



Oversight and Governance

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

Please ask for Claire Daniells, Senior
Governance Advisor
T 01752 305155
E democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk
www.plymouth.gov.uk
Published 11 March 2019

CITY COUNCIL – SUPPLEMENT PACK (MOTIONS ON NOTICE)

Monday 18 March 2019
2pm
Council House, Plymouth

Members:

Councillor Sam Davey, Chair
Councillor Mavin, Vice Chair

Councillors Mrs Aspinall, Ball, Mrs Beer, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Buchan, Carson, Churchill, Coker, Cook, Corvid, Dann, Darcy, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Fletcher, K Foster, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, James, Mrs Johnson, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Michael Leaves, Samantha Leaves, Loveridge, Lowry, Dr Mahony, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Singh, P Smith, R Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Wheeler, Wiggins and Winter.

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

For further information on attending Council meetings and how to engage in the democratic process please follow this link - [Get Involved](#)

Tracey Lee
Chief Executive

City Council

9. Motions on notice

(Pages 1 - 8)

To consider motions from councillors in accordance with Part B, paragraph 4.15 of the Constitution.

MOTION ON NOTICE

18 March 2019

**DECLARATION ON CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

Full Council notes that:

'Climate Emergency' is an internationally recognised declaration being used by Councils and other Local Authorities, predominantly in the UK, Canada, Australia and the USA, to publicly declare concern over the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) findings which recognise the adverse global impact of the changing climate. The declaration also serves as a commitment to take urgent action and aspire towards carbon neutrality. It is a powerful call to action that engages the entire community; it's not just about the practical actions that a Council might take.

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt around the world. Global temperatures have already increased by 1 degree Celsius from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are above 400 parts per million (ppm). This far exceeds the 350 ppm deemed to be a safe level for humanity.

In order to reduce the chance of runaway Global Warming and limit the effects of Climate Breakdown, it is imperative that we as a species reduce our CO₂eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes as soon as possible.

Individuals cannot be expected to make this reduction on their own. Society needs to change its laws, taxation, infrastructure, etc., to make low carbon living easier and the new norm. Plymouth City Council has already shown foresight and leadership when it comes to addressing the issue of Climate Breakdown, it has already committed to making the city carbon neutral by 2050 with an interim target of reducing emissions by 50% by 2034, has an acclaimed programme of energy efficiency, renewable energy, low carbon transport and climate change mitigation projects.

Unfortunately, our current plans and actions are not enough.

The world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2050.

The IPCC's Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, describes the enormous harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause compared to a 1.5°C rise, and told us that limiting Global Warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities.

City Councils around the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' and committing resources to address this emergency.

Full Council believes that:

- All governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of Climate Breakdown, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. It is important for the residents of Plymouth and the UK that cities commit to carbon neutrality as quickly as possible.

- Cities and city regions have a vital role to play in leading the low carbon transition. They consume over two-thirds of the world's energy and are responsible for as much as 70% of man-made greenhouse gas emissions.
- The consequences of global temperature rising above 1.5°C are so severe that preventing this from happening must be humanity's number one priority
- Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings and market opportunities (as well as improved well-being for people worldwide).

The City Council resolves to:

- (1) Declare a 'Climate Emergency'
- (2) Pledge to make Plymouth carbon neutral by 2030, and commit to working with other councils with similar ambitions
- (3) Request the Leader to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible; and commit to working with other councils with similar ambitions
- (4) Work with other governments (both within the UK and internationally) to determine and implement best practice methods to limit Global Warming to less than 1.5°C
- (5) Continue to work with partners across the city and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies and plans
- (6) Report to Full Council within six months with a climate emergency action plan and new corporate carbon reduction plan
- (7) Request the Leader to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer stating the concern of the Council with respect to the above, the likely national impact on the economy and on the wellbeing of citizens, and requesting Government funding be made available to implement swift appropriate actions in response.

Proposed by Councillor Sue Dann 8 March 2019



Signed:

Seconded by Councillor Pam Buchan by email

Dated: 8 March 2019

MOTION ON NOTICE

18 March 2019



FAIR FUNDING FOR PLYMOUTH SCHOOLS

Plymouth City Council notes that according to the Institute for Fiscal Studies, spending per pupil in England's schools has fallen by 8% since 2010. The Council believes that these shameful cuts to school budgets show that the current Conservative Government cannot be trusted to invest adequately in our children's future.

In Plymouth, because of the historic unfairness and inequity in the way that education funding has been calculated, the situation is particularly serious, and schools in the City are currently still receiving £338 less per pupil than an average school in England.

By failing to address this situation immediately, the Conservative Government is forcing Plymouth schools to pass on damaging cuts, and this is resulting in fewer teachers, Teaching Assistants and learning resources in the classroom. The Council believes that these cuts are making it harder for schools to improve their performance and deliver good outcomes for children in Plymouth.

Whilst we acknowledge that the introduction of the National Funding Formula (NFF) is an attempt by Government to address the funding shortfall, we do not believe the NFF goes far enough, or fast enough, to reverse the cuts to school budgets in Plymouth.

