



#plymcouncil



**Democratic and Member Support**

Chief Executive's Department  
Plymouth City Council  
Ballard House  
Plymouth PL1 3BJ

Please ask for Ross Jago  
T 01752 304469  
E Ross Jago, Senior Panel and  
Partnerships Adviser  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk/democracy](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/democracy)  
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## **CITY COUNCIL - SUPPLEMENT ONE – MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

Monday 26 March 2018  
2 pm  
Council House, Plymouth

**Members:**

Councillor Mrs Foster, Chair  
Councillor Kelly, Vice Chair

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowie, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Carson, Churchill, Coker, Cook, Dann, Darcy, Philippa Davey, Sam Davey, Deacon, Downie, Drean, Evans, Fletcher, K Foster, Fry, Hendy, James, Jordan, Martin Leaves, Michael Leaves, Sam Leaves, Loveridge, Lowry, Dr Mahony, Mavin, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Ricketts, Riley, Singh, Smith, Sparling, Stevens, Storer, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wigen and Winter.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

This meeting will be webcast and available on-line after the meeting. By entering the Council Chamber, councillors are consenting to being filmed during the meeting and to the use of the recording for the webcast.

The Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with authority's published policy.

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**Tracey Lee**  
Chief Executive

# City Council

## 10. Motions on notice

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

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| 10.2 Tackling Homelessness in Plymouth  | <b>(Pages 3 - 4)</b>   |
| 10.3 Chemical Agent Attack  | <b>(Pages 5 - 6)</b>   |
| 10.4 Protecting Plymouth's Fishing Fleet  | <b>(Pages 7 - 8)</b>   |
| 10.5 Plan for Education - Representation  | <b>(Pages 9 - 10)</b>  |
| 10.6 Why the Government Should Fund the Re-cladding of Devonport's Tower Blocks     | <b>(Pages 11 - 12)</b> |
| 10.7 Conservative Government's failure to address South West rail resilience issues | <b>(Pages 13 - 14)</b> |

**MOTION ON NOTICE**City Council 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018**Probation Services**

This council recognises the continuing issues arising out of the privatisation of offender services, including protecting the public from violence, sexual offences and the unpredictable risks from flash point offences.

We have seen the effects of some poorly managed casework that led to important issues being missed because of the systematic failures of procedures and responsibility management.

Working Links is the private company which won the contract to deliver these services in the South West and Western counties as well as Wales. They are using a critically flawed model according to the Government Inspection report in respect of Gloucester which was produced by HMIP.

According to the report, Working Links have failed to meet targets set within the government contracts and within the first year of the probation contract they faced serious financial problems which resulted in their sale to a German based hedge fund company called Aurelius, that was not part of the original bid.

Examples of their failures in delivering an appropriate service are cause for public concern and are of concern to Plymouth City Council due to an adverse effect on the delivery of some Council services. For example, the unpaid work delivery where there is a provision of free labour on community placements, a notable example being the BBC coverage of a naked offender in a church graveyard.

We call upon this council to support a motion of no confidence in Working Links/Aurelius in relation to the delivery of this contract. Further, we call for an urgent meeting of all local MPs with the contract managers and the relevant trade unions.

There should also be a meeting with the senior management of Working Links to establish minimum and full public protections of the safety margins required, with appropriate staffing and other resources.

As the local authority, we want to hear directly from Aurelius regarding their account and understanding of the service. They will be requested to explain their programme with the intention to deliver effective public services in the Aurelius/Working Links areas in Plymouth.

Therefore this Council agrees to-

1. A motion of no confidence in Working Links / Aurelius to deliver on the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) contract.
2. Instruct the Chief Executive to request the Chair of Safer Plymouth invites Aurelius to a meeting of Safer Plymouth to discuss their operations in the Plymouth area
3. Request an urgent meeting with our MP's, contract managers from the National Offender Management Service and trade unions to ensure the safe and effective delivery of public services within the CRC.
4. The information from Safer Plymouth and MP's meetings to be shared with the MP's in the remaining South West and Wales Working Links / Aurelius CRC area.

**Proposed** – Councillor Philippa Davey (Via Email)

**Seconded** – Councillor Tudor Evans (Via Email)

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**City Council 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018**TACKLING HOMELESSNESS IN PLYMOUTH**

Plymouth City Council acknowledges the shocking government announcement that homelessness has risen for the seventh consecutive year, and believes that such levels of homelessness are shameful in a country which boasts to be the fifth largest economy in the world.

Plymouth City Council condemns the Government's lack of action on tackling the issue of homelessness, particularly the fact that the Housing Secretary returned £72m allocated for affordable housing back to the Treasury this year. Alongside failed spending for the building of affordable homes and the surrendering of money for the Starter Homes schemes, the total of the housing budget allocated but not used by the government now stands at £1.1bn and this is simply not good enough.

Plymouth City Council recognises the impact that homelessness has on people's mental health, physical health, employment and educational opportunities, child development, financial security and their networks and relationships.

Plymouth City Council commits to helping all those who find themselves homeless, whether they are rough sleeping, in temporary or emergency accommodation or hidden homeless, as well as those at risk of homelessness, to find suitable and secure accommodation.

Plymouth City Council place on record its sincere thanks to all staff, volunteers and members of the public who work and volunteer tirelessly to improve the lives of the city's homeless and commits to:

- Ending the practise of families with children being placed in bed and breakfasts;
- Publish an action plan to help address the increase in homelessness which will include temporary and emergency accommodation as well as rough sleepers;
- Investigate the "pop up homes" project pioneered in Bristol and London to see if that scheme can be used in Plymouth, too.

