

Council – 3rd March 2021

Petitions Received from Members of the Public

| Name | Petition | Cabinet Member |
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| Ann Woolhouse | <p>1. Further to my question to the council last month, I have a petition calling on Sheffield City Council to urgently tackle the dangerous parking on the road around Rother Valley Country Park and to work with Rother Valley Country Park and Rotherham Council to come up with a long term solution to the problem.</p> <p>The petition has been signed by 241 people.</p> <p><i>Answer:</i> <i>Thank you for your petition requesting urgent action to tackle the dangerous parking on the road around Rother Valley country park. I can confirm that we will take action to tackle the dangerous parking on the road around Rother Valley Country Park, and to work with the Country Park and Rotherham MBC to come up with a long-term solution to the problem.</i></p> <p><i>I have already met with local members and some of the residents to listen and understand the issues they are facing. I have asked officers in the Strategic Transport and Infrastructure Service and also Parking Services to co-ordinate with colleagues in the Parks, Countryside and Woodlands Service to propose a plan to tackle the issues.</i></p> <p><i>The plan will need to be cooperative as with Rotherham MBC who operate Rother Valley Country Park and are the adjoining Highway Authority. The ambition is to develop a joined up, coherent multi discipline plan that minimises impact on local residents while improving the traffic management and options for short term parking to visit Rother Valley.</i></p> <p><i>Officers are currently investigating the funding options available to deliver an effective plan and the expectation is that the transport planning resource to develop and deliver the final plan is available to begin work on this project in mid spring.</i></p> | Julie Grocutt |

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| | <p><i>In the meantime we will continue to work with the safer neighbourhoods policing team to tackle dangerous parking prior to any changes introduced.</i></p> | |
| <p>Sophie Thornton</p> | <p>1. A petition calling for the council to work to decrease waiting times for council housing repairs.</p> <p>The petition has been signed by 876 people.</p> <p><i>Answer:</i> <i>Thank you for the petition which you submitted to Full Council last week.</i></p> <p><i>Prior to the Covid pandemic and for the financial year 2019/2020 the average days to complete repairs was 15.09 days.</i></p> <p><i>Throughout the Covid Pandemic and subsequent lockdowns, the Repairs Service has followed the Government Guidance and Instructions from the Council's Incident Management Group and delivered emergencies, urgent repairs and compliance work only in the interest of protecting staff and tenants from the risks of Covid.</i></p> <p><i>Throughout the financial year 2020/2021, which includes the Covid lockdowns, the year-to-date average days to complete repairs is 17.84 days.</i></p> <p><i>There are many different factors as to why other Local Authorities perform differently when it comes to completing repairs. Sheffield City Council compare reasonably with the performance figures in the petition considering the challenging circumstances of the pandemic. Currently the Repairs Service is making plans to reinstate normal levels of service; this includes delivering a backlog of work that was not started because of Covid, and anticipates an increase in demand due to the reduced level of Service throughout the Covid lockdowns. To deliver normal levels of service, the backlog and potential increase in demand within the target timescales, the service is creating additional capacity through overtime for the workforce, recruiting new trade operatives, agency staff and working with local subcontractors.</i></p> <p><i>I hope this information is helpful.</i></p> | <p>Paul Wood</p> |

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| <p>Julie Firth</p> | <p>1. A request for road safety measures on Mortimer Road.</p> <p>The petition has been signed by 375 people.</p> <p><i>Answer:</i> <i>I would like to thank you for your petition requesting Road Safety Measures on Mortimer Road and for bringing this to my attention.</i></p> <p><i>As I am sure you will appreciate, the Council receives numerous requests for road safety measures from local residents and community groups covering the whole of the City. Ideally, we would like to be able to respond to most of them but in practice there are clear limitations on our resources.</i></p> <p><i>This means that we have to assess and prioritise locations for road safety measures based on a supporting evidence base and justification. We currently only have enough Local Transport Plan funding for around three large road safety schemes a year, and these are based on treating locations with reoccurring accident records. This is supported by the Sheffield City Region and Safer Roads Partnership.</i></p> <p><i>In relation to Mortimer Road, it is nearly 10 miles long from the junction with the A616 to the junction with the A57. We have investigated the our records and it shows that there have been 15 road injury collisions along the 10 mile length in the last 5 years. Unfortunately, there are many other areas in the City with higher collision rates that must be treated as a priority with the funding that is available for collision reduction schemes from the Local Transport Plan budget.</i></p> <p><i>However, we have made some minor improvements in recent years. I am aware that a new bend warning sign was installed on Mortimer Road earlier this year. The new sign is located on the first bend after the Sugworth Road turning when driving north from the A57. Maintenance work has also been recently carried out on some sections of Mortimer Road to clear overgrowing foliage and to replace or repair bend marking posts.</i></p> <p><i>The South Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership are responsible for deciding on the locations of safety (speed) cameras, as they assess locations of community concern for mobile camera enforcement. The Council can refer sites to them or you can contact</i></p> | <p>Julie Grocutt</p> |
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| | <i>them directly yourself. I will arrange for Council Officers to pass on details of your petition.</i> | |
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Questions Received from Members of the Public

