



**Oversight and Governance**

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## **CITY COUNCIL – MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

Monday 24 June 2019  
2.00 pm  
Council House, Plymouth

**Members:**

Councillor Ball, Chair

Councillor Mrs Beer, Vice Chair

Councillors Allen, Mrs Aspinall, Bowyer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bridgeman, Buchan, Carson, Churchill, Coker, Cook, Corvid, Dann, Darcy, Davey, Deacon, Derrick, Downie, Drear, Evans OBE, Goslin, Haydon, Hendy, James, Mrs Johnson, Jordan, Kelly, Laing, Michael Leaves, Samantha Leaves, Loveridge, Lowry, Mavin, McDonald, Morris, Murphy, Neil, Nicholson, Parker-Delaz-Ajete, Penberthy, Mrs Pengelly, Rennie, Riley, Singh, Peter Smith, Rebecca Smith, Stevens, Jon Taylor, Kate Taylor, Tuffin, Tuohy, Vincent, Watkin, Wheeler, Wiggins and Winter.

***Please refer to agenda 8 – motions on notice.***

**Tracey Lee**

Chief Executive

# City Council

## 8. Motions on Notice

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

- a. Veterans **(Pages 1 - 2)**
- b. Opposition to the Scrapping of Free TV Licences for Over-75s **(Pages 3 - 4)**
- c. Food Justice **(Pages 5 - 6)**
- d. Inclusive Education and Schools **(Pages 7 - 8)**
- e. South West Forensics **(Pages 9 - 10)**

**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 24 June 2019

**VETERANS**

As a city with strong military links, this Council welcomes the Government's commitment for legislation designed to ensure service personnel and veterans are not subjected to repeated investigations on historical operations, many years after the events in question and applaud the hard work that our local MP Johnny Mercer has done in bringing this about. But like Johnny Mercer MP we are disappointed that this legislation will not include Northern Ireland.

This Council believes that those that served in Northern Ireland should also be included in the legislation, especially in light of the fact that over 200 members of the terrorist organisation the IRA received letters known as 'comfort letters', which exempted them from prosecution for their part in the troubles in Northern Ireland.

Therefore, the City Council resolves to ask the Leader to write to the new Prime Minister calling on them to end the witch hunt of former service personnel who served in Northern Ireland.

**Proposed by** Councillor Glenn Jordan by email 8 June 2019

**Seconded by** Councillor Rebecca Smith by email 9 June 2019

**Dated:** 13 June 2019

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 24 June 2019

**OPPOSITION TO THE SCRAPPING OF FREE TV LICENCES FOR OVER-75s**

Full Council notes that:

The free TV licence was introduced by the Labour Government in 2000, as recognition that as people get older the TV becomes an ever more important way of keeping in touch with the world. As time has gone on, the need for it has become even greater – more people live on their own nowadays, and a survey for AgeUK found that four in 10 older people said they rely on the TV for their main company. With rising prices in other areas like food, gas and electricity, having one less thing to have to afford can be a real help – a full TV licence costs £150.50 a year.

The BBC has confirmed plans to scrap free TV licences for millions of people aged over 75 with the exception of those on pension credit from June 2020, this council recognises that many over 75's are not able to afford this cost they are on a fixed income, and already often struggle to meet their bills. Furthermore, the council notes the evidence which shows that Pension Credit is hugely under claimed, which means that in the future the very poorest pensioners will now miss out on their TV licence.

This council notes analysis by the House of Commons Library for the Labour Party has revealed that over 11,000 households in Plymouth are at risk of losing their free TV licences, 7,000 of them with someone aged 80 or over. This includes 4810 households in Plymouth Moor View and 5,170 households in Plymouth Sutton and Devonport. Millions of older people across the country are now set to lose their TV licence, despite the Conservatives promising in their 2017 general election manifesto to protect free TV licences until 2022.

This council further notes the research undertaken by The Campaign to End Loneliness, which found that 40% of older people say their television is their main source of company, and recognises that supporting the continuation of TV licences for over 75s supports this council's ambition to tackle loneliness for older people.

This council recognises the opposition to the scrapping of TV licences for over-75s offered from across the political spectrum. In light of the BBC's announcement, Plymouth City Council reaffirms its commitment to tackling loneliness for older people and believes that the Government must step in to guarantee that everyone over 75 gets a free TV licence, as has been the case for nearly twenty years.

