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Democratic Support

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CITY COUNCIL SUPPLEMENT

Monday 30 June 2014

2.00 pm (or following the special meeting at 1.50pm)

Council House (Next to the Civic Centre), Plymouth

Members:

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Fox, Chair

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Murphy, Vice Chair

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Bridgeman, Casey, Churchill, Coker, Damarell, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Downie, Drean, Evans, K Foster, Mrs Foster, Fry, Hendy, James, Jarvis, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Lowry, Dr. Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Mrs Nelder, Nicholson, Mrs Nicholson, Parker, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Ricketts, Riley, Dr. Salter, Singh, John Smith, Peter Smith, Sparling, Stark, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler and Wiggins.

I refer to the agenda for the meeting and attach two motions on notice for consideration under agenda item 8.

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

PART I – PUBLIC MEETING

8. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

(Pages 1 - 4)

To consider motions from councillors in accordance with Part B, paragraph 14 of the Constitution –

- Provision of school places in Plympton
Proposed by Councillor Mrs Beer and seconded by Councillor Nicholson;
- Transforming rehabilitation
Proposed by Councillor Philippa Davey and seconded by Councillor Penberthy.

CITY COUNCIL

30 June 2014

**MOTION ON NOTICE**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Beer
Seconded by Councillor Nicholson

PROVISION OF SCHOOL PLACES IN PLYMPTON

This Council expresses its concern that some Plympton children who are approaching five years of age have not been allocated a primary school place in Plympton despite living in Plympton.

This Council notes that the former Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and her department failed to notify Plympton councillors of this grave situation.

Council calls on the new Cabinet Member for children and young people to urgently address the provision of an additional form of entry at one of the Plympton primary schools.

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MOTION ON NOTICE

Proposed by Councillor Philippa Davey

Seconded by Councillor Penberthy

TRANSFORMING REHABILITATION

Council notes that the Government is in the process of changing the way offenders are managed in the community including -

- the creation of a new National Probation Service;
- forming 21 new Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) replacing the former 35 Probation Trusts;
- creating a market to encourage new providers to manage the majority of offenders.

The Council is deeply concerned that:

- despite the Probation Service being awarded the British Quality Foundation's highest honour in 2011 – Gold Medal for Excellence - for outstanding, sustained excellence, the transformation is going ahead with a high risk that the new CRCs will not meet these standards;
- there is a potential for CRCs to put profit before the best interests of the public; and questions over their expertise and experience point to delivery risks;
- the top down approach to change provides little opportunity for local influence and flies in the face of the Government's claims to promote localism;
- the significant cost of the reform will have to be met from budget that could be better directed at front line offender management;
- despite Devon and Cornwall already being one of the largest Probation Trust geographical areas, and coterminous with the Police, Dorset is being added to our Contract Package Area (CPA);
- Plymouth's voice could get lost in such a large CPA and partnership working compromised;
- it is hard to see how consultation feedback from stakeholders including local authorities, has influenced the proposals;
- it is unclear who will be responsible for the financial risks (and any subsequent harm to the community) if a CRC should 'go under';

- it is unclear whether there will be robust and credible measures for reducing reoffending;
- there is no evidence that the changes will help address current concerns about transition for offenders between Youth Offending Services and adult Probation Services.

Plymouth City Council therefore agrees to –

- (1) make representations to the Ministry of Justice regarding our outstanding concerns;
- (2) ask local MPs and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall to similarly lobby the Ministry of Justice in respect of our concerns.