| Name | Question | Cabinet Member |
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| Caty Murray (Branch Secretary) on behalf of ACORN Sheffield | <p>1. Since 2016, ACORN Sheffield has been campaigning for city-wide landlord licensing, to ban the worst landlords from renting in our city.</p> <p>Since then, our union has been growing stronger. As we speak, we are fighting on more cases against rogue landlords than ever before.</p> <p>After putting a call out to our members for a matter of days, we brought together 50 of the countless stories of Sheffield's bad landlords to deliver to the Town Hall on Saturday 20 February. We believe this is a crisis that demands urgent action.</p> <p>Paul Wood, will you now commit to introducing city-wide landlord licensing?</p> <p><i>This question was answered at the meeting and the webcast and minutes (when published) can be found here (copy and paste the link into your browser):</i></p> <p><u>Sheffield City Council - Agenda for Council on Wednesday 3 March 2021, 2.00 pm</u></p> | Paul Wood |
| Flis Callow on behalf of Catherine Flannery | <p>I am writing on behalf of the Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign about the proposed job losses at the Rolls Royce Advanced Blade Casting Facility at the Advanced Manufacturing Park. As Wednesday is the Council Budget meeting the threat of these job losses on top of those the city has already sustained is of particular importance.</p> <p>Sheffield City Council have given our campaign considerable support and solidarity and we have been proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with the council on many occasions to support our communities. We were extremely heartened, as you were, when the old and derelict Orgreave coking plant site was eventually going</p> | Robert Johnson / Mazher Iqbal |

to be used for the benefit of our communities, providing local jobs and regenerating the area.

The Orgreave Truth and Justice Campaign is most concerned to see the proposed losses of 75 jobs at the Rolls Royce Advanced Blade Casting Facility at the Advanced Manufacturing Park. The legacy of the 1984/85 Miners' Strike was huge job losses in this area, not just in the coal mining industry, but job losses as a result of the ripple down through the labour market. This had a devastating, heartbreaking and long lasting effect on many people's lives. The opening of the Advance Manufacturing Park in 2001 on the site of the Orgreave coking plant, the same site of the unprecedented use of police violence which this Council has condemned and called for the government to hold an inquiry into, has brought back some highly skilled jobs and some regeneration, one of the companies being the Rolls Royce Blade Casting Facility.

The Orgreave campaign stands shoulder to shoulder with Unite the Union who have been negotiating with Rolls Royce to stop these jobs losses. As trade unionists, we ask the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Business and Investment:

1. Does the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member oppose these job losses, particularly given the budget decisions you will be making on 3rd March about the economic well being of our city?
2. If so, has the Council expressed their concerns to Rolls Royce already?
3. If not, will the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member contact Rolls Royce to do so?
4. Will the Leader and Sheffield Labour Group publicly condemn these job losses?
5. Will the Leader and Sheffield Labour Group publicly express support for Unite the Union's campaign against the job losses?

These questions were answered at the meeting and the webcast and minutes (when published) can be found here (copy and paste the link into your browser):

[Sheffield City Council - Agenda for Council on Wednesday 3 March 2021, 2.00 pm](#)

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| Dean Burgin | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the council please acknowledge that these 75 jobs are essential levelling up jobs for the local economies? 2. Will the council reach out to neighbouring Rotherham and share any information around contracts, commitments and rebates relating to Rolls-Royce and the AMRC including infrastructure? 3. Will the council back a call for a plan in the budget to ring fence existing levelling up. High value manufacturing and supply jobs? 4. Will the council actively raise all motion passed questions around the ABCF with Rotherham Borough Council. To be conveyed to Unite the union representatives? <p><i>To be answered in writing.</i></p> | Mazher Iqbal |
| Rebecca Atkinson | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Covid-19 pandemic has been a catalyst for many more people out walking, running and cycling - enjoying Sheffield's parks and public spaces. Our city's parks and trails have been a sanctuary during these difficult times. Enjoyment of the outdoors can and should be encouraged going forward. What plans are there for the future to further connect and promote our green spaces so that we can celebrate Sheffield as the outdoor city for residents and visitors to enjoy? 2. A number of extra bins were promised for the Bolehills over three weeks ago, but these have not materialised. When will they arrive? 3. Bins in parks across the city were full and overflowing across the weekend (27th - 28th Feb) – in the North West of the city residents have complained of littering due to shortage of bin space in Rivelin Valley, Crookes Valley park and the Bolehills. What has the council done to increase bin capacity in our parks and public spaces in Sheffield over the past year? 4. A lot of the material being put in the bins this weekend consisted of cardboard, aluminium cans and glass bottles. These are valuable materials | Mary Lea / Mark Jones |

Dems, but no answer to my question. Likewise another member of the public in Cabinet, in pointing out the contradictions in the treatment of petitioners and asking for a clear protocol was told his question would be treated as a statement, not a question. Am I to assume that no action was taken by anyone following the November incident, and that no protocol in the treatment of petitioners will be agreed?

3. Youth Services

In September I asked about Youth Services being brought 'in-house' and the loss of significant stakeholders and partners in running the service, concerns about council in-house expertise and understanding of youth work, and about strategic and operational links with community and volunteer-run youth provision across the city (and in diverse communities) especially given the massive cuts in youth work of the last ten years. I received full, but very general, answers and clearly the priority at that time was managing the transfer.

a) Can you please tell me how many managers and workers employed by the new service are JNC-recognised professional youth workers?

(I notice that the advert for a new Head of Youth Services does not require applicants to have a professional youth work qualification)

b) Sheffield Futures was run by a multi-agency Board, in bringing services in-house how have the benefits of that been built in or replicated?

c) what are the mechanisms through which community-led youth service providers can be part of actively shaping and contributing to a better city youth work strategy and delivery of services?,

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Jackie
Drayton