

# Public Document Pack



#plymcouncil

## **Democratic Support**

Plymouth City Council  
Civic Centre  
Plymouth PL1 2AA

Please ask for Nicola Kirby  
T 01752 304867  
E [nicola.kirby@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.kirby@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk/democracy](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/democracy)  
Published 27 January 2014

## **CITY COUNCIL**

### **ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

Monday 27 January 2014

2.00 pm

Council House (Next to the Civic Centre), Plymouth

#### **Members:**

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Mrs Pengelly, Chair

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Churchill, Vice Chair

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Casey, Coker, Damarell, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Mrs Dolan, Drean, Evans, K Foster, Mrs Foster, Fox, Fry, Gordon, Haydon, James, Jarvis, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Lowry, Dr. Mahony, McDonald, Monahan, Morris, Murphy, Mrs Nelder, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Parker, Penberthy, Rennie, Ricketts, Dr. Salter, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Stark, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wiggins, Williams and Wright.

The Order of Proceedings for today's meeting is attached.

**Tracey Lee**

Chief Executive

I.

This page is intentionally left blank

# **CITY COUNCIL MEETING ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

27 January 2014



**MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE LIST SITUATED AT THE REAR OF THE CHAMBER.**

The Lord Mayor will draw the attention of councillors and the public to the following including the fire and emergency procedures as printed below -

**FIRE, EMERGENCY AND OTHER PROCEDURES**

Would you please note that –

- Toilets are situated at the front of the Council House at the foot of the stairs.
- If the fire alarm sounds, make your way immediately out of the public gallery through the exit at the back (the door through which you entered). For those in the Council Chamber the exit is through the doors at the back of the Chamber and down the stairs to the front of the Council House. The assembly area is to the right as you exit the Council House. For the mobility impaired, the assembly point is directly in front of the Council House car park.
- If you are in need of first aid, please make yourself known to any council officer and the designated first aiders will be contacted.

**1 APOLOGIES**

Councillors Bowie, Haydon and Jordan.

**2 MINUTES**

**PAGES 1 – 22**

The Lord Mayor will move that the minutes of the meeting of the City Council held on 25 November 2013 are approved.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**PAGES 21 - 22**

The Head of Legal Services will invite councillors to make any declarations of interest relevant to today's meeting.

Councillors are reminded that an interest may be a disclosable pecuniary interest or a private interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct.

In declaring a disclosable pecuniary interest or a private interest, councillors are advised that they must also declare the nature of that interest.

#### 4 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, OUTSIDE BODIES ETC

PAGES 23 - 24

Since the publication of the agenda papers, the following vacancies have been notified and the City Council is asked to approve the following appointments -

	<b>Committees and Other Bodies</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Appointments 2013/14</b>
(a)	Adoption and Permanence Panel	One councillor	Councillor Tuohy to replace Councillor Parker
(b)	Chief Officer Appeals Panel	3 councillors (2 Labour and 1 Conservative)	Councillors Fry, McDonald and Murphy

#### 5 ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### (a) The Lord Mayor

- **The Late Alderman John Finnigan;**
- **Queen's New Year's Honours List 2014: Tracy Green and Betty and John Insley;**
- **Team Leader of the Year: Michelle Newman;**
- **Community Partner of the Year for the South West;**
- **NHS Innovation Challenge Prize for Dementia.**

##### (b) The Leader, Cabinet Members or Chairs of Committees

###### Leader

- **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of HMS Warspite;**
- **City Deal;**
- **The Late Kenneth Edward Tucker's legacy to Plymouth City Council;**
- **Anthony Jinman;**
- **Superintendent Chris Singer.**

**Cabinet members****Councillor McDonald**

- Tobacco control;

**Councillor Williams**

- Adoption Scorecard.

**6 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

To receive questions from and provide answers to the public in relation to matters which, in the opinion of the Lord Mayor, are relevant to the business of the meeting in accordance with paragraph 10 of the constitution.

There is one question for today's meeting.

