khayum, Abtisam Mohamed, Lewis Dagnall, Cate McDonald, Bob Johnson, George Lindars-Hammond, Josie Paszek, Lisa Banes, David Barker, Tony Downing, Mohammad Maroof, Jim Steinke, Mike Drabble, Dianne Hurst, Peter Rippon, Garry Weatherall, Mike Chaplin, Tony Damms, Richard Crowther, Olivia Blake, Ben Curran, Neale Gibson, Zoe Sykes, Jackie Satur and Paul Wood.

Abstained on the amendment (0) - Nil

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

RESOLVED: 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.

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

- 8.1 It was moved by Councillor Ian Auckland, and 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.
- 8.2 Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Olivia Blake, and seconded by Councillor George Lindars-Hammond, 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 addition of the following words:-
- (a) states that at the moment, the Council has a list of over 1100 different requests for local transport improvements, of varying scale and nature, and yet for local enhancement schemes we have a combined budget of only £850k, for 2017/18, which would only fund a handful of the requests from residents and businesses across the City;
  - (b) notes that funding cuts are such that Sheffield receives £2.458m a year through the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Integrated Transport (IT) capital grant, from an overall £8.6m funding allocation that South Yorkshire receives from the Department for Transport (DfT), compared with 2010 when the South Yorkshire LTP Programme was closer to £29m;
  - (c) believes that cuts to funding of this scale since 2010 means that it is no longer possible to afford local structures as they once had existed and the move has been an unavoidable consequence of the cuts facing the Council and the crisis that has been created in transport funding under the previous coalition government and this Government because there is simply not enough funding to operate the system as it was in the past;
  - (d) notes that the LTP IT allocation is the only regular grant that the Council still receives from the DfT, with all other allocations coming

from specific competitive funding bids, and that specific transport projects which have been funded, such as the Sustainable Transport Exemplar Programme (STEP), which has a budget of £3.8m, and Sheffield Better Bus Area Fund, with a budget of £5.2m in 17/18, will see their funding stopped in March 2018;

- (e) states that, as such, from April 2018 the LTP is the main source of funding for the annual programme of transport and highways improvement schemes that the Council implements to deliver the outcomes identified in the Sheffield City Region and emerging Sheffield City Council transport strategies;
- (f) believes it is clear, therefore, that due to the now very low levels of funding that the Council has compared to previous years, moving back to a system where transport funding is shared out, managed and controlled at a local ward level would mean the Council not being able to deal with the priorities required to meet its statutory duties, in particular road safety and traffic management, or its strategic priorities to deliver growth that the city aims to achieve;
- (g) further notes that pre-2013 the Council's LTP funding was double, whereas now, splitting the funding by ward would mean that each funding pot would be very small and unlikely to be able to fund the cost of a pedestrian crossing;
- (h) however notes that in 2010 the percentage split of locally determined work was £2.1m out of around £7m, i.e. around 30% of the transport capital programme that year, and for next year, 2018/19, the only transport funds available to the Council will be £2.4m LTP, of which £0.85m is in principle allocated to local enhancements – which still works out at around 34% of the programme, which means the proportion of funding spent on local schemes has slightly increased, not reduced;
- (i) welcomes that over the last 5 years, the Council's local accessibility and enhancements programme has been aligned to the Streets Ahead Core Investment Programme (CIP) and Elected Members have been able to input into these programmes of work within the budget available as the programme has been rolled out in their area;
- (j) believes that without the Streets Ahead project the capacity to implement local programmes would have led to even less local schemes implemented than has been;
- (k) believes that the Liberal Democrats are in collective denial about the scale of the national cuts inflicted on Sheffield, and their culpability in this, and how this has impacted on the delivery of council services; and
- (l) notes that Sheffield City Region and South Yorkshire Transport

structures are currently subject to a governance review and will take this into account, as part of this review.

8.3 After contributions from other Members, and following a right of reply from Councillor Ian Auckland, the amendment was put to the vote and carried.

