

# Agenda Item 3

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council of the City of Sheffield held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH, on Wednesday 25 March 2015, at 2.00 pm, pursuant to notice duly given and Summonses duly served.

## PRESENT

THE LORD MAYOR (Councillor Peter Rippon)  
THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR (Councillor Talib Hussain)

1	<i>Arbourthorne Ward</i> Julie Dore Mike Drabble Jack Scott	10	<i>Dore &amp; Totley Ward</i> Joe Otten Colin Ross Martin Smith	19	<i>Mosborough Ward</i> David Barker Isobel Bowler Tony Downing
2	<i>Beauchief &amp; Greenhill Ward</i> Simon Clement-Jones Roy Munn Richard Shaw	11	<i>East Ecclesfield Ward</i> Joyce Wright	20	<i>Nether Edge Ward</i> Nasima Akther Nikki Bond Qurban Hussain
3	<i>Beighton Ward</i> Helen Mirfin-Boukouris Chris Rosling-Josephs	12	<i>Ecclesall Ward</i> Penny Baker Roger Davison Diana Stimely	21	<i>Richmond Ward</i> John Campbell Lynn Rooney Paul Wood
4	<i>Birley Ward</i> Denise Fox Bryan Lodge Karen McGowan	13	<i>Firth Park Ward</i> Sheila Constance Chris Weldon	22	<i>Shiregreen &amp; Brightside Ward</i> Peter Price Sioned-Mair Richards Peter Rippon
5	<i>Broomhill Ward</i> Jayne Dunn Stuart Wattam Brian Webster	14	<i>Fulwood Ward</i> Sue Alston Andrew Sangar Cliff Woodcraft	23	<i>Southey Ward</i> Leigh Bramall Tony Damms Gill Furniss
6	<i>Burngreave Ward</i> Jackie Drayton Ibrar Hussain Talib Hussain	15	<i>Gleadless Valley Ward</i> Steve Jones Cate McDonald	24	<i>Stannington Ward</i> David Baker Katie Condliffe Vickie Priestley
7	<i>Central Ward</i> Jillian Creasy Robert Murphy Sarah Jane Smalley	16	<i>Graves Park Ward</i> Ian Auckland Steve Ayris Denise Reaney	25	<i>Stocksbridge &amp; Upper Don Ward</i> Jack Clarkson Richard Crowther Philip Wood
8	<i>Crookes Ward</i> Rob Frost Anne Murphy Geoff Smith	17	<i>Hillsborough Ward</i> Bob Johnson George Lindars-Hammond Josie Paszek	26	<i>Walkley Ward</i> Olivia Blake Ben Curran Neale Gibson
9	<i>Darnall Ward</i> Harry Harpham Mazher Iqbal Mary Lea	18	<i>Manor Castle Ward</i> Jenny Armstrong Terry Fox Pat Midgley	27	<i>West Ecclesfield Ward</i> John Booker Adam Hurst Alf Meade
				28	<i>Woodhouse Ward</i> Mick Rooney Jackie Satur Ray Satur

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pauline Andrews, Alan Law, Tim Rippon, Ian Saunders and Steve Wilson.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

2.1 Members of the City Council declared interests in items of business, as follows:-

2.2 Item 8: Notice of Motion Concerning the National Health Service

Members declared Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in the above item as set out below:-

- Councillor John Campbell because he is employed by the NHS
- Councillor Sue Alston because she is employed by the NHS
- Councillor Joe Otten because his wife is a GP
- Councillor David Barker because he is employed by the NHS
- Councillor Richard Shaw because his wife receives a bursary from the NHS
- Councillor Andrew Sangar because his wife is employed by the NHS
- Councillor Mary Lea because she is employed by the NHS
- Councillor Ben Curran because his wife is employed by the NHS

Councillor Mick Rooney asked that it be noted that he is a Non-Executive Director on the Sheffield NHS Health and Social Care Trust and such appointments were the responsibility a body separate to the NHS pay review body.

Councillor Jillian Creasy asked that it was noted that she was a locum GP and that GP pay and conditions were delivered by a body which was separate from the NHS pay review body.

2.2.1 Members declared Personal Interests in Item 8 (Notice of Motion Concerning the National Health Service), as follows:-

- Councillor Cliff Woodcraft on the grounds that his daughter in law is an NHS employee.
- Councillor Talib Hussain on the grounds that his son is an NHS employee.

- Councillor Vickie Priestley on the grounds that her daughters and son are NHS employees.
- Councillor Qurban Hussain on the grounds that he receives a pension from the NHS.
- Councillor Rob Frost on the grounds that his mother works for the NHS.

2.3 Item 11: Notice of Motion Concerning Animal Welfare

Councillor Richard Crowther declared a personal interest in the above item on the grounds that his employer is the Shadow Minister for the Environment, including animal welfare.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**Resolved:** On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor Gill Furniss, that both the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the City Council held on 4 February 2015 and the special (budget) meeting held on 6 March 2015 be approved as a correct record.

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

4.1 Petitions

4.1.1 Petition Regarding the Preservation of Beauchief Abbey Conservation Area

The Council received an electronic petition containing 665 signatures requesting the Council to preserve the Beauchief Abbey Conservation Area.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by Pamela Hodgson, who stated that the land at the end of Beauchief Abbey Lane was intended to remain undeveloped in order to preserve the view of the Abbey from Abbey Lane. In 1992, the Council refused planning permission for residential development on the grounds that the proposed development would result in the loss of valuable open space in the Conservation Area and the effect on the approach to the Abbey and amenity of the area. The land was put up for auction by the Council, but this was withdrawn following protests.

She referred to a recent report in 2015 placing the land at threat of being sold and to the subsequent question at Council following which the Council confirmed that it would review processes which led to the conclusions in the report. She thanked the Council for listening.

Despite these outcomes, the land may again be threatened with development and she stated that it would be in the best interests of the Council and the

public to protect the land in perpetuity.

The petition contained more than 700 signatures from those who valued the Abbey and surrounding area and required assurances that the area would never again be threatened with development.

The Council referred the petition to Councillor Leigh Bramall, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development. Councillor Bramall stated that he was sympathetic to the petitioners and he would examine the issues raised by the petition in more detail to see what could be done.

#### 4.1.2 Petition Requesting an End to the Compulsory Sharing of Rooms in G4S Asylum Housing

The Council received a petition containing 126 signatures requesting an end to the compulsory sharing of rooms in G4S asylum housing.

Representations on behalf of the petitioners were made by John Grayson who stated that there were cases of single asylum seekers being allocated shared rooms and this was known to be a factor affecting people with mental health conditions. G4S was not able to share information concerning the actual number of people sharing a room. He informed the meeting of a particular case involving a man who G4S refused to move from a shared room, despite his health condition. There were also other cases of people with health conditions in similar circumstances.

He stated that the motive for people sharing a room was one of profit. The Council licensed Houses in Multiple Occupation and could use its discretion to apply a single person bedroom standard. Some other local authorities, including Leeds City Council had a policy of requiring separate bedrooms. The Council did have the contract to provide accommodation until 2012 when G4S become the provider of accommodation for asylum seekers. The Council was, he stated, in a strong position to make G4S accountable and it was possible that consideration could be given to whether G4S should continue to have the contract to provide these services.

The Council referred the petition to Councillor Harry Harpham, Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods.

#### 4.1.3 Public Questions Concerning Asylum Housing

Robert Spooner asked whether the Council was aware that three other councils had revised procurement policies to include 'gross misconduct' to preclude certain companies from contracting with them. He asked why Sheffield was not doing so.

Flis Callow referred to information previously given by the Cabinet Member for

Finance and Resources concerning a number of small contracts held with G4S and asked what the current situation was regarding contracts between the Council and G4S.

Jasvinder Khosa referred to other local authorities which did not allow room-sharing by single people in Asylum accommodation and asked whether the City Council would also not permit room-sharing.

Stuart Crosthwaite referred to a house in Sheffield with nine men accommodated within 5 rooms and asked what the Council would do about this situation.

Councillor Harry Harpham, the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods responded to the petition and the questions. He stated that legislation existed concerning Houses in Multiple Occupation and that G4S were exploiting a loophole within what the law allows but which most people might think is morally unacceptable. Councillor Harpham stated that when the law was drawn up, it did not envisage people sharing a space except through choice.

Councillor Harpham stated that the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health was to make representations about getting the law changed to deal with those cases where it was not somebody's choice to share a room. He said that he was wholly sympathetic to the cases of asylum seekers in circumstances where they were waiting for their case to be heard. Sheffield was a City of Sanctuary, a fact of which the Council was proud. The practices outlined in the treatment of accommodation for asylum seekers did not fit in with the City's status as a City of Sanctuary. Councillor Harpham said that he would support representations to change the law in this regard.