Proposed – Councillor Kate Taylor (Via Email)

Seconded – Councillor Chris Penberthy (Via Email)

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**Chemical Agent Attack**

Plymouth City Council strongly supports the stance the British Government has taken with Russia over the recent appalling chemical agent attack in Salisbury.

Russia has questions to answer about their involvement and its' dismissive attitude on the seriousness of this issue requires strong action from the Prime Minister in response.

The City Council re-affirms its' commitment to do everything possible to keep the people of Plymouth safe.

This Council resolves to:

- a) Instruct the CEO to write to the Prime Minister Theresa May supporting the strong action taken in relation to Russia over this very serious issue.
- b) Revoke any official invitations to the City to Russian Officials until this matter is resolved.
- c) Record its' overwhelming dismay that, despite support from MPs of all parties, Jeremy Corbyn failed to back the government's conclusion that the Russian State was culpable for the attempted murder of Mr Skirpal and his daughter.

**Proposed by Councillor Glenn Jordan**

Signed

**Seconded by Councillor Ian Darcy**

Signed

**Dated 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**City Council 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018**Protecting Plymouths Fishing Fleet**

This Council is fully committed to supporting the British Fishing Industry and in particular the fishing fleet here in Plymouth.

To that end, this Council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and request the following;

1. That following the UK leaving the EU the government commits to maintaining the subsidies that the fishing industry already receives from the EU, and,
2. Any agreement negotiated with the EU post Brexit must,
  - a) reject completely the Common Fisheries Policy,
  - b) return control of, access, policy and quotas relating to British waters, to the British Government, and
  - c) commit to formally withdrawing from the 1964 London Fisheries Convention, which permits vessels from five European countries to fish within six and twelve miles of the UK's coastline.

Proposed by Cllr John Riley

Seconded by Cllr Ian Bowyer.

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**Plan for Education - Representation**

Council recognises and agrees with the aspirations set out in the Plan for Education in Plymouth to 2020 'Achieving excellence for all'. Whilst in Plymouth, attainment has been below average for at all key stages, that in contrast some academy schools and maintained schools have obtained significantly better results. Given the shrinking resources this Council is facing due to Government budget cuts this Council will be increasingly reliant on schools to drive forward school improvement. We note that where Plymouth Teaching School Alliance (PTSA) has provided school to school support. In many cases, the rate of improvement has been greater for supported schools than non-supported schools in the city. Council believes that Headteachers who have a track record of driving forward improvement within their schools are the best placed to advise the Board on how to achieve the objectives set out in the Plan for Education.

This Council agrees to invite individual members of PTSA to sit on Plymouth Education Board and help lead the Plymouth Challenge. That school representation on Plymouth Education Board should be representative of the schools rated good or outstanding schools and with consistently good results as well as the diverse types of schools within the City.

**Proposed by Councillor Tudor Evans**

Signed 

**Seconded by Councillor Sue McDonald**

Signed 

**Dated 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**City Council 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**Why the Government Should Fund the Recladding of Devonport's Tower Blocks**

“Plymouth City Council notes the requirement to replace the cladding on Tavy House, Lynher House and Tamar House, having failed a series of fire safety tests following the 2017 Grenfell Tower tragedy. The cost of this essential work is in the region of £20 million.

Despite assurances that the Government would provide national resources to meet a national emergency, Plymouth Community Homes is still waiting for the funding to be announced. This situation is unfair on Mount Wise residents and other Plymouth Community Homes tenants who must not have to foot the bill for something that is not their fault.

We therefore call on the Government to do the right thing and live up to their promises by providing the finances needed for the repairs which would give peace of mind to hundreds of residents in Mount Wise.”

Proposed by Councillor Stevens (email)

Seconded by Councillor Coker

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**City Council 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018**Conservative Government's failure to address South West rail resilience issues**

Decades of under-investment in the South West's railways have left the region with a slow and precarious rail connection prone to regular and severe disruption. The storms in 2014 cost the region £1 billion in economic output - money which should have been spent in the South West and Plymouth economy.

Plymouth City Council therefore notes with dismay and disappointment the publication of the South West Rail Strategy - the Conservative Government's woefully inadequate response to the rail resilience issues which have been holding our City and region back for decades.

The Council notes that, although the Government received recommendations from the Peninsula Rail Task Force back in 2016, the long anticipated South West Rail Strategy completely fails to respond to the recommendations of the Peninsula Rail Task Force. The Council believes that this strategy offers almost nothing tangible to address the very real concerns of people and businesses in our City.

The Council notes that the Government has committed billions to High Speed Rail between London and the Midlands and billions to Crossrail and Crossrail 2 projects in London. Furthermore the Council notes that the Government failed to fund the £600,000 for the Network Rail study on the Plymouth to Totnes rail upgrades in 2017 that would have delivered a journey time reduction of three minutes when the track is renewed this year.

The Council expresses its frustration particularly at the Conservative Government's failure to make any firm commitment to make new money available to fund the essential upgrade to the South West rail network. Without this new money, the Council believes that Plymouth will continue to be regularly cut off from the rest of the country. This cannot be allowed to continue.

Plymouth City Council therefore:

1. Calls on the Conservative Government to match the Labour Party's commitment to make £2.5bn available to upgrade the only train line in and out of the Plymouth funding the Peninsular Rail Task Force's work plan for the next ten years.
2. Calls on Plymouth's Conservative MPs to join with the city's Labour MP in standing up to Ministers over the lack of funding for the far south west's railway in a joined-up and cross-party campaign.
3. specifically requests that the Chief Executive, as a matter of urgency, writes to the Transport Secretary and the Conservative MPs representing Plymouth alerting them to recommendation (1) and (2) above and that once a response has been received it is reported back to the first available Council meeting.

Proposer: Jon Taylor

Seconder: Mark Coker

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