

Agenda Item 4

Council Meeting – 14th December 2022

Questions Received from Members of the Public, answered by the Relevant Policy Committee Chairs

Name of Questioner	Question	Relevant Policy Committee Chair(s)
Robin Hughes <i>(not present at the meeting to ask his questions)</i>	<p>The long-delayed draft Local Plan is welcome, and it is recognised that it has been produced under difficult circumstances. It acknowledges the importance of Sheffield's historic environment and contains policies that aim to protect it, but there are also significant gaps:</p> <p>(1) The National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 190 requires Local Plans to set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. This is missing from the draft Plan, and a reference in an earlier draft to the requirement has been removed. How will this requirement be met within the final statutory development plan?</p> <p>Answer - Part 1 Policy D1 states that "<i>Development should be sustainable, beautiful, functional, of high-quality, and should respect, take advantage of, and enhance the characteristic features of the city, its settlements, districts, and neighbourhoods, including Sheffield's distinctive heritage</i>". It goes on to describe the key heritage assets that make Sheffield distinctive (e.g. water power industries and the metal trades).</p> <p>More specific development management criteria are also set out in Part 2 Policy DE9 'Development and Heritage Assets'. Again, this policy includes positive statements about conserving and enhancing heritage assets. Paragraph 9.21 states that "<i>Heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.</i>"</p> <p>When considered as a whole we are confident the Plan delivers a positive strategy in relation to our precious historic environment.</p>	Cllr Julie Grocott, Co-Chair of the Transport, Regeneration & Climate Policy Committee

	<p>(2) In 2019, the heritage sector in England directly provided over £14bn GVA and 200,000 jobs, supporting a total estimated £36.6bn and over half a million jobs. On 1st June 2022 the Council resolved to explore ways of using our heritage to support businesses. What positive provisions will be added to the Plan to capitalise on this?</p> <p>Answer - We recognise both the importance and vital role of the heritage sector to the city's economy and, specifically with respect to the draft Plan, a number of the proposed allocated development sites include heritage assets. In response to this, the Site Allocations Schedule (Annex A) identifies where such assets exist and sets out, in general terms, how those assets should be conserved and enhanced as part of redevelopment proposals. Where necessary, more detailed supplementary planning documents will be produced for specific allocated sites that include significant heritage assets. The production of a Local Plan for Sheffield more generally will ensure the role our heritage plays in new developments is more certain and the derived benefits are realised in a more strategic manner, this includes economic benefits.</p> <p>(3) The findings of the Race Equality Commission demand that we focus on the rich diversity of our population, the value it brings and the many challenges it faces. The draft Plan has policies on biodiversity and geodiversity, but little on the diversity of people. What provisions will be added to the Plan to ensure decisions take into account the impact to diverse communities and their heritage?</p> <p>Answer – It is important that, as far as possible, new development meets the needs of everyone living, working or visiting Sheffield. The report to the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (attached as Appendix 1 to the full Council report) sets out the Equality Implications of the Sheffield Plan (see Appendix 1, Section 4.1). An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced which concludes that the Draft Sheffield Plan will have an overall positive impact in terms of the duty to enhance equality of opportunity and will not result in discrimination of any equality impact group.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the comments above, we welcome feedback on the Draft Sheffield Plan through the public consultation exercise which will be taking place between 9th January and 20th February. Where</p>
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	<p>appropriate, the Council will propose amendments to the Plan in response to those representations and those proposed amendments will be submitted to the Government with the Draft Plan for consideration by the independent planning inspector.</p>	
Geoff Cox	<p>Will the leadership of Sheffield City Council accelerate the production of the Decarbonisation Route Maps?</p> <p><i>An answer was provided 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 14 December 2022, 3.00 pm</u></p>	Cllr Julie Grocott, Co-Chair of the Transport, Regeneration & Climate Policy Committee
Abdul Raheem	<p>My question is that electric Hackney taxis are very expensive to buy. And they still have some common faults with which vehicle manufacturing company may not be able rectify them in the short term. So if the vehicle is off the drivers will still be paying very high monthly payments which is most likely to be above £1000 a month. So how could a driver still pay £1000 a month while the vehicle is off road due on-board computer problems.</p> <p>There are private business who are willing to rent out electric Hackney carriage taxis in Sheffield maybe something Sheffield city council could give some consideration too. In how to utilise the funds received from central government for clean air zone</p> <p>I have some ideas if a member of Sheffield city council taxi licencing department is willing to give the opportunity to put my idea forward. Because vast majority of Sheffield Hackney carriage taxi drivers may not be able afford a £73000 electric Hackney taxi.</p> <p><i>An answer was provided 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 14 December 2022, 3.00 pm</u></p>	Cllr Joe Otten, Chair of the Waste & Streetscene Policy Committee