Councillor Mazher Iqbal, the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health stated that Sheffield was one of ten local authorities which formed a consortium for housing for asylum seekers for Yorkshire and the Humber. In 2012, the Government decided that it would be less expensive to contract the services out to G4S, which was inexperienced and would be dealing with people who were most vulnerable.

A number of issues had been raised at the consortium concerning G4S and Councillor Iqbal stated that he had written to the relevant Government Minister on this subject. Officers had been instructed that the practice was not acceptable and the Council was in the process of changing policy. Rotherham and Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Councils had decided not to take more asylum seekers due to the practices of G4S and that had affected Sheffield in terms of increasing demand for accommodation. Originally, the 10 consortium members had agreed numbers of asylum seekers that would be accommodated. Sheffield had decided therefore, to implement a pause in taking more asylum seekers until there was change.

The contract for asylum housing also caused providers to seek housing in areas with lower housing values. The Council had decided that, until the

Government and G4S resolve these issues, which were having an adverse impact on people, the Council would not take in more asylum seekers.

Councillor Ben Curran, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, stated that there were three contracts that were the subject of retendering. Whilst the process was underway, Councillor Curran stated that he did not have the details at this point in time. He undertook to follow up this issue and inform people accordingly.

He stated that he did not know of other local authorities policies on gross misconduct in relation to procurement. A Motion had been passed at the Council meeting in October 2014 concerning the fair tax mark and gross misconduct. The Motion requested that a report was submitted to the Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee as a basis for a draft policy to deal with issues including procurement and companies which commit grave misconduct.

#### 4.2 Public Questions

##### 4.2.1 Public Question Concerning the Cost of Living

Lisa Banes stated that the cost of living had disproportionately affected people in Sheffield and referred to Notice of Motion numbered 10 on the Summons concerning the Liberal Democrats record in government.

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, Councillor Ben Curran, stated that he agreed with the questioner and he went on to comment on the Government policies which he said had adversely affected people in Sheffield.

##### 4.2.2 Public Question Concerning Sheffield Airport

Heather Parys asked why Sheffield does not have an airport.

Councillor Leigh Bramall, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development stated that Doncaster-Sheffield Airport was the airport which it was important to support in the City Region. A link road was to be developed from Sheffield to the Airport which would mean that the journey time to the Airport from Sheffield city centre would be approximately 30 minutes.

Sheffield airport was a subject which had been debated several times by the Council. The former Sheffield airport had not been viable. The development of an airport would be undertaken by the private sector and would be required to go through the planning process.

##### 4.2.3 Public Question Concerning Household Waste Recycling Centres

Dave Berry stated that on 5 February, the Council had made a statement regarding the Green Company, which ran the City's Household Waste Recycling Centres. He asserted that the company had an 'awful' track record

and were embroiled in a dispute concerning pay, alleged bullying, welfare facilities and management of the Centres. He stated that the Council had said that it would be taking immediate action and did not have confidence in the company.

However, he said, since that statement, zero hours contracts had increased, disabled workers had been affected, wages had reduced and recycling rates had fallen. He referred to a further prospect of strikes and asked when could people expect to 'see the back of' the company and have a local partner delivering the service for the good of the City.

Councillor Jayne Dunn, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene, stated that a lot of attention had been given to the matters raised by the petition, including by herself and the Leader of the Council. She said that there were problems with the Green Company and that she shared the concerns raised regarding the practices outlined.

Councillor Dunn read a statement to say that the strike action had now been suspended for over 4 months, whilst the Council continued to encourage the GMB trades union and the Green Company to find resolutions to their current differences. In the meantime, the Council continued to work with Veolia to ensure contingency plans were in place to reduce any disruption to the public from any further action.

She said that, whatever people's opinions regarding this matter, the Council had to work within the law.

#### 4.2.4 Public Question Concerning Bins

Joshua Wright asked if the Council intended to take away wheeled bins, he also made reference to a recent planning decision concerning Devonshire Street and asked whether the Council was listening to people.

Councillor Jayne Dunn, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene stated that the Council was not taking away peoples bins. There was a particular problem in some areas with student houses in multi occupation where space was limited and there were steep steps to properties for example and the Council was considering the use of shared bins in these areas, for example in Sharrow. She noted that the Star newspaper had corrected a story which had it published on this issue. The Council had no intention of generally making people share a bin.

#### 4.2.5 Public Question Concerning Litter and Fly-Tipping

Debbie Roberts asked for the number of individuals or companies which had been prosecuted in relation to littering or fly-tipping in the past 12 months. She referred to an example on Pitsmore Road, where yellow tape had been put on rubbish but the rubbish itself had not been removed.

Councillor Jayne Dunn, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene stated that the number of fines issued for littering was 1000. With

regard to the use of enviro-tape, this was used to show people that littering or flytipping had occurred and was proven to reduce the incidence of fly-tipping. Councillor Dunn stated that she would contact the questioner to give more information about the prosecutions of offenders.

#### 4.2.6 Public Question Concerning Ethical Procurement

Hilary Smith stated that in June 2014, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources expressed views concerning the morality of the company G4S and had indicated that a review would take place of ethical procurement, to which the groups which she represented had been consulted and had given the Council information on issues of concern. She said that no further information had been received as to what was happening with regards to an ethical procurement policy for the Council.

Councillor Ben Curran, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources responded that he was sorry if the questioner felt as though her group had not been treated like a partner in the process. He confirmed that the Council did value their input. It was his view he said, that the Council might co-opt one of the group onto the Council's Overview and Management Scrutiny Committee for the purposes of this issue. A report would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations may then be made as a result.

#### 4.2.7 Public Questions Concerning Devonshire Street

Nigel Slack stated that the decision by the Planning Committee on 24 March 2015 in favour of the demolition of Devonshire Street, in the face of strong opposition from thousands of Sheffield citizens was justified as unavoidable because of planning law. However, those at the meeting will have heard the development officers say that this was a judgement call based on their views of the situation. It was also pointed out, after a question from a Member that it would be feasible to reject the application and still "get away with it" if it went unchallenged. Mr Slack stated that he disagreed with Councillor Bramall's press statement that laid all the blame at the door of the planning laws.

Mr Slack said that he agreed that this would best be solved by the devolution of planning powers to local authorities but that the Committee must exercise their decisions regardless of the fear of litigation or all their credibility would be lost.

He stated that it was concerning that this decision had effectively left Sheffield with no planning protection at all. Officers, he said had declared that the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was out of date and could not be relied upon to guide the planning process. This he said was firmly at the door of the Councils, of both colours, for failing to adopt a new overall planning policy for the City.

Mr Slack asked when a new planning policy will be available for the City or was the Council happy to declare what he termed "open season" for developers in the City.



Secondly, Mr Slack referred to a significant backlash on social networks following the Architects' publication of some photos and comments appearing to show what he called "an inappropriate level of gloating over the decision on Devonshire Street."

He said that a comment was also made that the head of that same company has been appointed to the Council's 'Sustainable Development & Design Panel'. Mr Slack asked whether Council could confirm or deny this and, if it was the case, when did this happen; and if there was not a conflict of interest in this appointment?

Councillor Leigh Bramall, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Development stated that he took issue with the premise of Mr Slack's questions that the Council should not act in accordance with planning laws. The planning laws were set nationally and the Committee should not act against planning law on the basis that they might (in reference to an appeal of the decision) "get away with it". There was little local discretion in current planning law, for example in relation to applications for change of use to betting shops, where the Council considered there would be need for a change of use. There was a need for proper devolution in relation to planning decisions. The Council had, in the past, made planning decisions which had resulted in costs being awarded against it. The decision concerning Devonshire Street was made based on planning law, rather than a fear of litigation.

The issue which was raised when considering Devonshire Street concerning the Unitary Development Plan being out of date related to one policy in the Plan. The City did have a UDP in place. Consultation was being carried out in relation to the Local Plan and the UDP would be updated to ensure it was robust.

There were some conditions which were attached to the planning approval for the Devonshire Street application, for example that construction would not commence until a contract for construction was issued. There was a local policy for the Devonshire Quarter, which was in the UDP. The accommodation element of the application was positive, in that footfall helped to drive the economy and it was important to build the business and residential base in the City Centre. Councillor Bramall said that, speaking personally, he would have preferred the retention of the building frontages on Devonshire Street with the new building behind. However, he fully understood the reasons for which the Committee had made its decision on the application. He said that he supported the concept of further devolution of planning issues to a local level.

David Cross had applied to become a member of the Sheffield Sustainable Development and Urban Design Panel in 2009 as part of an open recruitment process. There were 29 Panel Members in total. Councillor Bramall said that he would examine the issue further.

With reference to comments made on social media, Councillor Bramall stated

that the comments to which Mr Slack had referred were extremely ill-judged, but there had been some examples of ill-judged comments made from people on both sides of the debate.

#### 4.2.8 Public Questions Concerning Election Candidates

Martin Brighton stated that recent election news reports had included: fixing or otherwise engineering the selection of preferred election candidates; creating the illusion of a problem and claiming kudos for solving it; and advising on ways of avoiding declaration of funds. He asked whether it could be expected that such behaviour would never happen locally, and that the Monitoring Officer would act swiftly and decisively if such did happen.

