

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 18TH NOVEMBER, 2021

List of Amendments received by the Chief Executive

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 6 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “DEVELOPERS CLIMATE CHANGE DECLARATION ”

1. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Abdul Khayum, seconded by Councillor Mark Jones

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (k) to (p) as follows:-

That this Council:-

- (k) believes that we need an improved and well-resourced national planning system, to meet the need for quality housing standards, and that government needs to utilise expert ecologists and strategic planners to develop revised national guidance standards for housing developments, including flood risk assessments, net biodiversity gain assessments, species and habitat protections, climate change impacts and access for residents to green open spaces;
- (l) notes that the 2019 Labour Party Manifesto committed to a home building programme which delivers net biodiversity gains as well as reductions in carbon footprint, and believes that we need new planning rules to stop developers building inappropriate housing in high-risk areas, such as flood plains;
- (m) believes that councils should play a greater, more robust, role alongside an empowered Environment Agency in being able to halt planning developments in areas of serious flood risk;
- (n) notes that the Council has throughout the last decade required that all new buildings and conversions are designed to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and function in a changing climate, and that amongst other things, all developments are required to:-
 - (i) achieve a high standard of energy efficiency; and
 - (ii) make the best use of solar energy, passive heating and cooling, natural light, and natural ventilation;
- (o) notes that the Council requires that predicted energy needs of larger developments (five or more dwellings/more than 500 sq m gross internal floorspace) are reduced by 10% when compared to national building

regulations, and this is usually delivered through improved building performance or renewable energy installations; and

- (p) believes, however, that our current requirements do not go far enough in tackling our climate and ecological emergencies, and that creating the new Sheffield Plan gives us the opportunity to implement new policies that will help new developments meet the Council's ambitions of the City being net zero by 2030, and that through our 10 Point Plan for Climate Action we are also committing to developing interim revised supplementary planning guidance on renewable and low carbon energy, which we will be able to apply before the Sheffield Plan is adopted.

2. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Martin Smith, seconded by Councillor Mike Levery

That the Motion now submitted be amended by:-

- 1. the deletion of paragraph (g);
- 2. the addition of new paragraphs (g) to (k) as follows:-

That this Council:-

- (g) notes the suggestion that developers could be asked to complete a Climate Change Declaration alongside their planning applications detailing commitments that might be made above and beyond those required by planning policy and believes that legal advice should be sought before any such policy is considered;
- (h) believes that the lack of a Local Plan has hampered the ability of the Council to have policies that would withstand any challenge to Planning Applications refused on the basis of any enhanced policies to tackle the Climate Emergency declared by the Council;
- (i) notes that Building Regulations are set by national, rather than local, government and further notes that a consultation process on energy efficiency began in January 2021;
- (j) notes that water companies are statutory consultees on all schemes that impact on drainage and surface water disposal, and that applications can be rejected if they unduly increase runoff;
- (k) believes that the Environment Agency needs to be a statutory consultee on a wide range of planning issues such as the modification of existing water courses, surface water discharge,

flooding avoidance, protection of local nature reserves and other ecologically sensitive sites;

3. the re-lettering of original paragraphs (h) to (j) as new paragraphs (l) to (n); and
4. the addition of new paragraphs (o) to (q) as follows:-
 - (o) resolves to carry out an appropriate public consultation before implementing these changes;
 - (p) instructs the Chief Executive to send a copy of this motion to the Minister for Communities & Local Government; and
 - (q) believes that for this to have any benefit to sustainable development, any policies that result from this motion must be embedded into any emerging Local Plan, the Local Plan that has been delayed by many years by Council Administrations since 2012.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 7 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “WHITE RIBBON DAY AND ENDING MALE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”

3. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Alison Teal, seconded by Councillor Ruth Mersereau

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraph (e), the addition of new paragraphs (e) to (i) as follows, and the re-lettering of original paragraphs (f) to (j) as new paragraphs (j) to (n):-

- (e) notes discussions with White Ribbon UK began in 2019 and were renewed in October this year with an enquiry regarding the White Ribbon Accreditation scheme;
- (f) believes that Sheffield City Council can fulfil all of the requirements of accreditation with the exception of one item;
- (g) requests this Council agree to address the outstanding item and support a change to licensing policy needed for accreditation - end the licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues;
- (h) recognises this Council has previously admitted that it breached the Public Sector Equality Duty in respect of a licence application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue;
- (i) believes that while female bodies can be routinely bought and sold for male sexual pleasure, all women’s safety is compromised and all suffer the indignity of objectification;

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 8 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “EMPOWERING LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES”

4. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Mary Lea, seconded by Councillor Fran Belbin

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (a) to (l) and the addition of new paragraphs (a) to (h) as follows:-