<p>Jenny Carpenter</p>	<p>I intend to ask the following question on behalf of Better Buses for South Yorkshire at the Council meeting on 14 December:</p> <p>The Draft Local Plan must give a strong steer towards achieving the Council's target of net zero carbon emissions by 2030. The need for synergy between land use planning and public transport is evident if a 66% reduction in car use by 2030 is to be achieved, with 80% of journeys made by public transport, cycling or walking.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Council agree that the continued deterioration of bus services will only be reversed by bringing buses into public control? 2. Will the Council therefore urge the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to complete its franchising assessment as quickly as possible? 3. In the meantime will the Council encourage the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to consider buying a bus operator so that it can create an operator of last resort to keep essential services running? 4. Will the Council explore the legality of ring-fencing traffic offence fines and dedicating them to improving public transport, and then let the public know the outcome? <p><i>An answer was provided 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 14 December 2022, 3.00 pm</u></p>	<p>Cllr Julie Grocott, Co-Chair of the Transport, Regeneration & Climate Policy Committee</p>
<p>Mathew Killeya</p>	<p>The government is bringing in Photographic ID as part of its Elections Act. This is set to take effect in time for next May's elections.</p> <p>I, like many people, am concerned that this is being rushed through and that many voters will be disenfranchised because they aren't aware of the changes and don't have valid ID. I'm also worried that younger people specifically will be prohibited from voting since there are far fewer valid forms of ID that will be accepted for older voters.</p>	<p>Cllr Terry Fox, Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy & Resources Policy Committee</p>

	<p>For those that don't have valid ID, it will become the duty of local councils to issue electoral ID documents so they can vote.</p> <p>Has the Council started preparations for Photo ID and are officers confident that they have sufficient resources to implement this scheme, particularly given the lack of time they have been given by the government and given the lack of clarity on the rules?</p> <p><i>An answer was provided 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 14 December 2022, 3.00 pm</u></p>	
John Wright	<p>The Council Elections on the 4th of May 2023 will be the first to require voters to show ID at the polling station. What plans are in place to ensure that does not exclude anyone entitled to vote, but might not have ID? Are the Council confident that there will be suitable ID available for everyone who needs it? I'm particularly worried that younger voters might be disincentivised from voting by the introduction of these new requirements</p> <p><i>An answer was provided 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 14 December 2022, 3.00 pm</u></p>	Cllr Terry Fox, Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy & Resources Policy Committee
Nesar Rafiq <i>(not present at the meeting to ask his questions)</i>	<p>I will be asking about care home fees and the methods used by the council to calculate fee levels and how council propose to deal with cost of living situation and impact on care homes fees for next year.</p> <p>Answer - Thanks for your question about care home fees and the methods used by the council to calculate fee levels and how council propose to deal with cost of living situation and impact on care homes fees for next year.</p> <p>We have set out how we will consult with care homes in the Fair Cost of Care report to the Adult Social Care Policy Committee to be discussed on the 19th December 2022.</p>	Cllrs George Lindars- Hammond & Angela Argenzio, Co- Chairs of the Adult Health & Social Care Policy Committee

	<p>This sets out that engagement with 65+ residential and nursing Care Homes has been ongoing through the national mandated Fair Cost of Care Exercise, including several sessions delivered in October and November 2022 to discuss Social Care Reform, the Fair Cost of Care Outcomes, and to inform Sheffield Market Sustainability Plan (as it relates to 18+ domiciliary care and 65+ Care Homes). This engagement will be used in the development of proposed fee rates for 23/24.</p> <p>In addition to this consultation, the Council will write to Care Home providers, including non-standard rate residential homes, with initial proposed rates for 22/23 for consideration and to provide the opportunity to feedback on. Providers will be able to provide feedback by return email or letter, via an online survey or via online consultation sessions held in January 2023. Learning from the Fair Cost of Care exercise as well as the consultation will inform our final fee rate proposals, which will come to Committee by March 2023.</p>	
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