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, stated that in relation to the examples that Mr Brighton had given in his questions, which concerned the Parliamentary election, it was for the parliamentary parties to deal with individual issues. She said that locally, it would be expected that swift and decisive action would be taken if such issues occurred.

#### 4.2.9 Public Question Concerning 'Whistle-Blowers'

Martin Brighton stated that agenda item 12 paragraph (a) referred to "allegations of "whistle-blowers" being targeted and gagged".

He asked whether the Leader abhorred "whistle-blowers" being targeted and gagged.

Councillor Julie Dore, the Leader of the Council, stated that, where the "whistle-blower" was one within the definition of a "whistle-blower" in law, then, she would answer "yes" to Mr Brighton's question. She added that anyone who complains should not be 'targeted and gagged'.

#### 4.2.10 Public Question Concerning Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Martin Brighton asked what can the Council do to prevent the further privatisation of the NHS and further resist the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

Councillor Mary Lea, the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living, stated that there had been a top down reorganisation of the NHS by the Government. She referred to difficulties relating to accident and emergency waiting lists and problems in cancer care and declining morale amongst NHS employees. She stated that there was a two tier health care system of people who could and those that could not afford to pay for care. The Council had debated notices of motion concerning the NHS and had lobbied the Government. There was also notice of motion on the agenda for this Council meeting. It was a policy of the Labour Party that the NHS was exempt from the TTIP.

#### 4.2.11 Public Question Concerning Complaints About Elected Members

Martin Brighton referred to agenda item 7, which concerned a revised complaints procedure. He asked the following questions:

1. Why is otherwise unacceptable behaviour tolerated if part of political debate?
2. Why is the effect upon reputation to the council a consideration of not processing a complaint?
3. Can it be assured that the Independent Person will not be a member of the same political party as the elected member?
4. Who decides which clause of the Code of Conduct is breached when a complaint is raised against an elected member?
5. If it is determined that an elected member breaches the code, is the defence of 'he goaded me' an acceptable reason for dismissing the complaint?
6. Is it wise to have a complaints process that has no right of appeal?

Councillor Julie Dore stated that she would request the Monitoring Officer to respond in writing to the questions which Mr Brighton had submitted above.

(Note: Marcus O'Hagan commented as to whether the Council would be adopting a process for allowing members of the public to speak at meetings in circumstances when they were not content with the answer that they had received to a question which they had put. No response was made to his comment.)

4.3 Petition Requesting that John Burkhill ("Man With a Pram") be Honoured with a star on the City's Walk of Fame

The Council received a petition containing 9,256 signatures requesting that John Burkhill ("Man With a Pram") be honoured with a star on the City's Walk of Fame.

There was no speaker to the petition. The Council referred the petition to Councillor Isobel Bowler, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Leisure.

Councillor Bowler agreed that John Burkhill was definitely a local legend in Sheffield and his fundraising activities could be seen around the City.

The Sheffield Legends plaques, set into the pavement outside the Town Hall, were to honour people with a strong link to the City with a national or, more usually an international profile. They were part of the City's offer to visitors and tourists. Therefore, anyone with a legend star needed to be someone well known to people outside Sheffield and usually outside the UK. People such as Jessica Ennis-Hill.

However, the Council recognised that Sheffielders have a strong positive feeling about John Burkhill, and that he is something of an institution in the City. Councillor Bowler said that she had spoken with the Leader of the Council and the Lord Mayor and it had been agreed to invite Mr Burkhill to the lunch

reception on 2 April, which would be attended by Her Majesty the Queen.

In considering what other honour might be appropriate, it was acknowledged that there was not a suitable form of recognition for people or groups who were not always well known but had done exceptional things. It was proposed therefore that the civic awards scheme, which had fallen into abeyance, is re-launched in conjunction with the Lord Mayor. Options would be brought forward for ways in which people could be nominated for the award. The reintroduction of the award would mean that Sheffield had a way of honouring the exceptional work done by people in Sheffield.

Councillor Bowler thanked Mr Burkhill, and all the exceptional volunteers and fundraisers in the City, for everything they had done.

## **5. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

### **5.1 Urgent Business**

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

### **5.2 Questions**

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

### **5.3 South Yorkshire Joint Authorities**

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

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

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

Planning and Highways Committee - Remove Councillor Jayne Dunn to  
Substitute Members create a vacancy

(b) representatives are appointed to serve on other bodies as follows:-

Local Government Association - Councillor Ben Curran to fill a  
Special Interest Group of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA) vacancy

(c) it be noted that the Senior Officer Employment Sub-Committee, at its meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015, appointed Marianne Betts to the post of the Director of Commercial Services;

(d) it be noted that the Senior Officer Employment Sub-Committee, at its meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015, appointed Phil Holmes to the post of the Director of Adult Services and to designate Phil Holmes as the Council's statutory Director of Adult Social Services, upon his commencement in the post of Director of Adult Services, and to authorise the relevant references to the statutory officer post in the Council's Constitution to be amended accordingly; and

(e) it be noted that the Senior Officer Employment Sub-Committee, at its meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015, appointed Janet Sharpe to the post of the Director of Housing and Neighbourhood Services.

## 7. REVISED PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH STANDARDS COMPLAINTS

**RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor Pat Midgley, seconded by Councillor David Baker, that this Council (a) adopts the Revised Procedure for Dealing with Standards Complaints, as set out in Appendix A of the report of the Chief Executive now submitted and approves that the Council's Constitution is amended accordingly; (b) notes the proposed establishment of Consideration and Hearing Sub-Committees of the Standards Committee, as set out in the report; and (c) approves that any complaints received before 25 March 2015 are dealt with under the existing Procedure for Dealing with Standards Complaints adopted in July 2012.

## 8. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR GEOFF SMITH

### National Health Service

It was moved by Councillor Geoff Smith, seconded by Councillor Mar Lea, that this Council:-

- (a) notes the recent report by the Kings Fund which provided a damning critique on the Government's NHS reforms, claiming they have been 'damaging and distracting';
- (b) notes that this follows reports last year that the Government did not understand its own NHS reforms, which were described by Government sources as a "total car crash" and a "huge strategic error";

- (c) regrets that:
  - (i) despite promising no top down reorganisation, this Government wasted £3 billion on doing just that, funding which could have been spent on front line services;
  - (ii) this Government has laid off 9,000 frontline NHS staff;
  - (iii) this Government has cut 9,746 hospital beds;
  - (iv) this Government has overseen a crisis in A&E with the worst waiting times for over 10 years; and
  - (v) this Government has neglected GP services, with one in four people now having to wait over a week to see their family doctor; and
- (d) believes that Sheffield needs a fresh alternative approach to the NHS and supports the following proposals by Labour:
  - (i) provide £2.5 billion additional investment per year into the NHS paid for through higher taxes on tobacco companies and a Mansion Tax on properties worth over £2 million;
  - (ii) repeal this Government's NHS Health and Social Care Act and reverse the damaging changes which have caused such chaos across the health service;
  - (iii) recruit 20,000 more nurses, 8,000 more GPs and 3,000 more midwives;
  - (iv) guarantee that you can get an appointment at your GP within 48 hours;
  - (v) make sure the NHS is exempt from the Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership, protecting local services from big American companies; and
  - (vi) plans to integrate health and social care.

(Note: With the agreement of Council and at the request of the mover of the Motion, Councillor Geoff Smith, paragraph (d) sub-clause (v) of the Motion, as included in the Summons for the meeting, was withdrawn and the numbering of remaining sub-clauses was amended accordingly.)

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Roger Davison, seconded by Councillor Denise Reaney, 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 the difficult choices faced by the Coalition Government with regards to the NHS due to the previous Government's irresponsible spending, including:-
  - (i) wasting £12.7 billion of tax payers' money on the national programme for IT, an IT system that was deemed 'unworkable' and had to be scrapped; and
  - (ii) paying private healthcare firms £1.7 billion to carry out operations within the NHS, £250 million worth for operations that were never actually performed;
- (b) reminds Members of the current situation in Wales where the NHS is falling behind the rest of the UK in almost every measure due to mismanagement by the Welsh Labour Government;
- (c) believes that despite these challenges, the current Government has made remarkable achievements within the NHS, such as:-
  - (i) increasing the availability of specialist cancer drugs through the Cancer Drugs Fund;
  - (ii) introducing the first ever access and waiting time standards for mental health;
  - (iii) increasing access to talking therapies, with £400m investment; and
  - (iv) banning the Health Service from paying private firms more than it pays NHS hospitals to carry out procedures;
- (d) notes that in the event of a Liberal Democrat majority in the next Parliament, they would commit the £8 billion by 2020 required for the NHS to meet the increasing demand of population growth and people living longer, according to the Chief Executive of NHS England, Simon Stevens' recent report; a pledge not yet matched by the Labour or Conservative Parties; and
- (e) welcomes the letter from EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström confirming that the NHS will be unaffected by the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, specifically that 'there is no reason to fear either for the NHS as it stands today or for changes to the NHS in future, as a result of TTIP or indeed EU trade policy more broadly.'

