



**Oversight and Governance**

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

Monday 14 September 2020  
2.00 pm  
MS Teams meeting

**Members:**

Councillor Mavin, Chair

Councillor Winter, Vice Chair

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

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

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

- |     |   |                        |
|-----|---|------------------------|
| 9.a | Flooding  | <b>(Pages 1 - 2)</b>   |
| 9.b | Poor quality Grass Cutting and lack of Weed Control throughout Plymouth     | <b>(Pages 3 - 4)</b>   |
| 9.c | Wheelie Bin Charges   | <b>(Pages 5 - 6)</b>   |
| 9.d | Covid-19 Funding Crisis   | <b>(Pages 7 - 8)</b>   |
| 9.e | Re-opening of Plymouth Libraries  | <b>(Pages 9 - 10)</b>  |
| 9.f | Conservative Proposals to Remove Residents' Voices from the Planning System | <b>(Pages 11 - 12)</b> |

**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 14 September 2020

**Flooding**

In light of recent Flooding across the City, and the forecast that future Climate Change and weather patterns will make this a more regular occurrence, the City Council resolves:

To ask Cllr Mark Coker to be more proactive and to take the lead in protecting our City from further flooding, by completing preventative and routine work in a timely fashion as well as working with partner agencies to protect and safeguard residents and business from the distress and anxiety caused by such flooding.

**Proposer:** Cllr Jonathan Drean

**Signature** "By email"

**Seconder:** Cllr Nick Kelly

**Signature** "By email"

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 14 September 2020

**Poor quality Grass Cutting and lack of Weed Control throughout Plymouth**

Appreciating that this year is an exceptional year due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Council took the decision to reduce grass cutting to all but essential areas until June. The City Council implemented an adapted grass cutting schedule at the end of June and this programme should have seen most areas cut on a four weekly schedule. Added to this, weeds continue to be seen on our streets throughout Plymouth.

Council resolves:

To urge Cllr Sue Dann to take urgent action to properly cut the City Council's grass and remove weeds from our streets.

**Proposer:** Cllr Terri Beer

**Signature** "By email"

**Seconder:** Cllr Patrick Nicholson

**Signature** "By email"

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 14 September 2020

**Wheelie Bin Charges**

We call on the Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene to scrap the compulsory £15 charge for the delivery of new or replacement wheelie bins and garden waste bags with immediate effect; and also to provide a Covid -19 compliant location and collection point for residents to collect these themselves should they wish, free of charge.

**Proposer:** Cllr Maddi Bridgeman

**Signature** "By email"

**Seconder:** Cllr Nick Kelly

**Signature** "By email"

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 14 September 2020

**Covid-19 Funding Crisis**

Full Council notes that:

The Covid-19 crisis has had a profound impact on the council's staff, services and income. At the starts of the crisis, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government urged all councils to do "whatever was necessary" to control the spread of the virus. The Secretary of State also promised full financial reimbursement to councils for the financial impact of the crises. Yet, despite three welcomed tranches of money, Plymouth City Council still faces an in-year financial gap that could be in excess of £27m.

The LGA estimates the financial gap facing the local government sector to be £7.4bn, and a recent IFS analysis reports that councils are facing a "perfect storm" of funding and that will leave many having to make in-year budget cuts as a result of the failure of Government to fully compensate for losses.

Plymouth City Council believes that the Government should honour their promise to reimburse councils in full for financial losses. There would be a national outrage if councils were forced to reduce services and lay off staff who have gone the extra mile to support our communities through this crisis.


Plymouth City Council resolves to:

1. Write to the Secretary of State again to ask him to honour his pledge to fund councils fully.
2. Sign up to the Unison Campaign "Back the #10BillionBailout for local services" (see <https://action.unison.org.uk/page/63837/petition/1?locale=en-GB> )
3. Campaign for a decent and fair settlement for local government in the forthcoming Spending Review
4. Do everything we can to limit the potential for compulsory redundancies and services reductions as a result of the crisis.

Proposed by Councillor Tudor Evans, OBE

Signed 

Seconded by Councillor Mark Lowry

Signed 

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 14 September 2020

**Re-opening of Plymouth Libraries**

With the appropriate Covid restrictions in mind, we call on the Cabinet Member who's responsible for Libraries, to re-open all Plymouth Libraries for the select and collect service by the week beginning Monday October 5th, so that all residents of Plymouth can use this service.

**Proposer:** Cllr Mark Deacon

**Signature** "By email"

**Seconder:** Cllr Dave Downie

**Signature** "By email"

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**MOTION ON NOTICE**

City Council 14 September 2020

**Conservative Proposals to Remove Residents' Voices from the Planning System**

Plymouth City Council strongly supports the principle of local people shaping the future of their cities, towns and localities by being able to influence, and having a key voice in, the outcomes of Planning Applications. For decades, residents and their elected Councillors have been able to input their views and concerns at all stages of the Planning process, including the right to have applications decided in public meetings of Planning Committees.

We are therefore strongly opposed to the Conservative Government's White Paper "Planning for the future" which rips the democratic heart from our Planning system.

We oppose the use of "growth areas" to prevent local people and their elected representatives having any further say on the principle of development after the local plan has been adopted.

We oppose the merger of Use Classes, which will mean developers can change uses of buildings irrespective of views of local communities.

We oppose any plans to replace Section 106 Agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy with a single centrally-set Infrastructure Levy which won't deliver the proper funding of projects such as schools, roads and GP surgeries, and ensure a fixed proportion of affordable homes.

We oppose the failure to place the climate emergency at the heart of the White Paper and the government's insistence on targeting net zero as late as 2050.

We disagree with the Government that few people engage with the current system. Councillors are regularly contacted by constituents concerned about development issues and the system of public engagement must be strengthened, not destroyed.

We disagree with the Government that Planning is a barrier to development, given that 90% of Planning Applications are approved by Local Planning Authorities in England. In fact more than a million homes have received permission in the last decade but have still to be built.

We oppose this "Developers' Charter" which will severely curtail public involvement in Planning, disenfranchise Councillors and the people we represent and will likely lead to a generation of low-quality, slum housing. We believe the residents' voices in Planning should be strengthened to maximise affordable, well-designed and sustainable homes with appropriate supporting infrastructure.

We request the Cabinet to respond to the Government accordingly and Plymouth's three Members of Parliament to vote against these disastrous, undemocratic proposals.

**Proposer:** Cllr Bill Stevens

**Signature** “By email”

**Seconder:** Cllr Sarah Allen

**Signature** “By email”