The City Council resolves to:

- (1) Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Government to ask them to reaffirm their commitment to their own manifesto promise to protect free TV licences for over 75s until 2022.
- (2) Ask the Leader of the Council to write to the three Plymouth MPs to ask them to confirm their commitment to this important measure in tackling loneliness amongst older citizens in Plymouth.

**Proposed by** Councillor Kate Taylor

**Signed**

**Seconded by** Councillor Mary Aspinall by email 14 June 2019

**Dated:** 14 June 2019

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# MOTION ON NOTICE

City Council 24 June 2019



## FOOD JUSTICE

The Council **notes** that there are 8 million people in the UK who have trouble putting food on the table according to the UN. Over 500,000 people used food banks in the UK last year. The Trussell Trust alone distributed over 1.3m three-day emergency food supplies of people in crisis in the financial year 2017-2018. 3m children are at risk of hunger during the school holidays. Around 10% of the NHS budget goes on treating diabetes and up to 1 million people live in food deserts in the UK.

The Council further **notes** that in Plymouth,

- Plymouth Foodbank has reported year on year increases in the number of people (adults and children) receiving a food parcel over the last 4 years. In 2018/19, the foodbank provided food parcels to 8,509 recipients, including families with children.
- Over 26,000 meals were given out by the city's soup runs in 2018 – this has increased each year for the last six years with more women and children using the service than ever before.
- 14,000 people in Plymouth had Diabetes in 2016 with the number expected to grow by 6% each year.
- Our Cities of Service volunteer programme, Grow, Share, Cook has given over 40,000 free meals to over 3,000 individuals. The project delivers free fruit and vegetables at people from disadvantaged households and people at risk of developing type 2 Diabetes due to diet.
- 1 in 5 (Plymouth's recently adopted Child Poverty Action Plan) includes specific actions to increase take up of free school meals.

The Council **recognises** that the Government's commitment to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals) which apply internationally and domestically, through Goal 2, commits governments to ending hunger by 2030.

Therefore the Council **resolves** to:

- 1) **Commit** to food justice in Plymouth by nominating a Cabinet Member with responsibility of delivering food justice;
- 2) **Request** the Leader to write to the relevant minister (following the appointment of a new Prime Minister and any related Cabinet reshuffle) to ask the government to enshrine its existing commitment to U Sustainable Development Goal 2 into domestic legislation;
- 3) **Ask** the Scrutiny Management Board to establish a Select Committee to investigate the extent and causes of hunger in Plymouth and make recommendations about what can be done to tackle it; and
- 4) **Work** with existing partnerships in Plymouth to develop and implement a Food Justice Action Plan to eliminate hunger in Plymouth.

**Proposed by** Councillor Chris Penberthy by email 17 June 2019

**Seconded by** Councillor Sarah Allen by email 17 June 2019

**Dated:** 17 June 2019

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# MOTION ON NOTICE

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## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

Plymouth City Council believes:

- children in our city should have access to education about, and awareness of, the diverse world we and they inhabit. This will often include the mix of family types common in modern Britain, which is quite separate from any form of sex or relationship education;
- all children are entitled to high quality, age-appropriate and rights-based Relationships and Sex Education that is inclusive of LGBT+ relationships;
- it is important for schools to have a clear dialogue with parents about the necessity of inclusive education.

We request the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Transformation to commit to supporting Plymouth schools which undertake this necessary part of preparing young people for the world around them and which don't give in to bigotry of any kind by:

- issuing guidance to schools to empower them to teach an inclusive curriculum and develop a whole school approach to embed equality;
- work with schools and other stakeholders to support and share good practice in promoting and delivering inclusive equality education in all schools;
- support all those who work with children and young people to carry out their work free from discrimination and harassment.

**Proposed by** Councillor Bill Stevens by email 17 June 2019

**Seconded by** Councillor Sarah Allen by email 17 June 2019

**Dated:** 17 June 2019

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**SOUTH WEST FORENSICS**

Full Council notes that:

On 28 January 2019, Plymouth City Council resolved to oppose the transfer of Devon and Cornwall Police forensic staff to Dorset Police as part of the South West Forensics collaboration with Dorset, Avon and Somerset and Wiltshire Police. We note the “Business Improvement Review” however is continuing and we restate our desire to see the strongest front line forensic provision in Devon and Cornwall.

Plymouth City Council therefore resolves to ask our representatives on the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel to review the situation and ensure this topic is scrutinised, with the results reported back.

**Proposed by** Councillor Tudor Evans by email 17 June 2019

**Seconded by** Councillor Gareth Derrick by email 17 June 2019

**Dated:** 17 June 2019

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