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

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Sarah Jane Smalley, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraph (d) and the addition of a new paragraph (d) as follows:-

- (d) believes Sheffield needs a fresh alternative approach to the NHS and supports the following:-
- (i) an immediate increase in funding for the NHS to restore it to 2010 levels, followed by annual uplifts to keep pace with inflation and increasing demand, alongside a parallel investment in social care which would relieve pressure on the health service, both to be paid for largely by higher taxes on wealthy individuals and corporations;
  - (ii) the NHS Reinstatement Bill which aims to reverse the marketisation of the NHS and restore publicly provided services run by local Health Boards;
  - (iii) the creation of 200,000 new jobs in social care and a similar number in health care, with an emphasis on community based roles and mental health;
  - (iv) increase the proportion of funding going into primary care and ensure that it is distributed to reflect the needs of the population served;
  - (v) respect the NHS pay review body and bring NHS pay back in line with inflation;
  - (vii) reject the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership in order to protect all public services, not just the NHS, from big American companies; and
  - (viii) integrate health and social care at national and local levels.

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

(Note: The Director of Legal and Governance advised that declarations of interest made by Members relating to the NHS pay review would apply in relation to the above amendment, which included a clause concerning the pay review body).

Following a Right of Reply from Councillor Geoff Smith, the original Motion was then put to the vote and carried, as follows:-

**RESOLVED:** That this Council:-

- (a) notes the recent report by the Kings Fund which provided a damning critique on the Government's NHS reforms, claiming they have been 'damaging and distracting';
- (b) notes that this follows reports last year that the Government did not understand its own NHS reforms, which were described by Government sources as a "total car crash" and a "huge strategic error";



- (c) regrets that:
  - (i) despite promising no top down reorganisation, this Government wasted £3 billion on doing just that, funding which could have been spent on front line services;
  - (ii) this Government has laid off 9,000 frontline NHS staff;
  - (iii) this Government has cut 9,746 hospital beds;
  - (iv) this Government has overseen a crisis in A&E with the worst waiting times for over 10 years; and
  - (v) this Government has neglected GP services, with one in four people now having to wait over a week to see their family doctor; and
- (d) believes that Sheffield needs a fresh alternative approach to the NHS and supports the following proposals by Labour:
  - (i) provide £2.5 billion additional investment per year into the NHS paid for through higher taxes on tobacco companies and a Mansion Tax on properties worth over £2 million;
  - (ii) repeal this Government's NHS Health and Social Care Act and reverse the damaging changes which have caused such chaos across the health service;
  - (iii) recruit 20,000 more nurses, 8,000 more GPs and 3,000 more midwives;
  - (iv) guarantee that you can get an appointment at your GP within 48 hours;
  - (v) make sure the NHS is exempt from the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, protecting local services from big American companies; and
  - (vi) plans to integrate health and social care.

(Note: 1. Councillors Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Sarah Jane Smalley and Brian Webster voted for paragraphs (a) to (c) and abstained on paragraph (d) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillors Jack Clarkson and John Booker voted for paragraphs (a) to (c) and against paragraph (d) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded).

**9. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HELEN MIRFIN-BOUKOURIS**

**Payment of Tax**

It was moved by Councillor Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, seconded by Councillor Neale Gibson, that this Council:-

- (a) agrees that paying taxes is a duty for all citizens and believes in the benefits national taxes give to society;
- (b) notes that tax revenues fund the majority of the country's healthcare services, schools, pensions and judicial system, as well as roads, armed forces and social infrastructure;
- (c) also notes the substantial academic research which shows that societies with healthy economies, more equality, social protection, and intervention to protect vulnerable groups, have smaller undeclared economies which leads to more tax being collected for the benefit of all;
- (d) is disappointed that under this current Conservative/Liberal Democrat Government, the gap between tax owed and tax collected, according to HMRC, is a staggering £34 billion, with prosecutions at an unacceptably low level;
- (e) questions why, when the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee has held many hearings into tax avoidance, there has been no subsequent investigations by HM Treasury?;
- (f) notes that the billions of pounds in uncollected taxes sits alongside a programme of Government cuts which has seen vulnerable people being victimized by a myriad of economic hardships and that taking a tougher stance on tax avoidance and evasion could mean an end to austerity;
- (g) reminds members of the current Government that the work of the tax authority (HMRC) is under their control and as such it is their responsibility to ensure there are sufficient, well trained staff within HMRC to carry out the important function of tax collection for the benefit of all citizens;
- (h) therefore welcomes the commitment by The Rt. Hon, Ed Miliband MP, that a future Labour government would instigate an immediate independent review into the culture and practices of HMRC in regard to tax avoidance;
- (i) recognises that for many small businesses and start-ups, taxes can prevent them from growing and stifle innovation;
- (j) is therefore pleased to hear that a Labour government would put small business first in line for tax cuts and the support they need to invest and

raise productivity for the benefit of all;

- (k) believes that a more positive communication strategy by HMRC to the general public would assist in making people aware of what their taxes pay for and encourage more compliance, and that the public also need to feel confident that those that evade tax will be pursued and prosecuted;
- (l) as such, urges the Government to tighten up loopholes which allows business and wealthy individuals to avoid paying their fair share and cheating the rest of society; and
- (m) requests that a copy of this Motion be forwarded to The Rt. Hon. George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and The Rt. Hon. Ed Balls MP, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

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

- 1. the deletion of paragraphs (d) to (h) and the addition of new paragraphs (d) and (e) as follows:-
  - (d) thanks the Liberal Democrats in government for the steps they've made in tackling the problem of tax evasion by:
    - (i) a tenfold increase in prosecutions relating to tax crimes;
    - (ii) closing 33 tax loopholes;
    - (iii) improving tax data systems to retrieve over £1bn from fraud;
    - (iv) making deals with tax havens like Switzerland, Liechtenstein and the Channel Islands;
    - (v) introducing the General Anti-Abuse Rule; and
    - (vi) securing £100 billion in additional revenue over the course of this Parliament – including £31 billion from big business;
  - (e) notes that in the event of a Liberal Democrat majority in the next Parliament, they would crack down further on evasion through a series of measures, including:-
    - (i) for offshore evaders, following consultation, the Liberal Democrats would introduce a new strict liability criminal offence so pleading ignorance can't be used to avoid criminal prosecution;
    - (ii) introducing a new offence of corporate failure to prevent tax evasion or the facilitation of tax evasion;
    - (iii) increasing financial penalties for offshore evaders – including, for

- the first time, linking the penalty to underlying assets;
- (iv) introducing new civil penalties so those who help evaders will have to pay fines that match the size of the tax dodge they facilitate; and
  - (v) extending the scope for HMRC to name and shame both evaders and those who enable evasion;
2. the deletion of paragraphs (j) and (m) and the relettering of paragraphs (i), (k) and (l) as new paragraphs (f), (g) and (h) respectively; and
  3. the insertion, in the new paragraph (h), of the word “further” between the words “to” and “tighten”.

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

Following a Right of Reply by Councillor Helen Mirfin Boukouris, the original Motion was then put to the vote and carried, as follows:-

**RESOLVED:** That this Council:-

- (a) agrees that paying taxes is a duty for all citizens and believes in the benefits national taxes give to society;
- (b) notes that tax revenues fund the majority of the country’s healthcare services, schools, pensions and judicial system, as well as roads, armed forces and social infrastructure;
- (c) also notes the substantial academic research which shows that societies with healthy economies, more equality, social protection, and intervention to protect vulnerable groups, have smaller undeclared economies which leads to more tax being collected for the benefit of all;
- (d) is disappointed that under this current Conservative/Liberal Democrat Government, the gap between tax owed and tax collected, according to HMRC, is a staggering £34 billion, with prosecutions at an unacceptably low level;
- (e) questions why, when the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee has held many hearings into tax avoidance, there has been no subsequent investigations by HM Treasury?;
- (f) notes that the billions of pounds in uncollected taxes sits alongside a programme of Government cuts which has seen vulnerable people being victimized by a myriad of economic hardships and that taking a tougher stance on tax avoidance and evasion could mean an end to austerity;
- (g) reminds members of the current Government that the work of the tax authority (HMRC) is under their control and as such it is their

responsibility to ensure there are sufficient, well trained staff within HMRC to carry out the important function of tax collection for the benefit of all citizens;

- (h) therefore welcomes the commitment by The Rt. Hon, Ed Miliband MP, that a future Labour government would instigate an immediate independent review into the culture and practices of HMRC in regard to tax avoidance;
- (i) recognises that for many small businesses and start-ups, taxes can prevent them from growing and stifle innovation;
- (j) is therefore pleased to hear that a Labour government would put small business first in line for tax cuts and the support they need to invest and raise productivity for the benefit of all;
- (k) believes that a more positive communication strategy by HMRC to the general public would assist in making people aware of what their taxes pay for and encourage more compliance, and that the public also need to feel confident that those that evade tax will be pursued and prosecuted;
- (l) as such, urges the Government to tighten up loopholes which allows business and wealthy individuals to avoid paying their fair share and cheating the rest of society; and
- (m) requests that a copy of this Motion be forwarded to The Rt. Hon. George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and The Rt. Hon. Ed Balls MP, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

(Notes: 1. Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayriss, Denise Reaney, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (i) and (k) and against paragraphs (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), (l) and (m) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillors Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Sarah Jane Smalley and Brian Webster voted for paragraphs (a) to (c), (e), (f), (i) and (k) to (m); and abstained on paragraphs (d), (g), (h) and (j) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

## **10. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR COLIN ROSS**

### **Liberal Democrats' Record in Government**

It was moved by Councillor Collin Ross, seconded by Councillor Joe Otten, that this Council:-

- (a) would like to thank the Liberal Democrats in government and The Rt. Hon.