- (a) notes that the previous Administration set-up Local Area Committees to revolutionise how citizens can influence the decisions that matter to communities, committing to a modern way of engaging, empowering and enabling residents to shape their local areas;
- (b) notes that the Labour–Green Co-Operative Agreement committed to implementing and empowering the new Local Area Committees - giving power back to Sheffield’s communities, devolving services to local areas, and giving local people a real say over decisions that affect their communities;
- (c) notes that the Committees are already going further than the previous Community Assemblies, whilst doing so with council finances significantly weaker than they were ten years ago – as since the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition began the national programme of austerity in 2010 (which is still with us), the Council has had its spending power reduced in real terms by £215m (31% of its budget);
- (d) notes that despite the financial difficulties, this Co-operative Administration is committed to making politics closer to the people it should serve and so that citizens can influence the decisions that matter to them and their communities and be empowered to shape their local areas, but doing so in a fair and prudent way;
- (e) notes that on 17th November the delegation process was informally agreed by the Local Area Committee Chairs, denoting that that there is a process in place supported cross-party;
- (f) believes the delegation process outlined will empower the LACs from the ‘bottom up’ as well as provide a robust process for the delegation from the ‘top down’ to the LACs from the central committees;
- (g) believes that this is far from a return to Community Assemblies, and that the new arrangements will go much further than they ever did in empowering committees and making the Council more accountable and closer to local needs, but that devolution is a process, not an event, and that this Co-operative Administration remains steadfast in its commitment of making the Council closer to Sheffielders;
- (h) believes that the Local Area Committees are:-

- (i) becoming the principal means by which the Council engages, empowers, enables, and seeks the active participation of all residents and community organisations on any topic of local interest;
- (ii) actively utilising all available communication methods, including social media, and where possible using virtual meeting technology;
- (iii) providing a geographical framework that, over time, will be used to prioritise and direct the local delivery of an increasing number of Council services;
- (iv) starting the co-production of their area's Community Plan, and have begun making decisions about funding in local areas, even at this early stage;
- (v) already helping keep the Council – both employees and councillors – rooted in the communities they serve, and ensuring that decisions are devolved to a local level, rather than all being made centrally in town hall, which remains a key objective of this Co-operative Administration;
- (vi) identifying how to use the additional £100k committed by the previous Administration to each LAC for improving the local environment – including tackling fly-tipping, litter and graffiti;
- (vii) identifying how to improve community safety and cohesion, and use street wardens most effectively;
- (viii) identifying the gaps within youth provision and how to best resolve these, specific to each area;
- (ix) providing housing reports, including on housing repairs, and scrutinising and holding the Council's housing service to account; and
- (x) responding to local issues, new and historic.

5. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Peter Garbutt, seconded by Councillor Christine Gilligan

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (b) to (l) and the addition of new paragraphs (b) to (h) as follows:-

- (b) believes that, whilst local area working is a good thing to connect communities, the structure of Local Area Committees was imposed centrally and rushed through without consultation;

- (c) believes the current size of Local Area Committees is too large (approx 80,000) and acknowledges the Council's own recognition that Sheffield has between 100 - 152 neighbourhoods;
- (d) believes that, whilst some decisions should be made at a LAC or ward level (or more locally still), other decisions must be made at a local authority level, such examples include:-
 - (i) road safety - where the locations of greatest danger should be tackled first, regardless of where they are in the city;
 - (ii) fly-tipping, which must be managed centrally, with resources directed to areas of greatest need; and
 - (iii) parks maintenance requires machinery and staff to work across large areas of the city, which is most effectively and efficiently managed centrally;
- (e) believes in the principle of equity that areas with the greatest need should be allocated the greatest share of resources, and that an even distribution of funding across LACs fails to achieve this;
- (f) believes that the spirit of cooperation needed to begin to accommodate community voices into decision making requires all political groups to set aside their differences and work together for the good of all Sheffielders;
- (g) therefore believes that as part of its current reorganisation, this Council should investigate the recommendations of the Citizens Hubs report by Opus Independents Ltd, alongside consulting with all 84 elected members on their ideas and opinions on how local area decision making within communities and with local residents can work better; and
- (h) believes that local area working requires listening to and engaging all voices of the community, including the seldom heard, and that more outreach into communities is required by the Council to achieve this.

