

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
www.plymouth.gov.uk/democracy
Published 30 June 2014

CITY COUNCIL

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday 30 June 2014

2.00 pm

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 Wigans.

Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

This page is intentionally left blank

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

30 June 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

Councillor Bowie

2 MINUTES**PAGES 1 – 24**

The Lord Mayor will move that the minutes of the meeting of the City Council held on 31 March 2014 and the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 6 June 2014 are approved.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**PAGE 25**

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 PAGE 27

The Head of Legal Services will submit a schedule of vacancies on committees, outside bodies etc and of changes notified to us.

The City Council is asked to note the following changes in membership notified to the Head of Legal Services –

	Committee, Outside Body etc	Membership
(a)	Ambitious Plymouth Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Mrs Nicholson to replace Councillor Ricketts
(b)	Your Plymouth Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Councillor Ricketts to replace Councillor Mrs Nicholson
(c)	SACRE	Councillor Dr Salter to replace Councillor Dr Mahony

The City Council is also asked to note that councillors no longer sit on the Plymouth Schools Forum. The Council's representatives have been advised.

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS**(a) Lord Mayor**

- Former Lord Mayor, Alderman and councillor Claude Miller MBE
- Lord Mayor's Day
- Armed Forces Day
- Apprentice Award

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

- Association for Town and City Management National Partnership awards
- Plymouth City Centre Business Improvement District won the National Partnership of the Year award

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 are three questions for today's meeting.

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q1/ 14-15	Mr Williams	Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	Unspent capital receipts from the sale of Council housing properties
<p>What happened to the unspent capital receipts from the sale of Council housing properties under the Thatcher Government's "Right To Buy Act, 1980", upon transfer of the housing stock to Plymouth Community Homes? Were the monies retained by the authority, or transferred to the new registered social landlord?</p>			
<p>Response:</p> <p>Prior to the 'Right to Buy Act 1980, local authorities already had powers to sell their houses to eligible tenants, although such cases were extremely rare. As a local authority, Plymouth City Council transferred ownership in November 2008 to the new organisation: Plymouth Community Homes. Under the terms of Council house sales, 75 per cent of any sales receipt was passed directly to the Department for Communities and Local Government. Therefore in the period post the new legislation and the stock transfer, the City Council received £2 million from the sale of houses of which only £0.5 million could be legally retained in the city. There have been no transfers of these receipts made to Plymouth Community Homes. This money was retained by the authority, and treated in the same way as all other capital receipts from the sale of any asset. However, there has been significant expenditure by Plymouth City Council on refurbishment and enhancements through use of our disabled facilities grant, in excess of £1 million each year, and on Home Improvement Assistance Schemes which can be up to £5,000 per scheme, easing the demand on social housing.</p> <p>The City is investing significantly in new housing through its Get Plymouth Building and Plan for Homes initiatives. We have secured £10.1 million for affordable housing schemes and a further £666,000 from the Empty Homes Fund. Seven bids amounting to £18.4 million have been made to the 2015-2018 Affordable Housing Programme. A submission has been made, to the £1 billion Large Sites Infrastructure Fund, to support housing growth in Derriford and 3 submissions have been made to the £525 million Builder's Finance Fund.</p>			

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q2/ 14-15	Mr Morris	Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	Collection of monies on behalf of political parties
<p>What arrangement(s) exist within the City Council administration for the collection of monies on behalf of political parties and how much has been paid over to which political parties in each of the past five years.</p>			
<p>Response:</p> <p>There are no arrangements in place within the City Council administration for the collection of monies on behalf of any political party.</p> <p>Our Payroll department do actively promote collection of monies on behalf of its employee and Councillors for a number of arrangements, such as payment to charities, donations, childcare payments, travel permits and credit arrangements in relation to cycle purchase schemes.</p>			

Question No	Question By	Cabinet Member	Subject
Q3/ 14-15	Mr Aldred	Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)	Privatisation of services
<p>Is this Council willing to admit that the Transformation agenda is basically a step towards privatisation of local services</p>			
<p>Response:</p> <p>This Council is a co-operative council and will be bringing in the necessary changes to deal with Government cuts, in ways in which we retain quality services and provide value for money. As we have demonstrated we are introducing new co-operative ways to run Council services – not a privatisation agenda.</p>			

7 FINANCIAL OUTTURN 2013/14 INCLUDING CAPITAL PAGES 29 – 52 PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Lord Mayor will invite Councillor Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance) to present the Financial Outturn 2013/14 including the capital programme update. (Cabinet minute 8 refers).

The report has also been considered by the Co-operative Scrutiny Board on 25 June 2014.

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to note the report.

8 MOTIONS ON NOTICE**(a) Provision of School Places in Plympton****SUPPLEMENT PAGE 1**

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the Motion on Notice to –

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.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Beer
Seconded by Councillor Nicholson

(b) Transforming Rehabilitation**SUPPLEMENT PAGE 3**

The Lord Mayor will invite the City Council to vote on the Motion on Notice to –

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.

Proposed by Councillor Philippa Davey
Seconded by Councillor Penberthy

9 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)