Nick Clegg, MP for Sheffield Hallam, for their good work in government, creating a stronger economy and fairer society in the UK by:

- (i) creating 1.8 million more jobs, of which  $\frac{3}{4}$  are full time jobs;
  - (ii) cutting income tax by £800 for 25 million low and middle income earners;
  - (iii) protecting the schools budget and providing an extra £2.5 billion for disadvantaged kids;
  - (iv) providing free child care to all 3 and 4 year olds and 40% of 2 year olds from the most deprived backgrounds;
  - (v) investing in work and training through two million apprenticeships;
  - (vi) introducing shared parental leave, allowing fathers to spend more time with their children and helping women back into work;
  - (vii) improving services across the NHS, with 6,000 more doctors and increasing the availability of specialist cancer drugs through the Cancer Drugs Fund; and
  - (viii) taking mental health seriously, putting £400m extra into early intervention;
- (b) would also like to thank the MP for Sheffield Hallam for using his position to get the best for Sheffield and would like to highlight the following Government investments in our area:
- (i) £1.2 billion for the Streets Ahead programme, which will see every road, pavement and streetlight in the City repaired;
  - (ii) £5.4 million to provide Free Early Learning for disadvantaged two-year-olds, £25 million for Sheffield schools through the Pupil Premium and £5 million for Sheffield City Region to support young people into jobs;
  - (iii) millions of pounds invested in Sheffield's trams, trains and buses, alongside commitments to electrify the Midland Mainline and a new High Speed Rail station in Sheffield;
  - (iv) bringing the British Business Bank to Sheffield;
  - (v) the latest growth deal, delivered by Liberal Democrats in Government, which has secured a £320 million cash boost for Sheffield City Region and will create over 28,000 jobs and training for 40,000 people;
  - (vi) notes that the Sheffield City Region Growth Deal is the fifth largest in

the country and will specifically deliver:

- (A) infrastructure investment, including improvements to Sheffield city-centre and an extended airport link road to Doncaster-Sheffield Airport;
  - (B) £130 million Skills Bank, which will provide training for 40,000 people in the Sheffield City Region, including between 5,000 and 7,500 apprentices; and
  - (C) upgrades to Further Education facilities and a brand new academy run by British Glass to be based in Sheffield; and
- (c) notes that a future Liberal Democrat Government would:
- (i) balance the cyclically-adjusted current budget by 2017/18, on time and fairly, protecting the economic recovery, and bring down Britain's debt as a share of national income;
  - (ii) cut Income Tax by £400 for low and middle earners, easing the squeeze on household budgets;
  - (iii) invest to make the UK a world leader in green and hi-tech manufacturing, continuing the Regional Growth Fund and expanding apprenticeships;
  - (iv) cut energy bills and create jobs through a national programme to insulate homes, with a Council Tax cut if people take part;
  - (v) pass 'Five Green Laws' to protect green spaces, trees and wildlife, improve energy efficiency and resource efficiency, reduce waste, promote clean green transport and ensure Britain leads the fight against climate change;
  - (vi) ensure every child is taught by a qualified teacher, raising educational standards to world class levels and protecting spending on nurseries, schools and colleges;
  - (vii) give 16-21 year olds two-thirds off their bus fares so they can afford to travel to college or work;
  - (viii) guarantee pensioners the best ever system for increasing the state pension by legislating for the Liberal Democrats' 'triple lock' of uprating by the higher of earnings growth, prices growth or 2.5%; and
  - (ix) introduce a new Carer's Bonus so carers can take a proper break every year.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor

Ray Satur, 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) believes that the Liberal Democrats have a disastrous record in Government and that the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP has betrayed Sheffield;
- (b) regrets the following actions which have been taken by the Liberal Democrats in Government and Nick Clegg MP and believes this demonstrates that they have neither created a stronger economy or fairer society:-
  - (i) cut 50% of Sheffield City Council's main government grant, resulting in unprecedented levels of cuts to Council services;
  - (ii) at the same time, overseeing increasing spending power to some of the wealthiest areas of the country, and recalls that the Government's own figures show that 63 councils are receiving an increase of spending power in the local government finance settlement; 47 Conservative-controlled, 13 recognised Conservative targets, 1 Labour-controlled, 1 Independent-controlled and the Isle of Scilly; and at the same time, the Government's own figures show that Sheffield has had a reduction double the national average;
  - (iii) introduced schemes such as the New Homes Bonus to redistribute money towards some of the wealthiest councils in the country, and notes that to pay for this year's round of New Homes Bonus, Sheffield had £12 million taken from its core funding but only received just over £7.3 million back, meaning the Council lost nearly £4.7 million, whilst on the other hand, Surrey had £11.3 million taken away from them and received £24.3 million, meaning they gained £13 million;
  - (iv) abolishing the loan to Sheffield Forgemasters as one of their first acts in government;
  - (v) trebling university tuition fees despite promising to abolish them;
  - (vi) increasing VAT to 20%, despite campaigning against potential VAT increases;
  - (vii) undertaking what this Council believes was a disastrous re-organisation of the NHS, wasting £3 billion on a top down vanity project which would have been better spent on front line services;
  - (viii) overseeing the recent crisis in A&E, with the worst waiting times for over 10 years;
  - (ix) abolishing the previous Government's Future Jobs Fund;



- (x) wrecking the economic recovery in 2010, which was caused by the Government's economic policies, recalling that the economy was growing when this Government came to power;
- (xi) overseeing a cost of living crisis, with people worse off under this Government;
- (xii) refusing to take action to force energy companies to give customers a fair deal, through voting against Labour's proposed energy price freeze;
- (xiii) overseeing a growth in the number of food banks across the country, including in Sheffield;
- (xiv) making cuts to Sure Start Centres;
- (xv) cutting police numbers, despite promising to increase them in their manifesto, and wasting money on the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners;
- (xvi) taking court action to defend higher levels of bankers' bonuses;
- (xvii) lowering the top rate of income tax, providing a tax cut for millionaires;
- (xviii) introducing the "Bedroom Tax" and then cynically feigning opposition to it months before the election;
- (xix) proposing to locate Sheffield's HS2 station at Meadowhall, whilst giving other cities, such as Manchester and Leeds, city centre stations;
- (xx) changing the NHS funding formula, redistributing NHS funding away from areas with the highest levels of health inequalities to some of the healthiest and wealthiest areas of the country;
- (xxi) targeting welfare cuts on the most vulnerable in society, noting that just under half of the financial loss from welfare reform will fall on working households; couples with children are losing an average of nearly £1,700 a year in Sheffield; lone parents are losing over £2,000 a year; and men and women with health problems or disabilities are significantly disadvantaged;
- (xxii) drastically reducing Sheffield's EU funding, to redistribute the funding to wealthier parts of the country;
- (xxiii) abolishing Education Maintenance Allowance;
- (xxiv) cutting funding for regional economic development by two thirds through the abolition of the Regional Development Agencies;

- (xxv) overseeing a shortfall in funding for school places, at the same time as spending money on opening new Free Schools in areas where there is no shortfall of places;
  - (xxiv) making unfunded promises by the Deputy Prime Minister on free school meals, where the Council has had to pick up the bill for a Government policy where, after promising free school meals for primary school children, the Government has not given the Council and local schools enough funding to deliver this, leaving a £400,000 shortfall;
  - (xxvii) overseeing unacceptably low levels of house building, which has been lower every year than under the previous Government and the lowest in peacetime since the 1920s; and
  - (xxviii) cutting Housing Market Renewal Funding, which has taken away funding from many housing and regeneration projects in Sheffield; and
- (c) believes that Sheffield can't afford another five years of the Liberal Democrats in Government, and regrets that instead of standing up for Sheffield against some of these unfair policies, the local Lib Dems have consistently backed the Government's attack on Sheffield.