Furthermore, the 3% gains cap, introduced alongside the NFF, is severely limiting the amount of money going to Plymouth schools in the NFF phased implementation period. The Council notes that under the NFF Plymouth should have gained £10.6 million in 2018-19. However, as a result of this gains cap, Plymouth schools only gained £5 million, leaving a significant hole in school budgets. For some schools in Plymouth, particularly those with high need, the impact of this is massive. For example, In 18-19:

- Sir John Hunt (Budshead) lost £320,000
- Tor Bridge High (Moor View) lost £380,000
- Beechwood Primary (Southway) lost £86,000

The Council therefore calls on the Government to:

- Remove the damaging gains cap which is punishing schools in Plymouth with great need;
- Increase the level of funding for Plymouth schools, bringing up the level to the national average immediately; and
- Asks the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education in the terms set out above.

Proposed by Councillor Jon Taylor by email 10 March 2019

Seconded by Councillor Tudor Evans by email 10 March 2019

This page is intentionally left blank

MOTION ON NOTICE

18 March 2019



OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY IN PLANNING APPLICATION VIABILITY ASSESSMENTS

With Plan for Homes 3 recently agreed at Cabinet, and the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan nearing adoption, it is important that Plymouth City Council demonstrates a commitment to building the right homes for the right people in the right place. To meet future housing needs, Plymouth needs to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes which widen opportunities for home ownership, meet needs for social and rented housing, and create sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities. Ensuring that affordable housing is maximised from developers in accordance with Policies SPT3 and DEV07 of the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan is therefore vital to the overall strategy of the plan.

In order to achieve this, the planning system should be open, transparent and understandable. Everyone involved in the planning process - including local communities - should be able to understand how affordable housing levels have been calculated, so that there is trust in the system, and that developers are not unduly maximising profit at the expense of community and social obligations through the viability assessment process.

The 2018 National Planning Policy Framework states that: “Any viability assessment should be supported by appropriate available evidence informed by engagement with developers, landowners, and infrastructure and affordable housing providers.... Any viability assessment should be prepared on the basis that it will be made publicly available other than in exceptional circumstances. Even in those circumstances an executive summary should be made publicly available.”

It is important that this is proactively delivered and that proposed levels of affordable housing in developments are fully and properly justified. Council therefore instructs the Strategic Director for Place to:

1. Publish all viability assessments together with planning applications on the Council’s planning portal websites, except in exceptional circumstances.
2. Publish the Council’s formal viability review of the applicant’s viability report in the same way.
3. Require the applicant to fund the Local Planning Authority’s reasonable costs associated with the viability assessment as outlined in the relevant Planning and Infrastructure Fees Policies.

Proposed by Councillor Bill Stevens by email 10 March 2019

Seconded by Councillor Jonny Morris by email 10 March 2019

This page is intentionally left blank

MOTION ON NOTICE

18 March 2019



FREEDOM FROM FEAR

This Council notes:

- That Usdaw (Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers) runs an annual Respect For Shopworkers Week as part of their Freedom From Fear campaign.
- That this is held in the build-up to Christmas, during which events are put on to engage with the public around the theme 'Keep Your Cool at Christmas'.
- The campaign as a whole seeks to highlight the abuse that workers suffer whilst simply going about their jobs.
- That as part of this campaign Usdaw also surveys their 430,000 members in an annual Freedom From Fear Survey.
- This survey showed that during 2018:
 - 6 in 10 shopworkers experienced verbal abuse, 37% were threatened by a customer and over 230 shopworkers were assaulted every day.
- The British Retail Consortium and the Association of Convenience Stores have also noted rising abuse, threats and violence against shopworkers.

Furthermore, this Council believes:

- Violent crime, threats and abuse are very real hazards for retail workers and the harassment of staff by customers is an all too common event.
- Abuse is not part of the job. Workers should never have to face abuse, threats or violence when doing their jobs
- Employers have a legal and moral obligation to make the working environment as safe as possible for employees and staff should be given appropriate training on how to deal with certain situations.
- Failure to take the necessary steps to protect staff from harassment could result in the company being open to prosecution under health and safety laws and complaints of harassment should always be taken seriously.
- Good trade union organisation reduces the risk of bad work practices.

The City Council agrees:

- (1) To publicly support Usdaw's campaign and shopworkers in the City with a statement of support and by posting on Council social media platforms using the hashtags #RespectShopworkers and to encourage individual councillors to do the same.
- (2) To encourage individual councillors to engage with retail stores in their ward, talk to shopworkers and listen to their experiences.

- (3) To use links with local police to ensure retail crime is always treated seriously and the often severe impact on victims is appropriately acknowledged.
- (4) To use links with local business and retail stores to make sure proper workplace procedures are in place and that front-line staff are appropriately supported.

Proposed by Councillor Mark Coker 11 March 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Coker". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval shape. Below the oval, there is a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right, possibly representing a flourish or a signature line.

Signed:

Seconded by Councillor Eddie Rennie by email

Dated: 11 March 2019