<b>Question No</b>	<b>Question By</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Q12/13-14	Linda Crick	Councillor Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Co-operatives and Community Development)	Local Welfare Provision Grant
<p>Given recent reports that the Conservative led government is going to scrap the "local welfare provision grant" from 2015, could the Council confirm how much of this funding has come to Plymouth, what it's been used for and what effect it's withdrawal will have on local people.</p>			
<p><b>Response:</b>            I am disappointed that less than a year after the commencement of local delivery of the welfare provision grant, and before any evaluation has been undertaken, the Conservative Government has cut the funding by 100%.</p> <p>Let us be clear, this fund helps anyone in Plymouth at a time of crisis – it is assessed on the basis of situation not employment status. It also seeks to provide means tested support for local people going through major life changes that require rehousing or resettlement.</p> <p>The total funding received for 2012/13 is £1,064,046 of which we have allocated administration costs of £80,000, leaving a budget for front line resource of £984,046. In 2014/15 we expect to receive a total of £1,048,567. Thereafter there will be no funding available from this Tory and Lib Dem coalition government.</p> <p>In Plymouth we had anticipated the cuts to the welfare system would have a substantial impact on people in Plymouth. This Labour administration, working very closely with our partners, implemented a suite of early intervention and prevention measures to mitigate this impact.</p>			

Unfortunately the Department for Work and Pensions was not able to give us information about how the Social Fund was used; how many repeat customers they had; the number of customers in each household; what was being asked for; all really important information we lacked when we put our scheme together. Following pre-decision scrutiny recommendations Cabinet we agreed that we needed to set and publish very strict criteria to access our Emergency and Welfare Fund a view endorsed and adopted by Full Council.

Up to the end of December 2013 the Emergency & Welfare Fund had awarded 959 Crisis Payments, including money for food and utilities, and 372 Community Care Payments, including household items and white goods. Demand for the Emergency and Welfare Fund is rising month on month, and we anticipate seeing this continue.

Unlike the scheme that the Department for Work and Pensions operated, which simply handed out resources, we focus on providing wider help and support for people who approach us in crisis, with the aim of preventing future problems and reducing their call on the Fund. We work towards helping an individual address any underlying financial difficulties they are having, referring customers to support such as Advice Plymouth which delivers financial capability (money management) courses and debt advice.

Where we pay out Community Care Payments for household goods we offer a customer the option of having the money paid into a credit union account rather than having the cash, if they do not already have a bank account.

Over the course of this financial year this Labour administration and our partners have continued to engage in further early intervention and prevention activity and through this have additional support that we have been able to offer people through the Emergency and Welfare Fund:

- clearing arrears if tenants need to downsize because of the Bedroom Tax, but are unable to do so because of the rent owed;
- providing advice and support for the 642 people waiting to downsize because of the Bedroom Tax;
- providing support for the Food Bank; which also offers a signposting service, computer training, work clubs, and cooking lessons.
- employing a new worker for Plymouth Energy Community to help people sort energy debt, improve their energy efficiency and enable them to switch to cheaper providers;
- providing a fund to incentivise saving with a credit union;
- continuing a specialist caseworker to work within our Housing and Revenues and Benefits services, to identify and deal with problems early;
- establishing a fund to ensure people get Medical Assessments and Disclosure and Barring Service Checks when they need them to access benefits and get into work;
- a feasibility study into the council providing an ethical payday lending scheme.

Plymouth's Emergency and Welfare Fund is targeted at the most vulnerable people in our city – those with limited resources and in the most need. Those for whom a grant prevents a crisis or enables independent living and is life-changing. Messrs Duncan-Smith and Pickles removal of the funding will place people in Plymouth in a very difficult position.

As a result of the total cut to the Emergency and Welfare Fund being imposed by this Conservative government we will have to reduce the amount of early intervention, prevention and support work we are able to do, including in the area of the financial capability work Kayleigh benefitted from. The way we provide our Emergency & Welfare Fund will also have to change but we will seek to stretch the budget for 2014/15 out to also cover 2015/16 and 2016/17 but in doing this criteria will have to be tightened. However, we will continue to do our best to mitigate the impact of these Conservative cuts on our local residents.

*(Note: There is a 10 minute time limit on this item)*

## **CABINET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **7 Capital Programme Approvals**

**PAGES 25 – 30**

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) to present the report of the Assistant Director for Finance on capital programme approvals in relation to Seaton Neighbourhood and Primary Basic Need (Cabinet minutes 62 and 64 refer).