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

Following a Right of Reply by Councillor Colin Ross, the original Motion, as amended, was then put as a Substantive Motion in the following form and carried:-

**RESOLVED:** That this Council:-

- (a) believes that the Liberal Democrats have a disastrous record in Government and that the Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg MP has betrayed Sheffield;
- (b) regrets the following actions which have been taken by the Liberal Democrats in Government and Nick Clegg MP and believes this demonstrates that they have neither created a stronger economy or fairer society:-
  - (i) cut 50% of Sheffield City Council's main government grant, resulting in unprecedented levels of cuts to Council services;
  - (ii) at the same time, overseeing increasing spending power to some of the wealthiest areas of the country, and recalls that the Government's own figures show that 63 councils are receiving an increase of spending power in the local government finance settlement; 47 Conservative-controlled, 13 recognised Conservative targets, 1 Labour-controlled, 1 Independent-controlled and the Isle of Scilly; and at the same time, the Government's own figures show

- that Sheffield has had a reduction double the national average;
- (iii) introduced schemes such as the New Homes Bonus to redistribute money towards some of the wealthiest councils in the country, and notes that to pay for this year's round of New Homes Bonus, Sheffield had £12 million taken from its core funding but only received just over £7.3 million back, meaning the Council lost nearly £4.7 million, whilst on the other hand, Surrey had £11.3 million taken away from them and received £24.3 million, meaning they gained £13 million;
  - (iv) abolishing the loan to Sheffield Forgemasters as one of their first acts in government;
  - (v) trebling university tuition fees despite promising to abolish them;
  - (vi) increasing VAT to 20%, despite campaigning against potential VAT increases;
  - (vii) undertaking what this Council believes was a disastrous re-organisation of the NHS, wasting £3 billion on a top down vanity project which would have been better spent on front line services;
  - (viii) overseeing the recent crisis in A&E, with the worst waiting times for over 10 years;
  - (ix) abolishing the previous Government's Future Jobs Fund;
  - (x) wrecking the economic recovery in 2010, which was caused by the Government's economic policies, recalling that the economy was growing when this Government came to power;
  - (xi) overseeing a cost of living crisis, with people worse off under this Government;
  - (xii) refusing to take action to force energy companies to give customers a fair deal, through voting against Labour's proposed energy price freeze;
  - (xiii) overseeing a growth in the number of food banks across the country, including in Sheffield;
  - (xiv) making cuts to Sure Start Centres;
  - (xv) cutting police numbers, despite promising to increase them in their manifesto, and wasting money on the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners;
  - (xvi) taking court action to defend higher levels of bankers' bonuses;

- (xvii) lowering the top rate of income tax, providing a tax cut for millionaires;
  - (xviii) introducing the “Bedroom Tax” and then cynically feigning opposition to it months before the election;
  - (xix) proposing to locate Sheffield’s HS2 station at Meadowhall, whilst giving other cities, such as Manchester and Leeds, city centre stations;
  - (xx) changing the NHS funding formula, redistributing NHS funding away from areas with the highest levels of health inequalities to some of the healthiest and wealthiest areas of the country;
  - (xxi) targeting welfare cuts on the most vulnerable in society, noting that just under half of the financial loss from welfare reform will fall on working households; couples with children are losing an average of nearly £1,700 a year in Sheffield; lone parents are losing over £2,000 a year; and men and women with health problems or disabilities are significantly disadvantaged;
  - (xxii) drastically reducing Sheffield’s EU funding, to redistribute the funding to wealthier parts of the country;
  - (xxiii) abolishing Education Maintenance Allowance;
  - (xxiv) cutting funding for regional economic development by two thirds through the abolition of the Regional Development Agencies;
  - (xxv) overseeing a shortfall in funding for school places, at the same time as spending money on opening new Free Schools in areas where there is no shortfall of places;
  - (xxiv) making unfunded promises by the Deputy Prime Minister on free school meals, where the Council has had to pick up the bill for a Government policy where, after promising free school meals for primary school children, the Government has not given the Council and local schools enough funding to deliver this, leaving a £400,000 shortfall;
  - (xxvii) overseeing unacceptably low levels of house building, which has been lower every year than under the previous Government and the lowest in peacetime since the 1920s; and
  - (xxviii) cutting Housing Market Renewal Funding, which has taken away funding from many housing and regeneration projects in Sheffield; and
- (c) believes that Sheffield can’t afford another five years of the Liberal Democrats in Government, and regrets that instead of standing up for

Sheffield against some of these unfair policies, the local Lib Dems have consistently backed the Government's attack on Sheffield.

**11. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HELEN MIRFIN-BOUKOURIS**

**Animal Welfare**

It was moved by Councillor Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, seconded by Councillor Richard Crowther, that this Council:-

- (a) recognises the tremendous record of the previous Government on animal welfare issues, including banning hunting with dogs;
- (b) is proud that due to Labour's stance on this barbaric 'sport', 2015 sees the 10th anniversary of the ban, which has the highest number of convictions, above all other wild mammal legislation;
- (c) notes that while in Government, the Labour Party did much to end cruel and unnecessary suffering of animals by banning fur farming, securing an end to cosmetic testing and introducing the Animal Welfare Act;
- (d) finds The Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP's promise that a future Conservative government would allow a 'free vote' on repealing the ban on fox hunting as yet another example of how out of touch this Government is, with the majority of British people being in favour of the ban;
- (e) also notes that Nigel Farage, Leader of UKIP, has taken part in hunts and UKIP have said that they would repeal the 2004 Hunting Act;
- (f) wholeheartedly agrees with The Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP, Leader of the Labour Party, that "we have a moral duty to treat animals we share this planet with in a humane and compassionate way";
- (g) welcomes the Labour Party's manifesto pledge to ban wild animals in circuses, reduce animal cruelty on shooting estates, review rules on breeding and selling of dogs and cats, end the badger cull and defend the Hunting Act, and to lead the fight against global animal cruelty; and
- (h) requests that a copy of this Motion be forwarded to all Sheffield MPs and ask that they offer their support to animal welfare and commit to vote against any proposal to repeal the 2004 Hunting Act.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Katie Condliffe,, seconded by Councillor Richard Shaw, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of a new paragraph (h) as follows, and the relettering of original paragraph (h) as a new paragraph (i):-

- (h) notes the Liberal Democrats support all attempts to prevent unnecessary cruelty to animals; and

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

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

**RESOLVED:** That this Council:-

- (a) recognises the tremendous record of the previous Government on animal welfare issues, including banning hunting with dogs;
- (b) is proud that due to Labour's stance on this barbaric 'sport', 2015 sees the 10th anniversary of the ban, which has the highest number of convictions, above all other wild mammal legislation;
- (c) notes that while in Government, the Labour Party did much to end cruel and unnecessary suffering of animals by banning fur farming, securing an end to cosmetic testing and introducing the Animal Welfare Act;
- (d) finds The Rt. Hon. David Cameron MP's promise that a future Conservative government would allow a 'free vote' on repealing the ban on fox hunting as yet another example of how out of touch this Government is, with the majority of British people being in favour of the ban;
- (e) also notes that Nigel Farage, Leader of UKIP, has taken part in hunts and UKIP have said that they would repeal the 2004 Hunting Act;
- (f) wholeheartedly agrees with The Rt. Hon. Ed Miliband MP, Leader of the Labour Party, that "we have a moral duty to treat animals we share this planet with in a humane and compassionate way";
- (g) welcomes the Labour Party's manifesto pledge to ban wild animals in circuses, reduce animal cruelty on shooting estates, review rules on breeding and selling of dogs and cats, end the badger cull and defend the Hunting Act, and to lead the fight against global animal cruelty; and
- (h) requests that a copy of this Motion be forwarded to all Sheffield MPs and ask that they offer their support to animal welfare and commit to vote against any proposal to repeal the 2004 Hunting Act.

(Note: Councillors Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Sarah Jane Smalley and Brian Webster voted for paragraphs (b) to (h) and abstained on paragraph (a) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

## **12. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR HARRY HARPHAM**

### **Yorkshire Ambulance Service – Performance Concerns**

**RESOLVED:** On the Motion of Councillor Harry Harpham, seconded by Councillor Stuart Wattam, that this Council:-

- (a) shares the legitimate concerns expressed by “whistle-blowers” and other stakeholders regarding the Board of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, the possible risk to patients being created by their failings and allegations of “whistle-blowers” being targeted and gagged;
- (b) notes with concern that:
  - (i) Yorkshire Ambulance Service has failed to achieve the national target for emergency response times in 11 out of the last 12 months (correct to October 2014);
  - (ii) Emergency Care Assistants have been sent out to urgent and emergency calls with no qualified paramedic, putting patients’ lives at risk;
  - (iii) there are significant cuts to paramedics (15%) and the ambulance fleet (10%) being planned; and
  - (iv) “Whistle-blowers” have alleged that emergency call-out data has been manipulated to reach targets;
- (c) calls on the Care Quality Commission to take enforcement action to ensure the safety of patients and relevant national standards are met;
- (d) pledges to oppose any application made by the Board of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service to become a Foundation Trust with greater powers, whilst the issues outlined remain unresolved; and
- (e) demands that the Board of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service:
  - (i) stops the planned cuts to paramedics and ambulances that put patients at risk; and
  - (ii) reinstates all Trade Union rights and protects “whistle-blowers”.