ITEM OF BUSINESS NO. 9 – NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING “COP26 : NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT”

6. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Andrew Sangar, seconded by Councillor Tim Huggan

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the deletion of paragraphs (g) to (l) and the addition of new paragraphs (g) to (n) as follows:-

- (g) believes that this Council needs to go further and faster to tackle the climate emergency, not waiting for national policy to force it to make changes as is happening with food waste recycling;
- (h) believes this Council should do everything it can to make being environmentally friendly as easy for Sheffield residents as it can by recycling a broader range of plastics;
- (i) believes that waste should also be collected in the most environmentally friendly ways possible and calls for carbon neutral 'bin lorries' most appropriate for the terrain of the city of Sheffield to be fully rolled out and working on our streets as soon as possible;
- (j) notes that whilst sending waste to the energy recovery centre is much better for the environment than putting it in landfill, it is not a substitute for recycling;
- (k) therefore, believes that this Council must do everything it can to increase its recycling from the current rate of 26.5%;
- (l) believes that this Council needs to be ambitious and should be aiming to be above the national average recycling rate of 45.5%;
- (m) calls on the Council to look at best practise from other Councils, such as Three Rivers District Council which has a nation leading recycling rate of 64.1%; and
- (n) notes that this Council has voted for and spoken about many motions like this over the last 10 years and believes the time for action is now and requests that reports that matches progress against commitments be submitted on an annual basis to the Council.

7. Amendment to be moved by Councillor Martin Phipps, seconded by Councillor Alexi Dimond

That the Motion now submitted be amended by the addition of new paragraphs (m) to (o) as follows:-

- (m) in light of the need for action, therefore, resolves to request that the Co-operative Executive:-
 - (i) lobby Government to improve building regulations to ensure all buildings are constructed to the Passivhaus Standard or equivalent;
 - (ii) develop a demonstration project for retrofitting housing to a high energy efficiency standard - an immediate opportunity to do this would be as part of the Gleadless Valley Masterplan;

- (iii) ensure all future Council lead development projects are built to the Passivhaus standard or equivalent;
- (iv) cease with immediate effect the installation of gas powered heating systems in all new properties developed by this Council;
- (v) provide detailed input via the Local Government Association into the Local Net Zero Forum where local government highlights to central government how they can make it easier for councils to take climate action;
- (vi) investigate the potential for renewable energy on Council land and buildings and return with proposals as soon as possible;
- (vii) create a Carbon Reduction Investment Fund setting aside funds to complete new sustainability projects that reduce carbon consumption in order to avoid unnecessary delay in achieving a 2030 net carbon zero target;
- (viii) promote energy efficiency schemes in maintained schools by using unallocated Community Infrastructure Levy receipts;
- (ix) set aside unallocated New Homes Bonus funding to retrofit, insulate and introduce solar panels on Council housing, to generate energy and to reduce tenants' bills;
- (x) build climate resilience into the city's housing stock by ensuring that all funding for new-build Council housing is only used for housing designed at high standards of thermal efficiency, so that future tenants do not risk fuel poverty;
- (xi) earmark funding for walking and cycling, offering people riding bikes the protection of segregated cycle lanes and secure bike storage, thereby increasing the numbers of Sheffield citizens cycling to work and contributing towards improved physical and mental health and better air quality;
- (xii) ensure that all future transport plans focus on sustainable modes of transport and do not have any adverse impact on air quality;
- (xiii) take steps to reduce the demand for individual car ownership by investing in a new scheme to develop car-sharing in line with the "liftshare" scheme;
- (xiv) encourage use of public transport by working with bus providers to provide free bus and tram travel on Sundays before Christmas by switching the subsidy from free car parking in the city centre;
- (xv) invest in public-facing visual displays on the city's air quality monitoring stations, to ensure the public can see and monitor the measure of air pollution affecting them in real time;

- (xvi) tackle dangerous and irresponsible parking, by creating 6 new jobs for parking enforcement officers, to be provided with e-bikes instead of patrol cars, where possible;
 - (xvii) develop proposals to introduce a workplace parking levy for larger employers, in order to generate additional long-term revenue to invest in the city's public transport, whilst improving air quality and encouraging more active forms of travel to work;
 - (xviii) re-introduce the FreeBee bus service in the city centre, operating every 10 minutes, 12 hours a day, 6 days a week, by investing in 3 new electric buses owned directly by the local authority;
 - (xix) commit to publicly opposing any plans for airport expansion in the South Yorkshire Combined Authority area and support a moratorium on airport expansion;
 - (xx) invest in planting trees bearing edible fruit in open spaces and parks, to be decided and distributed fairly on a Ward basis; and
 - (xxi) provide mandatory carbon literacy training for all Elected Members;
- (n) recognises that affordable, reliable public transport is necessary to reduce private car use, and therefore laments the fact that, in contrast to other devolved authorities, the South Yorkshire Combined Authority has made no progress in moving towards public control of buses through franchising, opting instead for an Enhanced Partnership with bus operators, which leaves the final say over the network in their hands; and
- (o) therefore resolves to inform the South Yorkshire Combined Authority of this Council's support for conducting a statutory assessment of franchising and requests a Combined Authority vote to release a "notice of intent to prepare a franchising assessment" within 6 months.

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