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the recommendations to approve –

- (1) the £2.170m acquisition of land at Seaton Neighbourhood for the NHS land detailed in the Cabinet report and the associated use of a loan from the Council's Investment Fund;
- (2) a virement of £2.775m to release funds from the Basic Need and School Condition capital resources to progress the following schemes -
  - (a) £2.475 million to build a new 2FE school with early years' provision to replace the current provision on the Knowle Primary School site from September 2015;
  - (b) £300,000 to build a new classroom at St Peter's CE Primary School to enable the school to have sufficient space to allocate to their Planned Admission Number (PAN) and to increase their PAN from 25 to 30 from September 2014.

### **8 Revised Council Tax Support Scheme**

**PAGES 31 – 36**

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) to present the Cabinet recommendation on the revised Council Tax Support Scheme (Cabinet minute 91 refers).

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the recommendation to approve that the 2013/14 Council Tax Support Scheme continues for the 2014/15 financial year and that all elements of the scheme remain the same except the requirement for minimum contribution for all working age residents reducing from 25 per cent to 20 per cent.



**9 Council Tax Base Setting 2014/15**

**PAGES 37 – 44**

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) to present the Cabinet recommendation on the Council Tax Base Setting 2014/15 (Cabinet minute 92 refers).

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the recommendation to approve the Council Tax base for 2014/15 tax setting as 67,066 Band D equivalents, which is the tax base after allowing for an estimated collection rate of 97.5 per cent.

**10 Treasury Management Strategy 2013/14 mid year review**

**PAGES 45 – 77**

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Wheeler (Chair of the Audit Committee) to present the update on progress and outcomes against the Treasury Management Strategy for the six month period ended 30 September 2013.

The City Council will be asked to note the report.

**11 POLLING PLACE, POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATION ALTERATIONS**

**PAGES 71 – 84**

The Lord Mayor will invite Tracey Lee (Chief Executive) to present the report on Polling place, Polling Districts and Polling Station Alterations. Councillor Peter Smith (Deputy Leader) will be invited to propose the recommendations with a slight amendment to recommendation 4 as shown by the underlining below.

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the recommendations that -

- (1) the Electoral Registration Officer keeps all electoral activities under constant review;
- (2) the alterations listed in this report are implemented from 17 February 2014 -
  - (a) Polling District and Polling Place BE to be merged with Polling District and Polling Place BC, with Halcyon Methodist Church allocated as the polling station;
  - (b) Polling District and Polling Place BG to be merged with Polling District and Polling Place BH, with St Pancras Church Hall allocated as the new polling station;

- (c) the polling districts in the Ham ward will be renamed as follows with effect from 17 February 2014 -

Current Polling District Name	New Polling District Name to be allocated after 17 February 2014	Polling Station
BA	BA	Weston Mill Primary School
BB	BB	Weston Mill Oak Villa Club
BC + BE	BC	Halcyon Methodist Church
BD	BD	Mobile at Tewkesbury Close
BF	BE	Morice Baptist Church
BG + BH	BF	St Pancras Church

- (3) that the following is noted -

- (a) subject to the approval of the Stoke Damerel Church Management Committee that the Stoke Damerel Centre will be used as polling station for Polling District JC instead of Stoke Damerel Primary School;
- (b) subject to availability and approval by the Church Management Board that St Gabriel's Church replaces Peverell Methodist Church;
- (4) the List of Polling Places and Districts and Stations attached to the written report is ~~confirmed~~ approved and to note the list of Polling Stations within the Polling Districts as approved by the Returning Officer.

## 12 Constitutional Changes and the Leader's Scheme of Delegation for Executive Functions

**PAGES 85 – 88**

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Evans (Leader) to report the amendment to his Scheme of Delegation and Councillor Peter Smith (Deputy Leader) will be invited to propose the recommendation on Constitutional changes.

The Council will be asked to note that the Leader's scheme of delegation for executive functions has been amended to clarify that the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance is responsible for Housing Benefit and Revenues apart from the Council's Emergency Welfare Fund and other discretionary payments, which will be the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Co-operatives and Community Development.

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the recommendation to amend the delegation of non-executive functions within the Constitution, to reflect the new senior management restructure from a date to be determined by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, and that the Monitoring Officer make any consequential amendments to the Constitution.

**13 Pay Policy Statement**

**PAGES 89 – 100**

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Peter Smith (Deputy Leader) to present the recommendation in the written report on the Pay Policy Statement.