**13. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOE OTTEN**

**Health and Social Care Services**

It was moved by Councillor Joe Otten, seconded by Councillor Roger Davison, that this Council:-

- (a) notes the greater pressures on the NHS and care services due to an ageing population;
- (b) believes that integrating health and social care services will ease pressure

on hospitals and help to improve home care services for patients who need it;

- (c) thanks the Government for the introduction of the Better Care Fund, made up of £3.8 billion of local services to improve care for the elderly and vulnerable to join up health and care services around the needs of patients, so that people can stay at home more and be in hospital less;
- (d) further thanks the Government for the introduction of the first ever limit of personal liability on the cost of social care, so older people no longer have to sell their home to pay for their care;
- (e) welcomes the recent news of the planned devolution of Manchester's NHS budget to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority; and
- (f) therefore calls for the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority to work towards winning a similar deal for the Sheffield City Region.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Mary Lea, seconded by Councillor Mike Drabble, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of the following words at the end of paragraph (a):-

“, and believes this has been compounded by the Government's disastrous re-organisation of the NHS and crippling government cuts, noting for example that the Government's 50% cut to Revenue Support Grant is impacting upon care services and despite the present Administration's priority of giving greater protection to social care, the level of cuts the Council is facing means that it is not possible to protect care from cuts;
2. the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (f) and the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (f) as follows:-
  - (c) regrets that the Government's Better Care Fund has proven to be inadequate in meeting these challenges and believes that the Government has sought to spin and mislead over the amount of investment in the Better Care Fund, noting the following comments in the revenue budget report submitted to the meeting of the Council on 6th March 2015 “contrary to what is implied in the Settlement figures, the Council will not receive £37.8m from the Better Care Fund; this figure represents the total amount of the pooled budget shared with the NHS, and the actual amount which the Council will receive from the BCF is subject to ongoing discussions with the Clinical Commissioning Group”;
  - (d) whilst welcoming the principle of devolution of NHS budgets to a local level, believes that following the Manchester model would not necessarily be the best solution for realising this for Sheffield, and is becoming increasingly concerned with what this Council believes is the chaotic, haphazard and patchwork attempts of this Government in its dying days to create the impression that they are devolving resources to northern cities when the



reality does not match the rhetoric;

- (e) welcomes the proposals outlined by the Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Health, to create a genuinely integrated health and social care system; and
- (f) resolves to work with any future government to secure integration of health and social care services.

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

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jillian Creasy, seconded by Councillor Sarah Jane Smalley, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (c) to (f) and the addition of new paragraphs (c) to (f) as follows:-

- (c) notes that the Better Care Fund is not new money and, in the context of deep cuts to local authorities, threatens to reduce funding for hard-pressed health services in order to support much needed social care;
- (d) supports the recommendations of the Barker report to provide free social care for the elderly, funded through general taxation;
- (e) supports better integration and local accountability of health and social care, but does not want to see the National Health Service split up with different organisational and funding arrangements in different local authority areas; and
- (f) is extremely concerned about the way the devolution of Manchester's NHS budget has been brought about, without consultation and at breakneck speed.

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

(Note: Councillors Jack Clarkson and John Booker voted for paragraphs (e) and (f) and against paragraphs (c) and (d) of the Amendment and asked for this to be recorded.)

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

RESOLVED: That this Council:-

- (a) notes the greater pressures on the NHS and care services due to an ageing population, and believes this has been compounded by the Government's disastrous re-organisation of the NHS and crippling government cuts, noting for example that the Government's 50% cut to Revenue Support Grant is impacting upon care services and despite the present Administration's priority of giving greater protection to social care, the level of cuts the Council is facing means that it is not possible to protect

- care from cuts;
- (b) believes that integrating health and social care services will ease pressure on hospitals and help to improve home care services for patients who need it;
  - (c) regrets that the Government's Better Care Fund has proven to be inadequate in meeting these challenges and believes that the Government has sought to spin and mislead over the amount of investment in the Better Care Fund, noting the following comments in the revenue budget report submitted to the meeting of the Council on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015 "contrary to what is implied in the Settlement figures, the Council will not receive £37.8m from the Better Care Fund; this figure represents the total amount of the pooled budget shared with the NHS, and the actual amount which the Council will receive from the BCF is subject to ongoing discussions with the Clinical Commissioning Group";
  - (d) whilst welcoming the principle of devolution of NHS budgets to a local level, believes that following the Manchester model would not necessarily be the best solution for realising this for Sheffield, and is becoming increasingly concerned with what this Council believes is the chaotic, haphazard and patchwork attempts of this Government in its dying days to create the impression that they are devolving resources to northern cities when the reality does not match the rhetoric;
  - (e) welcomes the proposals outlined by the Rt. Hon. Andy Burnham MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Health, to create a genuinely integrated health and social care system; and
  - (f) resolves to work with any future government to secure integration of health and social care services.

(Note: 1. Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayris, Denise Reaney, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraph (b) and against paragraphs (a) and (c) to (f) of the Substantive Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

2. Councillors Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Sarah Jane Smalley and Brian Webster voted for paragraphs (a) to (c), (e) and (f) and abstained on paragraph (d) of the Substantive Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

3. Councillors, Jack Clarkson and John Booker voted for paragraphs (b), (c), (d), and against paragraphs (a), (e) and (f) of the Substantive Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

**14. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR JOHN BOOKER**

### **Former Sheffield City Airport**

It was moved by Councillor John Booker, seconded by Councillor Jack Clarkson, that this Council:-

- (a) believes that a commercially viable, fully operational airport in Sheffield would be an enormous asset for the city;
- (b) notes that Sheffield City Airport was built as a CAP168 code 2C airport as per the agreement between The Sheffield Development Corporation (SDC), Glenlivet Ltd and Tinsley Park Ltd, dated 27th October 1995 and subsequent lease of August 1997; and that the definition of "Airport" for the purposes of the agreement is laid out in Article 106 of the Air Navigation Order of 1989 and is consistent with the definition as originally laid out in clause 1.17 of the agreement between SDC and British Steel Corporation;
- (c) further notes that in 1997, Sheffield City Airport opened as a CAT 5, code 2C airport, which means it should have had, and maintained, all the facilities needed to cope with an aircraft capable of carrying up to 115 passengers;
- (d) also notes that the Airport started commercial services some three years earlier than originally planned, with the successful introduction on 16th February 1998, of KLM's three times daily Amsterdam service, which was an instant success, with KLM saying it was their best start-up service ever, and that services followed to Jersey, London, Dublin, Belfast and Brussels and in 1998, 75,157 passengers passed through its terminal;
- (e) recognises that Sheffield Development Corporation estimated it would take at least seven years after opening before the airport would make any return on capital, and that this fact was well known and, indeed, as early as 1990, had been referred to by the SDC;
- (f) is interested to know how Peel Holdings and the airport operator, just eight weeks after them acquiring one half share of the Airport, were allowed to start downgrading it; for example (i) at the end of September 2001 they reduced airport Rescue and Fire Fighting Services cover from a CAT 5 to a CAT 3, (ii) by the end of September 2002 they reduced cover from CAT 3 to a CAT 1 and also turned off the Instrument Landing System (ILS) and (iii) at the end of August 2002 they started turning the terminal building into a business centre (offices);
- (g) strongly asserts that rules and regulations should be abided by, and the closure of Sheffield City Airport was done in a most unsatisfactory manner, causing Sheffield one of its worst civic lost opportunities; and
- (h) further notes that Sheffield City Airport closed to all traffic in 2008, and that an area of eighty acres of prime development land, described as the best site on the M1 corridor between Leeds and Leicester, was transferred to

Sheffield Business Parks Ltd, for a notional £1.00, which has never been collected.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Jack Clarkson, seconded by Councillor John Booker, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

1. the addition of the words "without planning permission" at the end of paragraph (f);
2. the addition of new paragraphs (g) and (h) as follows, and the relettering of original paragraphs (g) and (h) as new paragraphs (i) and (j):-
  - (g) regrets that all of these actions were quite clearly contrary to the intention of the lease, as well as Civil Aviation Authority legislation for a code 2C airport;
  - (h) places on record that it is abundantly clear that the intention of the lease/agreement was for an operational airport to be in existence for at least "the reverter period", a minimum of ten years from the date of opening;
3. the addition of a new paragraph (k) as follows:-
  - (k) further regrets that the City has lost an airport and has allowed Peel Holdings to profit from the land developments.