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

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) states that at the moment, the Council has a list of over 1100 different requests for local transport improvements, of varying scale and nature, and yet for local enhancement schemes we have a combined budget of only £850k, for 2017/18, which would only fund a handful of the requests from residents and businesses across the City;
- (b) notes that funding cuts are such that Sheffield receives £2.458m a year through the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Integrated Transport (IT) capital grant, from an overall £8.6m funding allocation that South Yorkshire receives from the Department for Transport (DfT), compared with 2010 when the South Yorkshire LTP Programme was closer to £29m;
- (c) believes that cuts to funding of this scale since 2010 means that it is no longer possible to afford local structures as they once had existed and the move has been an unavoidable consequence of the cuts facing the Council and the crisis that has been created in transport funding under the previous coalition government and this Government because there is simply not enough funding to operate the system as it was in the past;
- (d) notes that the LTP IT allocation is the only regular grant that the Council still receives from the DfT, with all other allocations coming from specific competitive funding bids, and that specific transport projects which have been funded, such as the Sustainable Transport Exemplar Programme (STEP), which has a budget of £3.8m, and Sheffield Better Bus Area Fund, with a budget of £5.2m in 17/18, will see their funding stopped in March 2018;
- (e) states that, as such, from April 2018 the LTP is the main source of funding for the annual programme of transport and highways improvement schemes that the Council implements to deliver the outcomes identified in the Sheffield City Region and emerging Sheffield City Council transport strategies;
- (f) believes it is clear, therefore, that due to the now very low levels of funding that the Council has compared to previous years, moving back to a system where transport funding is shared out, managed and controlled at a local ward level would mean the Council not being able

to deal with the priorities required to meet its statutory duties, in particular road safety and traffic management, or its strategic priorities to deliver growth that the city aims to achieve;

- (g) further notes that pre-2013 the Council's LTP funding was double, whereas now, splitting the funding by ward would mean that each funding pot would be very small and unlikely to be able to fund the cost of a pedestrian crossing;
- (h) however notes that in 2010 the percentage split of locally determined work was £2.1m out of around £7m, i.e. around 30% of the transport capital programme that year, and for next year, 2018/19, the only transport funds available to the Council will be £2.4m LTP, of which £0.85m is in principle allocated to local enhancements – which still works out at around 34% of the programme, which means the proportion of funding spent on local schemes has slightly increased, not reduced;
- (i) welcomes that over the last 5 years, the Council's local accessibility and enhancements programme has been aligned to the Streets Ahead Core Investment Programme (CIP) and Elected Members have been able to input into these programmes of work within the budget available as the programme has been rolled out in their area;
- (j) believes that without the Streets Ahead project the capacity to implement local programmes would have led to even less local schemes implemented than has been;
- (k) believes that the Liberal Democrats are in collective denial about the scale of the national cuts inflicted on Sheffield, and their culpability in this, and how this has impacted on the delivery of council services; and
- (l) notes that Sheffield City Region and South Yorkshire Transport structures are currently subject to a governance review and will take this into account, as part of this review.

8.4.1 (NOTE: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Magid Magid) and Councillors Douglas Johnson, Robert Murphy and Alison Teal voted for paragraphs (a) to (h) and (l) of the Substantive Motion, voted against paragraphs (i) and (j) of the Motion, and abstained from voting on paragraph (k) of the Motion, and asked for this to be recorded.)

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

9.1 RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Peter Rippon, seconded by Councillor Michelle Cook, that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 be approved as a true and accurate record.

## **10. REPRESENTATION, DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND RELATED ISSUES**

10.1 RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Peter Rippon, seconded by Councillor Michelle Cook, that:-

(a) it be noted that Councillor Sophie Wilson, who was elected on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 as a Beighton Ward Councillor, has joined the Labour Group on the Council, thereby restoring the political composition of the Council to the position that was reported to the Council's Annual General Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (i.e. 56 Labour : 20 Lib Dem : 4 Green : 4 UKIP), and that, accordingly, there is no change required to be made to the allocation of seats on Council Committees to the political groups;

(b) approval be given to the following changes to the memberships of Committees, Boards, etc.:-

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee | - Councillor Sophie Wilson to replace Councillor Ian Saunders             |
| Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee      | - Councillor Ian Saunders to fill a vacancy                               |
| Access Liaison Group  | - Councillor Andy Bainbridge to replace Councillor George Lindars-Hammond |

(c) representatives be appointed to serve on other bodies as follows:-

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel                               | - Councillor Jayne Dunn to fill a vacancy              |
| Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee          | - Councillor Zahira Naz to replace Councillor Alan Law |
| Norton Educational Foundation and Non-Educational Trusts             | - Ms. Sarah Burdekin to replace Mrs. Beverley Ashmore  |
| Joint Advisory Committee for the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service | - Councillor Sophie Wilson to fill a vacancy           |
| South Yorkshire Joint Advisory Committee on Archives                 | - Councillor Sophie Wilson to fill a vacancy           |

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

11.1 RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor Peter Rippon, seconded by Councillor Michelle Cook, that this Council adopts the changes to the following parts of the Constitution, as set out in the report of the Chief Executive now submitted, and its Appendices:-

- (a) Part 2 - Article 6 (Overview and Scrutiny);
- (b) Part 2 - Article 16 (Suspension, Interpretation and Publication of the Constitution);
- (c) Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions;
- (d) Part 4 - Financial Procedure Rules (Financial Regulations); and
- (e) Part 5 - Members' Code of Conduct.