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the recommendation to approve the statement, which describes the current policies in relation to remuneration.

**MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

**14 (a) Holocaust Memorial Day – Monday 27 January 2014**

**SUPPLEMENT**

**Proposed by Councillor Penberthy  
Seconded by Councillor Philippa Davey**

Council recognises that the Holocaust shook the foundations of modern civilisation. Council believes that we must make sure that everyone especially future generations understands the causes of the Holocaust and reflects upon its consequences and lessons for today.

Council notes that -

- Holocaust Memorial Day was established in the UK in 2001. It remembers and honours all the victims and survivors of the Holocaust under Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Kosovo and Darfur.
- Six million Jewish men, women and children perished in ghettos, mass-shootings, and concentration and extermination camps before any survivors were liberated by allied troops in 1945.
- Nearly half a million Gypsies and Travellers were also registered, sterilised and then deported to concentration camps by the Nazi's in an event they call the Porajmos (the 'devouring').
- Similar fates met gay men, lesbians and transgendered and disabled people. Between 1933 and 1945, an estimated 100,000 men were arrested as homosexuals, of whom some 50,000 were officially sentenced with 15,000 incarcerated within concentration camps. Figures in relation to lesbians and transgendered people are not known. An estimated 200,000 disabled people were killed by the Nazis.

Over a thousand events will be taking place around the UK today, on Holocaust Memorial Day; and attending these will be Holocaust survivors. Locally, Solly Irving, a holocaust survivor is undertaking his annual visits to our schools to talk about his experiences as well as speaking at a public event in Crownhill. We held our Civic commemorative event yesterday at Mount Edgecombe and today there is a daylong exhibition in the University attended by many of our school children.

We, as a Council, recognise the significance of Holocaust Memorial Day as an opportunity for us all to remember the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. We are grateful that it also gives us the chance to pay tribute to those who survived and to ensure we remain aware of what can happen if prejudice, discrimination and hatred go unchallenged.

Plymouth City Council therefore resolves to –

- (1) promote the importance of today's and future Holocaust Memorial Days and to support annual commemorative events within our city.
- (2) foster a shared responsibility to create a better present and future for all by recognising that humanity is still scarred by the belief that race, religion, disability or sexuality makes some people's lives worth less than others.
- (3) support the development and promotion of Plymouth's Welcoming City plan.
- (4) take a stand against genocide, anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, hate crimes and discrimination.

**(b) Public Health Settlement – Plymouth**

**SUPPLEMENT**

**Proposed by Councillor McDonald  
Seconded by Councillor Evans**

The health profiles recently published by Public Health England show the scale of the challenge that faces us in Plymouth. Only 4 of the 32 indicators are green and for 18 the situation in Plymouth is significantly worse than the national average.

We are currently attempting to address these serious public health issues with an allocation (in 2013/14) of £43 per head. This compares to the Public Health England (PHE) target figure of £55 per head. We are underfunded by £12 per head this year. Plymouth's funding situation will not improve significantly in 2014/15 as we will still be underfunded by £11 per head (£47 allocation compared to the PHE £58 target). Even with the two annual 10% uplifts our closing distance from target figure will be minus 19.6% in 2014/15.

When compared with our Office of National Statistics comparators, Plymouth's poor settlement situation becomes even more apparent. As already stated, in 2014/15 our per head allocation will be £47. This compares with, for example, Portsmouth £77, Brighton and Hove £67, Bristol £66 and Southampton £62. The Public Health England Profiles for these areas reveals that their health indicators appear to be more favourable than those of Plymouth.

The People of Plymouth deserve the best of health and to support this we need fair funding for public health.

We therefore call upon this Council to request that the Leader of the Council write to the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Secretary of State for Health and to the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Public Health, Jane Ellison MP to request a meeting with us and our MPs to ensure this funding shortfall is rectified as a matter of urgency.

In addition, the Chief Executive seeks an urgent meeting with Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive of Public Health England to discuss the matter.

## **15 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS**

Questions to the Leader, Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs covering aspects for their areas of responsibility or concern by councillors in accordance with Part B, paragraph 12 of the Constitution, on the basis of one minute for the question and two minutes for the reply. The same for supplementary questions.

*(Note: There is a 45 minute time limit on this item)*

This page is intentionally left blank