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

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Leigh Bramall, seconded by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs, 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 site of the former Sheffield City Airport (SCA) has now been redeveloped as part of the enterprise zone, and recalls that the site was in private ownership before redevelopment and the Council was not in a position to determine the future of the site and had no enforceable powers to prevent redevelopment of the site;
- (b) notes that to purchase the site to stop redevelopment would have cost tens of millions of pounds, plus facilities would then have to be constructed or re-opened, costing millions more;
- (c) recalls that SCA wouldn't make money at first and so the Council would have to be part of the consortium and underwrite operational losses for many years (15 years in the case of London City Airport);
- (d) believes that the Council was in no position to underwrite losses for a project that failed once already, and which its own supporters say would lose money, and that this would be the case at any time, but particularly

now with government cuts hitting the Council hard;

- (e) therefore concludes that a private sector backer was needed to underwrite the risk, if they believed the airport was viable and this was not forthcoming;
- (f) believes that the key issue for Doncaster Sheffield Airport is the access to the airport from the M18, noting that the current road network effectively doubles the time it should take to get there from Sheffield; however, a new link road to the Airport from the M18 will be shortly in operation, and whilst the road will not take traffic directly to the Airport at present, it will reduce typical journey times to around 30 minutes from the centre of Sheffield;
- (g) notes that with Manchester, a significant international hub and easily accessible by train, and several other airports within an hour's drive, a 30 minute journey time from the centre of Sheffield to Doncaster Sheffield Airport will give businesses in the city easy access to an airport with a runway length that allows all aircraft to operate from it, and that such a journey time is comparable to that offered by many other major cities to their nearest airport; and
- (h) notes that the mover of the motion makes no constructive suggestion, the motion simply comments on previous events well before the present Administration, which have been debated on numerous occasions.

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

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

**RESOLVED:** That this Council:-

- (a) notes that the site of the former Sheffield City Airport (SCA) has now been redeveloped as part of the enterprise zone, and recalls that the site was in private ownership before redevelopment and the Council was not in a position to determine the future of the site and had no enforceable powers to prevent redevelopment of the site;
- (b) notes that to purchase the site to stop redevelopment would have cost tens of millions of pounds, plus facilities would then have to be constructed or re-opened, costing millions more;
- (c) recalls that SCA wouldn't make money at first and so the Council would have to be part of the consortium and underwrite operational losses for many years (15 years in the case of London City Airport);
- (d) believes that the Council was in no position to underwrite losses for a project that failed once already, and which its own supporters say would lose money, and that this would be the case at any time, but particularly now with government cuts hitting the Council hard;

- (e) therefore concludes that a private sector backer was needed to underwrite the risk, if they believed the airport was viable and this was not forthcoming;
- (f) believes that the key issue for Doncaster Sheffield Airport is the access to the airport from the M18, noting that the current road network effectively doubles the time it should take to get there from Sheffield; however, a new link road to the Airport from the M18 will be shortly in operation, and whilst the road will not take traffic directly to the Airport at present, it will reduce typical journey times to around 30 minutes from the centre of Sheffield;
- (g) notes that with Manchester, a significant international hub and easily accessible by train, and several other airports within an hour's drive, a 30 minute journey time from the centre of Sheffield to Doncaster Sheffield Airport will give businesses in the city easy access to an airport with a runway length that allows all aircraft to operate from it, and that such a journey time is comparable to that offered by many other major cities to their nearest airport; and
- (h) notes that the mover of the motion makes no constructive suggestion, the motion simply comments on previous events well before the present Administration, which have been debated on numerous occasions.

## **15. NOTICE OF MOTION GIVEN BY COUNCILLOR NIKKI BOND**

### **Hate Crime**

It was moved by Councillor Nikki Bond, seconded by Councillor Neale Gibson, that this Council:-

- (a) understands the deeply impactful nature of hate crimes and the importance of tackling hate crime in our city of Sanctuary;
- (b) welcomes proposals by Shadow Home Secretary, The Rt. Hon. Yvette Cooper MP, that a future Labour Government will tackle the rise in antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia and abuse of disabled people in the UK, by making homophobic and disability hate crimes an aggravated criminal offence, ensuring that the Police treat such offences in the same way as racist hate crimes;
- (c) deplores proposals by UKIP to remove the race legislation within the Equality Act as this will exacerbate the level of race hate crime in our society, which was recorded as 536 incidents across South Yorkshire in 2013/14 and far exceeds other types of hate crime;
- (d) condemns the homophobic and misogynistic comments of a former Conservative candidate who tweeted his hateful views in response to news of an important research project into femicide, and believes there is no

place for this type of attitude in Sheffield;

- (e) welcomes Sheffield City Council's inclusion of gender as a category for hate crime and recognises the importance of defining hate crime as prejudice against people of protected characteristics and other recognisable groups;
- (f) recognises the work done by the Council to tackle hate crime by working in partnership with the Police and other agencies to encourage reporting through Third Party reporting centres;
- (g) acknowledges that the level of reporting of hate crime in Sheffield is not an accurate portrayal of the number of hate crime incidents and that more needs to be done to help people feel comfortable to report, with this including better promotion and publicity of Third Party reporting centres, and an increased number of them; and
- (h) welcomes the organisation of a hate crime workshop in June, organised through the Equality Hub Network, where there will be an opportunity to learn more about Third Party reporting centres and how to set one up, and encourages Sheffield citizens to attend the workshop in order to discuss how to tackle hate crime and make it easier to report.

Whereupon, it was moved by Councillor Richard Shaw, seconded by Councillor Katie Condliffe, as an amendment, that the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraph (b) and the addition of a new paragraph (b) as follows:-

- (b) thanks the Liberal Democrats in government for blocking the Conservative Party's attempts to get rid of the Human Rights Act 1998, which enshrined in UK law the European Convention on Human Rights, securing individuals' rights to privacy, freedom of religion, expression, association and assembly, to marry and found a family, and protecting people from discrimination; as well as:-
  - (i) working with charities and other organisations to stamp out hate crime against people from ethnic minorities, noting in particular, that the Liberal Democrats have launched schemes to tackle Anti-Muslim and Anti-Semitic hate crime;
  - (ii) delivering better recording of, and response to, hate crimes against people with disabilities and making it a legal right for people not to be discriminated against or harassed because they care for someone with disabilities; and
  - (iii) recording homophobic hate crime better and helping schools tackle homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying.

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

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

**RESOLVED:** That this Council:-

- (a) understands the deeply impactful nature of hate crimes and the importance of tackling hate crime in our city of Sanctuary;
- (b) welcomes proposals by Shadow Home Secretary, The Rt. Hon. Yvette Cooper MP, that a future Labour Government will tackle the rise in antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia and abuse of disabled people in the UK, by making homophobic and disability hate crimes an aggravated criminal offence, ensuring that the Police treat such offences in the same way as racist hate crimes;
- (c) deplores proposals by UKIP to remove the race legislation within the Equality Act as this will exacerbate the level of race hate crime in our society, which was recorded as 536 incidents across South Yorkshire in 2013/14 and far exceeds other types of hate crime;
- (d) condemns the homophobic and misogynistic comments of a former Conservative candidate who tweeted his hateful views in response to news of an important research project into femicide, and believes there is no place for this type of attitude in Sheffield;
- (e) welcomes Sheffield City Council's inclusion of gender as a category for hate crime and recognises the importance of defining hate crime as prejudice against people of protected characteristics and other recognisable groups;
- (f) recognises the work done by the Council to tackle hate crime by working in partnership with the Police and other agencies to encourage reporting through Third Party reporting centres;
- (g) acknowledges that the level of reporting of hate crime in Sheffield is not an accurate portrayal of the number of hate crime incidents and that more needs to be done to help people feel comfortable to report, with this including better promotion and publicity of Third Party reporting centres, and an increased number of them; and
- (h) welcomes the organisation of a hate crime workshop in June, organised through the Equality Hub Network, where there will be an opportunity to learn more about Third Party reporting centres and how to set one up, and encourages Sheffield citizens to attend the workshop in order to discuss how to tackle hate crime and make it easier to report.

(Notes: 1. Councillors Simon Clement-Jones, Richard Shaw, Rob Frost, Joe Otten, Colin Ross, Martin Smith, Penny Baker, Roger Davison, Diana Stimely, Sue Alston, Andrew Sangar, Cliff Woodcraft, Ian Auckland, Steve Ayris, Denise Reaney, David Baker, Katie Condliffe and Vickie Priestley voted for paragraphs (a) and (c) to (h) and against paragraph (b) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.



2. Councillors Jillian Creasy, Robert Murphy, Sarah Jane Smalley and Brian Webster voted for paragraphs (a) to (c) and (e) to (h) and abstained on paragraph (d) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.

3. Councillors Jack Clarkson and John Booker voted for paragraphs (a), (b) and (d) to (h) and against paragraph (c) of the Motion and asked for this to be recorded.)

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